



Mountain Range High School
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<http://www.mountainrange.adams12.org>



School Year	2020-2021	Teacher Name	Mr. Bleskan
Email Address	ble012961@adams12.org	Classroom Office	A103 A107

Course Name	Astronomy		
Course Description	This astronomy course offers students the opportunity to study the solar system, stars, galaxies, and interstellar bodies. This course introduces and uses astronomical instruments and explores theories regarding the origin and evolution of the universe, space, and time. Students in this year-long course will explore how scientists measure remote objects, process and interpret data, and support or deny scientific theories with respect to distant objects in the solar system and beyond. Topics covered include objects in the solar system (planets, moons, the sun), objects outside of the solar system (galaxies, quasars, black holes), the motion of celestial objects as well as size and scale, and finally human observation and exploration of space.		
Unit of Study	Grade Level Expectations/Content Standards	Approximate Time	Targeted Date of Assessment
Ancient astronomy	Information Technologies and Instrumentation (ITI), Universe and Its Stars, Earth and Solar System	5 weeks	Late September
Modern Astronomy	History of Science, ITI, Forces and Motion,	4 weeks	Late October
Waves	Wave Properties, Relationship between Energy and Forces, ITI	7 weeks	End of Semester
EM Spectrum	EM Radiation, Wave Properties, ITI, Nuclear Processes	7 weeks	End of February
Optics and telescopes	Wave Properties, Structure and Properties of Matter, ITI	7 weeks	Mid-April
Astrogeology Astrobiology	Nuclear Process, ITI, Biogeology, History of Earth	5 weeks	End of Semester

Course Grade Scale	
A	89.5 - 100
B	79.5 – 89.4
C	69.5 – 79.4
D	59.5 – 69.4
F	0 – 59.4

Assessment/Practice Proficiency Levels	
4	Advanced Understanding of the Standard
3	Meets the Standard
2	Approaches the Standard
1	Does not Meet the Standard

Grade Reporting Criteria/Weights	
Disciplinary Core Ideas	60%
Science and Engineering Practices	15%
Communication	15%
Practice	10%
Grades are based on achievement of Content Standards and Grade Level Expectations. *Weekly progress grades are posted at https://ic.adasm12.org/campus/portal/adams12.isp	



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General Expectations

- The classroom environment will be a physically and emotionally safe space for all students to participate in and learn about the scientific method and the course content.
- Safe laboratory behavior is **always** the expectation, which includes eye protection and zero tolerance for “horseplay”.
- Grades are based upon the demonstration of proficiency on units associated within specific grade reporting criteria.
- **Assessment:** Assessments are a means to determine a student’s mastery and understanding of information, skills, concepts, or processes. These tasks make up the Disciplinary Core Ideas (content) category, weighted at 60% of the overall grade.
- **Labs:** Multiple opportunities will be given throughout the year for students to exercise inquiry based learning and skills development. These assignments fall into the Science and Engineering Practices category, weighted at 15% of the overall grade.
- **Written work:** A few times each semester students will be tasked with creating an essay or presentation for selected topics. These assignments fall into the Communication category, weighted at 15% of the overall grade.
- **Practice:** Practice includes opportunities for students to receive clear, specific, and timely feedback as they are developing knowledge and skills, prior to Assessments. These assignments are very diverse in nature and fall into the Practice category, weighted at 10% of the overall grade.
- Assessments will be graded based on teacher/district/state rubrics.
- **Students are held to the Academic Integrity Policy for Mountain Range High School.**

Class Expectations

Missing or incomplete assignments/assessments for this course:

Superintendent Policies 6280 Homework and 6281 Make-Up Work will be followed for this course. They state that it is the student’s responsibility to request and obtain missing work. When a student has an excused absence, the student has the same number of days they were absent plus one day to make up assignments. *Example: A student is **excused** absent, Monday and Tuesday. The student would have Wednesday, Thursday and Friday to make up the work, which would then be due at the beginning of the period on Monday.* Students who are unexcused may not be able to receive feedback from Practice prior to required Assessments.

In order to preserve test security, students may be required to take a missed test immediately upon return from an authorized absence if that student has had the opportunity to access all learning prior to the absence. Students missing a group or individual presentation may also be required to give that presentation upon return. *Example: A test is given on Thursday and a student is absent on that day (authorized, excused), but was present the days prior. This student may be required to take the test on Friday*

Plagiarism/Cheating: Plagiarism means to present, as one’s own, the work, writing, words, ideas or computer information of someone else. These sources could be either published or unpublished. Cheating is supplying, receiving or using inappropriate devices to improve performance on a test or assessment. Students who engage in plagiarism or cheating will be disciplined according to the school discipline matrix.

Weekly Progress: Current grades are accessible through Infinite Campus. A link to Infinite Campus can be found on the Mountain Range website: <http://www.mountainrange.adams12.org/>