

Earth Science



Teacher Information

Rani Nelson
8th Grade Earth & Space Science Teacher
Wachter Middle School
701-323-4650 ext. 5636
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Contact Hours:

Room: 211
Before School: 7:50 -8:10 earlier by appointment
After School: 3:20 – 4:00

*This syllabus will be posted on LearnBPS and is subject to change.

Daily Schedule:

	Time	Class	Room
Homebase	8:10 - 8:34	Homebase	211
Period 1	8:37 – 9:21	Earth Science	211
Period 2	9:23 - 10:07	Earth Science	211
Period 3	10:10 – 10:54	Earth Science	211
Period 4	10:56 – 11:40	Earth Science	211
Period 5	11:43 – 12:29	Earth Science	211
Lunch	12:29 – 12:59	Lunch	Cafetorium
Period 6	12:59 – 1:43	Earth Science	211
Period 7	1:46 – 2:30	Team	128
Period 8	2:32 – 3:20	Prep	128/211

Class Content/Standards:

	Unit	Standards
Quarter 1	Scientific Inquiry Minerals Rocks	8.2.4: Design and conduct a scientific investigation. MS-ESS2-1: Develop a model to describe the cycling of Earth’s materials and the flow of energy that drives this process.
Quarter 2	Fossils/Geologic Time Earth’s Composition Plate Tectonics	MS-ESS1-4: Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence from rock strata for how the geologic timescale is used to organize Earth’s 4.6 billion-year-old history. MS-ESS2-2: Construct an explanation based on evidence for how geoscience processes have changed Earth’s surface at varying time and spatial scales. MS-ESS2-3: Analyze and interpret data on the distribution of fossils and rocks, continental shapes, and seafloor structures to provide evidence of past plate motions.
Quarter 3	Plate Tectonics Earthquakes Volcanoes Astronomy	MS-ESS3-2: Analyze and interpret data on natural hazards to forecast future catastrophic events, inform the development of technologies to mitigate their effects. MS-ESS1-1: develop and use a model of the Earth-Sun-Moon system to describe the cyclic patterns of lunar phases, eclipses of the Sun and Moon and seasons.
Quarter 4	Astronomy Atmosphere Meteorology Human Impact	MS-ESS1-2: Develop and use a model to describe the role of gravity in the motions within the galaxies and the solar system. MS-ESS1-3: Analyze and interpret data to determine scale properties of objects in the solar system. MS-ESS2-6: Develop and use a model to describe how unequal heating and rotation of the Earth cause patterns of atmospheric and oceanic circulation that determine regional climates. MS-ESS2-4: Develop a model to describe the cycling of water through Earth’s systems driven by energy from the sun and the force of gravity. MS-ESS2-5: Collect data to provide evidence for how the motions and complex interactions of air masses result in changes in weather conditions. MS-ESS3-3: Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing a human impact on the environment.

Grading Policy:

Grading will be based on total points. There are three main areas that will make up your final grade for each quarter.

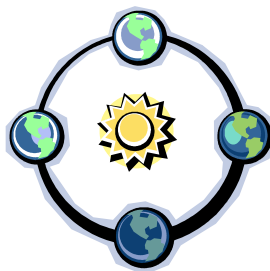
Homework – Each homework assignment will be worth 5 points, and you will be given 2 opportunities to complete. The higher of the two scores will be entered into the gradebook.

Labs/Activities – Will vary with how many points they are worth and late work may be assigned a lower point value. This will be communicated to students on the grading rubric.

Assessments – Will make up the majority of your Earth Science score and can be retaken if you fill out the Request to Retest form and complete the required retest activities.

Grading Scale

Percentage	Letter Grade
100 - 98	A+
97 - 94	A
93 - 92	A-
91 - 90	B+
89 - 86	B
85 - 83	B-
82 - 81	C+
80 - 77	C
76 - 74	C-
73 - 72	D+
71 - 67	D
66 - 65	D-
64 or below	F



Materials:

The majority of classroom activities and work will be completed online using Chromebooks. Students will need a folder and a notebook or place in their binders **used for Earth Science only**. All other supplies will be supplied by the teacher.

Assignments and Activities:

Mrs. Nelson will post all practice assignments and activities weekly on the school website (<http://www.wachter.bismarckschools.org/wachter/teams/puma>) and will provide students with a weekly agenda for them to fill out in their planners.

Absences:

If it is necessary for a student to be absent, they will need to gather all materials from their teachers **BEFORE** being gone. If you are unable to come talk to me before hand, please email me and let me know what days you will be absent. I will email you any work you will need to complete and where to find the work as soon as I am able.

LearnBPS:

Most class assignments and practice work will be posted and turned in online using LearnBPS. Assignments will be posted the day they are assigned and will include the due date. LearnBPS utilizes the same login information that the students use to login to their BPS Google account.