

Course Description:

Marine Science is a course that will provide a foundation in oceanography and marine biology. The science of understanding Earth's oceans integrates basic scientific concepts and principles of geography, geology, chemistry, physics and biology. Lesson topics include formation of Earth and its oceans, plate tectonics, distribution of sediments, properties of seawater, ocean currents, marine ecology, organisms, habitats and environmental issues. Laboratory exercises reinforce the course curriculum and are mostly quantitative using scientific data to investigate and solve problems.

Absences:

Regular attendance is the best assurance of receiving the information you need to be successful in class. If you are absent for any reason:

1. CHECK-IN WITH YOUR CLASSMATES.
2. CHECK THE BASKET IN THE BACK OF THE ROOM.
3. CHECK THE CLASS WEBSITE.
4. Ask the teacher.

If you are absent for a number of days in a row, you have that number of days +1 to turn in work from that stretch. Prolonged absences (greater than a day or two) are usually quite challenging for all of us – do not get behind!

Labs can realistically only be performed at school. The materials and equipment are available on a limited basis. Because of this, labs are difficult to make up. It is the student's responsibility to arrange a time before or after school, to make-up a lab. It is often the case that a written assignment will replace the makeup lab.

Tardiness:

Students are expected to be in the room and at his/her seat when the bell rings. No hall passes will be issued in the first, or last, 20 minutes of class (**20/20 rule**).

Graded Work:

The purpose of grading and reporting is to communicate with you, your parents/guardians and educators an accurate reflection of what you know, understand and can do. Your work is measured against Oregon State and District standards of achievement.

An 'F' grade: If a student does not show passing proficiency with the required subject matter on any graded assignment, that student receives 50% of possible points, or an 'F' grade (see Cheating as an exception).

In addition to the course hours in the classroom, the expectation for work completion outside of class includes approximately **12** hours. Activities might include homework, projects, readings, exam preparation and group work.

Late Work:

Partial credit (usually 75%, but up to my discretion) will be given for all work that is turned in *the next class day* after the due date. If more than one class day has passed, late homework will often be scored as an 'F' grade, or 50% of possible points.

Cheating:

Students engaged in cheating receive a zero on the assignment/test. Second offenses may involve removal from class with a loss of credit, suspension or expulsion. Cheating is:

- Talking or sharing information with another student during a test/quiz, regardless if the shared information is relevant to the test/quiz
- Looking at someone else's paper, using notes, a cell phone or electronic device, or referencing a book during a test/quiz
- Copying another student's work on assignments, unless allowed to "share" or work in groups by the instructor

Evaluation and Grading:

To EARN your grade, each semester's marks will be calculated as follows:

<u>Grading Scale:</u>
A = 90-100%
B = 80-89.9%
C = 70-79.9%
D = 60-69.9%
F = < 59.9%

<u>Categories:</u>	
Tests & Quizzes	90%
Portfolio	5%
Labs/Activities	5%
total	100%

I do not round up grades. If, for example, you receive a 79.9%, that is the highest C possible. Students concerned about being on the border at grading time should take full opportunity of test fixes, and any other chance to earn points – including preparing diligently for exams.

In addition to the course hours in the classroom, the expectation for work completion outside of class includes approximately **12** hours. Activities might include homework, projects, readings, exam preparation and group work.

Standards: Whenever possible, course content will seek to follow and fulfill the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), as put forth by the Oregon Department of Education.

<http://www.nextgenscience.org/next-generation-science-standards>

No Grade / N: If there are extenuating circumstances, at the discretion of the instructor, an 'N' may be given at the end of the semester to allow for a student to complete course work. The stands for "No Grade", and can be changed at a later date, once requisite work is completed. These cases are extremely rare, and are almost exclusively for failing students who are very close to passing the class.

Test re-takes and Test fixes: I do not offer test re-takes. Students wishing to improve their score on an exam or quiz can "fix" it by writing complete sentences, correctly answering questions they missed. Spelling and grammar count, and the amount of fix points is determined by the instructor, but can amount to an entire letter grade improvement. **STUDENTS MUST BE PRESENT ON THE ORIGINAL TEST DAY, AND ON THE DAY OF FIXES TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FIX POINTS.**

General Behavior and Classroom Expectations:

Cell phones/ipods/earbuds/headphones are **INVISIBLE** bell-to-bell.

No talking during **INSTRUCTION**, or during **INPUT** from other students.

We will not **INHIBIT** the learning of other students, or the right of others to be comfortable, confident and safe in the class.

Kindly,

Mr. Stanley

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