

# GRIMSHAW PUBLIC SCHOOL



*Inspiring Our Students Today For Tomorrow's Future*



## **Science 9 Course Outline 2024-2025**

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### Welcome to Science 9!

Science 9 is an exciting course that explores a variety of sciences: biology, chemistry, electricity, and space exploration. A variety of instructional and assessment strategies will be used, and an emphasis will be placed on the practical application of laboratory skills and the drawing of connections between science, technology and society. This is an exciting course that provides students with the scientific knowledge and skills to consider and generate informed opinions on topics that are important and relevant to today's society.

### **COURSE OUTLINE AND FOCUS QUESTIONS**

<b>Unit A: Biological Diversity</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What is biological diversity, and by what processes do diverse living things pass on their characteristics to future generations?</li><li>2. What impact does human activity have on biological diversity?</li></ol>	20 % of time Sept. - Oct. Ch. 1
<b>Unit B: Matter and Chemical Change</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What are the properties of materials, and what happens to them during chemical change?</li><li>2. What evidence do we have of chemical change; and what ideas, theories or models help us explain that evidence?</li></ol>	20 % of time Nov. - Jan. Ch. 2
<b>Unit C: Environmental Chemistry</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What substances do we find in local and global environments?</li><li>2. What role do they play, and how do changes in their concentration and distribution affect living things?</li></ol>	20% of time Jan. – Mar. Ch. 3
<b>Unit D: Electrical Principles and Technology</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. How do we obtain and use electrical energy?</li><li>2. What scientific principles are involved?</li><li>3. What approaches can we use in selecting, developing and using energy-consuming devices that are efficient and effective in their energy use?</li></ol>	20% of time Mar. - Apr. Ch. 4
<b>Unit E: Space Exploration</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. How have humans attained a presence in space?</li><li>2. What technologies have been developed and on what scientific ideas are they based?</li><li>3. How has the development of these technologies contributed to the exploration, use and understanding of space and to benefits on Earth?</li></ol>	20% of time Apr. - Jun. Ch. 5

**Science 9 PAT Exam (25%):**

**End of June (Exact date TBA)**

*GPS: The Right Direction*

## COURSE EVALUATION

A variety of instructional and assessment strategies will be used throughout this course. The course includes a diploma examination worth 25% of your final grade. The 75% school mark is evaluated over the term as follows:

School Evaluation		Individual Unit Evaluation	
Unit A	15%	Unit Exam	40 %
Unit B	15%	Assignments, Labs, Quizzes	25 %
Unit C	15 %	Unit Project	15 %
Unit D	15 %	<i>Unit Total</i>	100 %
Unit E	15%		
<b>Final PAT Exam</b>	25%		
<i>School Total</i>	100 %		

## MISSED/LATE WORK POLICY

Circumstances may arise where students miss assignment due-dates, lab investigations, quizzes or unit exams. Missed assignments must be made up and handed in at the earliest possible time. Missed Unit Exams will be written upon the student's return. Date will be arranged with the teacher. Chronic absences are a cause for concern. Regular student and parent monitoring of the student's progress is recommended through PowerSchool, which is accessible via the GPS website.

**Assignments and Labs** are a component of every unit and are to be handed in no later than the specified due-date. If the student fails to hand in work, students will receive a 25% as a mark unless exempt for circumstances discussed between the student and teacher.

**Quizzes** are a component of every unit and must be written on the date specified. If a chapter quiz is missed *with a valid excuse*, it must be written the following day. No retests will be permitted.

**Unit Exams** are comprehensive tests that cover the content from the entire unit. If a unit exam is missed *with a valid excuse*, it must be written the following day.

**Final Exam:** This course has a mandatory Diploma exam written at the end of the semester. It is administered by Alberta Education and will account for 30% of their overall grade.

## REQUIRED RESOURCES

The **textbook** for **Science 9 is Science Focus 9**. Textbooks will remain in the classroom for students. Students may sign out a textbook to take home if needed. A PDF version of the text will be provided on Google Classroom. A **calculator and pencil** are also required.

## CELLPHONES AND MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

In compliance with the new cellphone policy, student cellphones must be in their lockers during class. Student's will have access to chromebooks when in need of mobile technology.

## PLAGIARISM

All students' work is required to be a product of their own thinking and ideas. It is encouraged that students use outside credible academic sources to further their understanding and knowledge but if those resources are used in and answer proper citation is required. Students are not to copy from their peers. If it is found that this has occurred, both parties will either receive an incomplete for the assignment or be given the chance to redo the assignment within a deadline.

## CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS AND STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

1. **Come to class, every single day.** Coming to class involves more than just showing up; you must be prepared to think hard and work hard. Also, please be on time.
2. **Participate wholly in class.** Learning is not the rote memorization of facts. In-class activities provide an opportunity to make connections and gain a deep understanding of material. If you make a choice to not participate actively, you are wasting these opportunities as well as your time. Challenge yourself to think, focus and *do*.
3. **Do not let yourself get distracted.** This includes by your friends. This is a waste of your time spent in class. Learn the material while it's being taught and discussed in-class, not the night before the exam. By the same token, do not distract the people around you; allow them to succeed.
4. **Ask questions.** Be curious, desire to learn more, and never be afraid to ask questions. Clear up any misunderstandings early and as they arise, not the night before the exam.
5. **Review material every day.** A considerable amount of learning happens during reflection. Take time every night to review your notes and reflect on what we learned in class that day. Even a few minutes every night will help. If you did not understand something that day, challenge yourself to figure it out (look at the textbook, find videos online, ask someone else in the class, and of course, come see me the next day).

I have high, positive expectations of every student, and every student should have the same expectations of themselves. All work should be completed with pride and to the best of your ability. I am always available to help. I believe you can succeed.