**Mr. Hammer – Earth Systems**

Disclosure Document

I’ll give you a copy of this document in paper form because, well, you need something that can be crumpled and shoved at the bottom of your backpack, but you can also find a copy of it online on my website.

Earth Science is an amazing field of study and we are going to have a great time exploring the Earth and its incredible variety!

**Grading**

I’m sorry I have to grade you, I truly am. I hate grades, always have, but it helps me know how you are progressing and administration says I have to…

That being said, just try your best and in the end things will work out. Don’t worry too much about your grade. I’m mostly concerned about you learning, so if you see that you’re struggling with your grade, come and talk to me and we’ll see what we can do to help you improve.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Grade Component | # per Semester | Percent of total grade |
| Tests | 5 | 35% |
| Quizzes | ~10 | 20% |
| Bell Quizzes | Daily | 5% |
| Classwork/Projects | ~20-25 | 30% |
| Homework | ~Daily | 10% |

A = 93+

1. = 90 – 92

B+ = 87 – 89

B = 83 – 86

1. = 80 – 82

C+ = 77 – 79

C = 73 – 76

1. = 70 – 72

D+ = 67-69

D = 63 – 66

1. = 60 – 62

F = <60

Tests

These happen at the **end of each unit** and help me know how well you understood the concepts. They will typically cover all of the material learned in the unit, plus at the end of the test there will usually be a few cumulative questions as a make up for the previous unit quiz or extra credit if you did well. *If you miss a test for a VALID reason (sick, death in family, exploring Mars), talk to me and we can work out a time for you to take it. If it’s an AWFUL reason (pet worm died, didn’t want to take it, science makes me sad), then there are no make-ups, so please just take it when you’re supposed to.*

Quizzes

In general we will have **two quizzes per unit**. One midway through the unit so I can see how you are progressing and one near the end to see what we need to cover before the test. *I will drop the two lowest quizzes per semester (one per term).*

Bell Quizzes

I would like you to be on-time for two reasons:

1. I want to show you how amazing the Earth is! I can’t do that if you’re not here. Plus we are a learning community and we need every member of the class present to be the most effective.
2. It’s distracting to other students learning when someone comes in late. :(

So, to encourage you to come on time I will hand out a **very short quiz** that covers the previous day’s material, plus a few intro questions to get you thinking about the current day’s lesson. Theses are graded purely on **completion** and **effort**. Don’t worry about getting an answer wrong. *I will drop two bell quizzes per term, therefore there are no makeups.*

Classwork/Projects

The stuff we do in class is going to be so much fun. And on occasion we will also be doing awesome projects as well. This is where a lot of the learning happens. Therefore, classwork and projects are **highly important to me** because they are crucial to how well you do in this class. *I do not drop projects, however I will offer one extra-credit/make-up project per semester. If you must miss class for some legitimate reason, come talk to me and we can work out a make-up time for the classwork.*

Homework

I don’t want homework to be busy work or something for you to dread. I give homework so you can **practice what we learned** that day. It really helps to solidify the concepts and lets you know what questions to ask the next day. 50% of your homework grade will come from completion, but I also want you to try your best on the homework, therefore the other 50% comes from correctness. Not to fear! *I do not drop homework, however, if you complete the homework on time you may submit corrections to questions you missed to get full credit back (Submit correct answer as well as a brief explanation of what was wrong.)*

Additional note:I give partial credit for attempts, so always at least give it a try! I can usually pick out common mistakes and won’t mark you down for getting the whole question wrong. So even if you don’t know how to do a problem, go ahead and try it.

Late work policy

Once upon a time a young student named Jared Hammer was in college and he had an evil professor who was very strict about late work. One day young Jared was going about his day when he realized he hadn’t turned in his homework to the evil professor, so he ran as fast as he could to turn it in but was late by 4 minutes. The homework was not accepted and as it turns out he ended up getting a 92.9% in the class. Had Jared turned in his homework on time he might have pulled off the A instead of an A-.

I’m not that strict, however someday your professor or boss might be just as if not more strict than that evil professor. Please turn in your work on time. It’s hard enough for me to keep track of 180 homework assignments turned in on time, even harder when random late assignments fly around.

Late projects:

1st day: -10%

2nd day: -25%

3rd day: -40%

4th day: Really? Come on.

I accept late projects past the third day up until the end of the term for 50% credit.

Late homework:

1st day: -10%, 2nd day: -20% etc.

Until the 5th day. Anything past that will be accepted until the end of the term for 25% credit.

In addition, homework corrections will only be accepted for on-time assignments.

Tardy policy

Be on time! Also, there are bell-ringer quizzes.

Absent policy

Show up! Give me a (valid) reason if you don’t. Penalties come from missing tests/labs/quizzes.

Cheating policy

If you are caught cheating on any test/assignment/lab etc. it will be an automatic zero. Please don’t worry about grades so much that you cheat. If you’re tempted to cheat, I understand the pressure, but please don’t do it and remember you can always come talk to me. We can work through whatever you’re struggling with.

Technology policy

I don’t want you on your phones while we’re doing stuff. Sometimes they’ll be helpful when doing quizzes or certain activities but if they become a distraction I reserve the right to have you turn it off and shove it at the bottom of your backpack in front of the whole class ☺.

Class Rules

This is high school. You know how to behave in a classroom. Don’t make me a babysitter. My rules are these:

1.) My students, including you, have a right to learn, don’t encroach on that right by being disruptive.

2.) Keep in mind I determine your grade. If you’re polite and generally on-task, then I’ll probably be more lenient when it comes to a grade that’s on the fence. And, well…vice versa.

Supplies:

You will need a notebook and pencil/pen. Nothing special ☺

Contact me:

Website:

Hammerscience.weebly.com

Email:

jaredhammer@alpinedistrict.org

Phone:

Ext. 190 I like email much better than phone. I struggle returning phone messages.

Feel free to come in during breaks or lunch. I’ll usually be around. In addition I’ll be around my classroom before and after school for a little while (usually about a half hour to an hour).

Agreement

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the disclosure document for Mr. Hammer’s Earth Systems classroom. I agree to abide by the policies outlined and to try my hardest in this class.

­­­­­­­­­­­­ Student Sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_