

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Wallenpaupack Area High School

Course Title: Science 9

Length of Course: 1 Semester

District Policies:

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is essential to the success of an educational community. Students are responsible for learning and upholding professional standards of research, writing, assessment, and ethics in their areas of study. Written or other work which students submit must be the product of their own efforts and must be consistent with appropriate standards of professional ethics. Academic dishonesty, which includes cheating, plagiarism, multiple submissions and other forms of dishonest or unethical behavior, is prohibited.

Assessment:

The goal of grading is to report student progress and achievement to the parents to strengthen the home-school connection. The grade should accurately reflect the student's performance in mastering the PA Standards and the WASD curriculum.

Attendance:

Regular school attendance is vitally important to academic success. Not only does attendance reinforce and enrich the learning process; it also establishes patterns and attitudes that will carry forward into adult work habits. Regular, consistent attendance is a prerequisite to successful school life. Children should be absent only in cases of illness or emergency.

Special Education:

Our commitment to each student is to ensure a free appropriate public education which begins with the general education setting, with the use of Supplementary Aids and Services. Inclusive education describes the successful education of all students with the appropriate supports and services to participate in and benefit from the general classroom settings and other educational environments.

Course Description:

This course will help students to understand the environmental, ecological and earth science aspects of the world around them. Topics studied in this course are: environmental science, ecological studies, geology, astronomy, and earth science. The physical science and ecological standards of this course become an integrated sequence of the studies of interactions of matter, humans and science. The relational study develops a culminating view of humans faced with comprehensive problems of resource depletion and technological and socioeconomic decision-making. The focal point of this course is to better prepare our high school students to investigate and understand these topics as they are related to the Pennsylvania State Science Standards. In this Honors level course, analysis, synthesis and evaluation of ideas are focused upon, and the pacing, assessments, and depth of coverage of many topics are increased or modified.

Pennsylvania State Standards:

All WAHS courses are aligned to the PA State Standards and Common Core Standards, where applicable.

Major Activities:

- Lake Trip
- Class work
- Homework
- Labs
- Projects
- Quizzes
- Tests

Student Responsibilities:

Homework expectations:

Homework is an important component and will be assigned when necessary. Homework assignments will either be checked or collected at the beginning of class on the day they are due.

Make-up work:

Any missed work must be made up. You have the number of days you were absent from the day you return to make up the work. Any work not made up will be recorded as a "0". It is your responsibility to see your teacher about make up work on the day you return. It is also your responsibility to return the completed work in to receive credit.

Late work:

Late work may be accepted for reduced credit.

Assessment:**Grading components:**

Your marking period grade will be determined through tests, quizzes, homework, drawings, laboratories, and projects. Every assessment and assignment will be worth various amounts of points. Your marking period grade will be based on the total points accumulated divided by the total possible points.

Quarter Grades:

Class work = approximately 40%

Quizzes and Tests = approximately 40%

Homework = approximately 20%

Final Exam:

Final exam is valued at 14% of the student's final average

Content Pacing Guide:

Topic	Major Assignments	Estimated Time
Lake Trip	PPL dam and power plant tour Watershed tour Limnology study Stream study Wetland study Sewage treatment tour	3 days & 3 blocks
Watershed and Wetlands	PA rivers and watersheds stream and water quality activity	5 blocks
Renewable and Nonrenewable Resources	alternative energy project garbage and recycling activity	5 blocks
Environmental Health	water pollution lab case studies	5 blocks
Agriculture and Society	agriculture project farm to market activity	5 blocks
Integrated Pest Management	IPM project Invasive species activity	5 blocks
Ecosystems and Their Interactions	food webs biome activity	5 blocks
Threatened, Endangered and Extinct Species	adaptation lab extinction project	5 blocks
Humans and the Environment	case studies	3 blocks
Environmental Law and Regulations	research project case studies	3 blocks
The Dynamic Earth	plate tectonics activity types of boundaries volcano / earthquake project Google earth activity	18 blocks
Reshaping the Crust	weathering / erosion project or lab topographic mapping	5 blocks
The History of Earth	rock age activity rock/fossil lab	5 blocks
Studying Space	history of astronomy project planet and moon activities star life cycle star classification	12 blocks