

## **Life and Environmental Science -- Classroom Contract**

### **Abstract**

Hello and welcome to our science classroom for Spring 2020. Whether you are a sixth-grade student in Environmental Science or a seventh-grader in our Life Science class, the following syllabus and contract applies to how we agree to engage with the material and with each other within the classroom and in any physical or digital interaction outside of it. The foundation of our class will be a constant inquisitive curiosity and questioning of the scientific knowledge, with a respect for the content, our space, and each other.

The following document outlines what is expected of you, with a breakdown of how your grade will be compiled at the end of each marking period. As discussed in-person, the majority of your grade will be based on your engagement with the material, with the remaining portion for your knowledge of it. This contract is effective from January 28, 2020. I reserve the right to amend this contract during the following period, pending administrative review and parental consent.

### **Grade Breakdown**

30% Tests	10% Homework
20% Quizzes	10% Participation
20% Classwork	10% Conduct

### **Tests**

There will be a total of five exams administered during the next twenty weeks. Four of these exams will each be at the end of every unit, covering the respective content. A final exam given at the end of the fourth marking period will cover all provided content and is worth 10% of the student's overall grade. Students are required to answer 25 out of a total of 30 questions provided on each exam.

### **Quizzes**

There will be a quiz administered at the end of every week that will encompass all covered material for said week. Each quiz will have a total of ten questions and will test the student's comprehension of the material and offer an opportunity for said student to address any questions they may have. Quizzes are graded on a pass-fail scale, with completion considered an automatic pass. Quizzes will be graded and reviewed as a classroom activity.

### **Classwork**

Classwork will consist of the activity administered during class time, which can be conducted individually, in pairs, or in groups, depending on my explicit instruction. Students are expected to be active members of their pair or group, and will be assigned specific tasks to complete within the activity. Activities may utilize written material, technology, scientific apparatus, or oral presentation. Student activity will be judged based on effort rather than explicit accuracy.

Hellenic Classical Charter School

Mr. Ahmed Aly

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### **Homework**

There will be a minimum of one (and a maximum of two) homework assignment each week. Students are expected to complete an assignment in its entirety, as they will be provided with sufficient time and resources to do so. Absolutely no late assignments will be accepted. In addition, there are several opportunities for extra credit during the week, including reading digital or written responses to our classroom blog posts or a summary of a science article.

### **Participation**

Students are expected to be active participants in the classroom. This includes consistent attendance, discussion, and, most importantly, questioning. Students are encouraged to constantly ask questions so long as it relates to the content of the subject field and is civically appropriate. In addition, students are encouraged to commence topics of discussion that are related to the material or based on any scientific observation outside of the classroom.

### **Conduct**

Students are expected to adhere to the Hellenic Classical Charter School code of conduct. This includes material preparedness and civil behavior both inside and outside the classroom, especially as it relates to respect for classmates, teachers, and school staff and administration. Any extraordinary infraction will result in a proportionate and appropriate disciplinary action as outlined by the Hellenic Classical Charter School's "Operations and Policies."

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### **Agreement**

Dear Parent or Guardian: By signing below, you are consenting for your child's agreement to our classroom contract, which includes expectations and a breakdown of their class grade-point average for Science, effective from January 28, 2020. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email, at [aaly@hccs-nys.org](mailto:aaly@hccs-nys.org).

Full Name (Print)

Class

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Email

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date