

COURSE SYLLABUS
8TH GRADE COMPREHENSIVE SCIENCE ADVANCED
 Comprehensive Science 3 Advanced (8th Grade Science)
 Course #: 20021100

COURSE INSTRUCTOR	NAME	Robert Hanna
	EMAIL ADDRESS	hannar2@leonschools.net (be sure to include the "2"!)
	WEBSITE	http://www.inetteacher.com/teacher/102753
	CONTACT INFO	Email is best. Phone calls will be returned at the earliest convenience.
COURSE DESCRIPTION	<p>This is a comprehensive science class, meaning that we will study various fields of science throughout the year. The purpose of this course is to refine students' mastery of middle school science standards in preparation for the 8th grade science FSA while priming them for success in high school-level science courses. Students are expected to perform at a level that indicates progress towards high school readiness.</p> <p>1st 9 weeks: Nature of Science; Atoms & Periodic Table 2nd 9 weeks: Properties & Changes in Matter ; Photosynthesis & Cellular Respiration 3rd 9 weeks: Earth, Moon, & Sun; Solar System; Space 4th 9 weeks: Review of Topics for FSA Science; Human Growth & Development</p>	
COURSE RESOURCES	TEXTBOOK	<p>Pearson: Elevate Science Florida Course 3 (2019) – A paperback student workbook will be issued to each student (a class-set is available for use in class). Online Text: Accessed through students' ClassLink (see my website for instructions)</p>
	MATERIALS	<p>Students must bring these items to class EVERY DAY to be prepared for science class:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Writing Utensil (pencil or black/blue pen, please no red, neon, or metallic ink!) Science Notebook (1-inch, 3 ring binder with pockets and dividers) which may be left in the classroom or taken home each day at student discretion Notebook Paper (loose-leaf; not torn from a spiral). Student Planner (daily documentation of assignments, homework, and passes)
	FEES	<p>In this course, students will be participating in a number of laboratory investigations, including: <i>Scientific Inquiry Lab, Moon Models, Is it a Planet?, Reason For Seasons, Mixtures and Solutions, Layering Liquids, Sink or Float, Periodic Table Patterns, Exothermic reactions, Temperature & Chemical Reactions, Classifying Acids & Bases, etc...</i> Please understand that labs are subject to change based on curriculum progression and student performance throughout the year. In order to purchase the materials needed for these labs, a \$5.00 science lab fee will be collected from every student. Please send \$5.00 to your child's science teacher as soon as you are able.</p>
	WEBSITES	<p>A calendar of daily activities and homework, a list of numbered assignments, and links to assignments is available at my teacher website (http://www.inetteacher.com/teacher/102753). Additionally, you will find information related to the Argument Driven Inquiry (ADI) process, links to my syllabus & procedures, sunshine state standards for this class. Science content review based on FSA Science standards can be accessed at bit.do/SCMSscience (Wolf Tracks website).</p>
	ACADEMIC APPS	<p>Instruction in this course will include multiple modes of content delivery and review, including student access to online applications such as "Quizizz", "Remind", or "YouTube".</p> <p>Additionally, students will utilize an online FSSA prep tool called "Study Island". This application will be used throughout the year on current content as well as for review of 6th and 7th grade content.</p>

	REQUIRED READING	Textbook chapters will be assigned to support classroom instruction. Students may be assigned chapter readings outside of class and are encouraged to supplement in-class learning by familiarizing themselves with concepts from the book. In some cases, other written resources will be provided to support understanding of concepts.																		
	STANDARDS	Comp. 3 Adv. - http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewCourse/Preview/4325																		
BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS	<p>All Swift Creek Middle School teachers expect students to adhere to the Leon County Schools Attendance Policy and Student Code of Conduct, which includes the dress code, and expectations of academic integrity such as cheating and plagiarism. These policies can be found on the Leon County Schools website at www.leon.k12.fl.us, the school website at www.swiftcreek.leon.k12.fl.us, and in the agenda book distributed to each student.</p> <p>In this class, students will keep a discipline log which tracks behavioral issues. After initial warnings, students will enter their 1st offense in the log as an official warning. A 2nd infraction will prompt a phone call to parents as a 2nd official warning. 3rd offenses will result in a lunch detention (<i>and a parent phone call</i>). Subsequent infractions will result in a referral to the front office. Serious offenses may result in immediate behavior referrals to the Dean of Students.</p>																			
GRADING POLICY	<p>Student grades in this course will be weighted by category as follows:</p> <p>70% – Formal Assessments (Tests, Quizzes) 15% – Investigations (Lab Reports, Arguments, Investigation Planning & Data Collection) 15% – Classwork (Daily Assignments, Bellwork, Standard-Checks, Group Projects)</p> <p>Students will take a semester exam at the conclusion of each semester that will count as a formal assessment grade for the current 9-week grading period.</p>																			
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ADVANCED COURSE STANDARDS	<p>Advanced courses are specifically designed for students performing above grade level and those students that are self-motivated to keep up with the challenge of accelerated instruction. We want to give Swift Creek students the opportunity to learn in level-appropriate courses (matching both the ability level of the student and their motivation/effort).</p> <p>Please note the following expectations and standards that will be followed in this course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to continue to participate in a Bridge/Advanced course the student must maintain at least a 3.0/B average in that subject area. • If at the end of the 1st 9-week grading period, the student’s course grade falls below a B, the student will be placed on probation and a meeting will be held with the student and parent to discuss ways to help the student improve their academic performance. • If after the 2nd 9-week grading period, the 1st semester average for that particular Bridge/Advanced course has not reached at least a 3.0/B, a schedule change may be made for the 3rd 9-week period to a lower-level course. • At the end of the school year, a B average is required to remain in each Bridge/Advanced subject area course for the subsequent school year. • If a Gifted student is removed from a Bridge/Advanced/Gifted ELA course due to not meeting the course grade standard, the student’s Gifted Educational Plan (EP) will be written through another core area Bridge/Advanced/Gifted course. <p>The Bridge Program offers a special educationally-centered fieldtrip for Bridge students. In order to participate in this special field trip, students must have at least a B average in each core Bridge course on their most recent report card.</p>																			

HOMEWORK	Homework in this course will consist mostly of science fair, writing lab reports (@ 1 per 9-weeks), and completing Study Island assignments. Notebook assignments will rarely be assigned as homework, but any work not finished in class should be completed at home . Students will present their notebook for grading every few weeks during the “notebook check window”. Assignments not presented to the teacher during this window will be considered “LATE”. It is the STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY to get credit for all assignments!
MAKE-UP WORK PROCEDURES	Leon County School Board Policy allows students to make up work within a reasonable amount of time after returning to school following an excused absence. The allotted time will be determined by district policy and communicated by the teacher to both parent(s) and the student. Make-up assignments can be found on my website (http://www.inetteacher.com/teacher/102753) in the course resources tab as well as in make-up folders located at the back of the classroom. It is the student’s responsibility to locate and complete missed work (and to ask questions if needed)!
LATE WORK POLICY	Major projects and lab reports will have points deducted each day they are late up to 5 days, after which they will be given a grade of “0”. Notebook assignments turned in after the notebook check window closes will be graded for half-credit.
ASSIGNMENT RE-DO POLICY & PROCEDURES	Students will have an opportunity to re-take ANY formal assessment (excluding the semester exam) if they are not satisfied with their initial grade. Students may ask for a re-test within two weeks ONLY AFTER additional studying. Students will receive one “freebie” each nine weeks in which their retake grade can replace the original assessment grade for any point value. However, all other retake attempts will be capped at 70% (or the next-highest letter-grade, ie – 80% or 90%). Students will have an opportunity to revise the final draft of their lab reports and resubmit their paper for grading after receiving teacher feedback. The higher of the two grades will be reflected in the gradebook for the lab report assignment.
EXTRA HELP	All ESE/504/ESOL student accommodations will be provided within the classroom. Students who wish to receive extra help may schedule a time to come in before or after school. Please note that teacher availability is affected by: Wednesday morning faculty/committee meetings, Tuesday morning duty, morning parent/teacher conferences, after-school department meetings, etc... Remember that email is an option (<i>please allow 24 hr response-time</i>).
SCIENCE FAIR	Students enrolled in advanced science courses such as this one are required to participate in the school science fair. Information about the science fair will be discussed in class, sent home for your review, and posted on the class website. Some class time will be devoted to working on science fair projects, but students should expect the majority of their projects to be completed outside of class. Partner projects will require a signed parent permission form agreeing to the terms of the group project.
NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT	<i>“The Leon County School District does not discriminate against any person on the basis of sex (including transgender status, gender nonconforming, and gender identity), marital status, sexual orientation, race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, age, color, pregnancy, disability, military status, or genetic information.”</i>