

Kea'au Middle School
Syllabus Outline
LIFE SCIENCE
Academic Year: 2015-2016
Mrs. Mathews

email: robyn_mathews@notes.k12.hi.us

Room: S-1

Telephone #: 313-4893

Course Description: The 7th grade science curriculum is an inquiry and laboratory-based course. This course will be addressing the process skills, content, and concepts that have been identified as important for the middle school science learner. Each student will participate in hands-on experiments and projects, as well as have opportunities for group and individual discovery activities. This exploratory learning method will be reading and writing intensive, combined with the integration of technology, math, and real world applications; and will provide a solid foundation for future successes in science. If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to call or email me.

Requested Classroom Supplies:

These supplies will remain in class to be used by students throughout the year and for various purposes

1. 2 One subject spiral notebook or the binded One subject notebook (students will be shown the difference between the two)
2. Black or blue pens (to be kept in class)
3. 2-glue sticks any size and any brand (to be kept in class)
4. 1 dozen pencils (to be kept in class)
5. Colored pencils (bring to class daily)
6. 3 rolls of paper towels (to remain in class)
7. 1-box of one gallon Ziploc bags OR quart size(to remain in class)
8. 1- Container of any brand disinfecting wipes OR 1 bottle hand sanitizer OR 1 bottle of liquid anti-bacterial hand soap
9. Jump drive to put projects on from computers in class to protect student work. **(Optional, but recommended)**

Methods of Instruction:

These methods are based on the **AVID** (Advancement Via Individual Determination) methodologies and strategies, which are best practices in education. Each student will be given a Home-School Notebook (**HSN**), this is the planner, to be used as a communication tool for parents and teachers, keep track of assignments, projects, and homework, and a place to record reading outside of school. Students will also be graded on the **Science Interactive Notebook** (INB). Students will need to bring it to class every day. If student forgets the notebook on grading day, it may result in a zero for the week, and if it is lost, student will need to make up the work as well get another notebook. This is the reason it is important for students to bring it every day so in case the whole notebook is lost, there is record of work done prior and may not have to make up the entire quarters worth of work. The Science INB will be made from the plastic 3-prong folder and all the assignments, class work, and notes will be kept in this one notebook, so it should be top priority for the student not to misplace it or forget to bring it daily.

Grading Policy:

Grades will be calculated on a point system. The total points will be converted into percentages. The Science INB will be graded weekly; stamps and/or teacher signatures will be collected throughout the week and added to the notebook score. Students will also be graded on having the HSN or the planner to be filled in for every science class and 10 min. of independent reading each period.

The following letter grade will be assigned for each percentage range:

- A= 90-100%
- B= 80-89%
- C= 70-79%
- D=60-69%
- F=Below 60%

Classroom Rules:

1. Always **RESPECT** self and others, property and feelings.
2. Be **RESPONSIBLE** for own actions and possessions.
3. Be **PREPARED** to learn, by being in their seat on time, Science INB, and supplies.

Name _____
Date _____
Period _____

PLEASE RETURN TO MRS. MATHEWS SCIENCE CLASS S-1

Student/Parent Science-Contract

Parents and students please read the classroom information sheet together. Please initial in areas indicated. Student will bring the whole syllabus back, it will be recorded that you initialed and it will be placed in the Science INB for future reference. Parental support is very important for ensuring an effective learning environment for your student. Please sign and return to the instructor as soon as possible. Thank you for your support.

I have read and discussed the class requirements and expectations with my parent or guardian. I understand the expectations of this class in regards to academics and behavior. I agree to use my Home School Notebook to keep track of my assignments and to bring the Science INB to class every class, and understand that my teacher and parent may also use it to communicate with each other. I know that it is my responsibility to let my parent or teacher know when there is a message in my notebook.

(Student Signature)

I/We have read the attached syllabus and have discussed it with my child. I understand the expectations of this class in regards to academics and behavior. I agree to support my child in making sure that they bring the Science INB to class every day. I know how to communicate with my child's teacher using the Home School Notebook and agree to do so if I have any questions or concerns. I acknowledge that it is my child's responsibility to let me know when there is a note for me in the notebook and to let the teacher know when I have sent a note to school.

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

Date

(Print Parent/Guardian Name)

(Print Parent/Guardian Name)

Contact information:

Email address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell: _____