ACT PREP (Science)

Syllabus 2019-2020

Teacher Name: Andi Birdsong
Email address: abirdsong@gcboe.us

Teacher Schedule:

1st block (8:00-9:20)	ENG II	ROOM #73
2nd block (9:25-10:45)	ENG II	ROOM #73
3rd block (10:50-12:35)	ENG II H	ROOM #73
4th block (12:40-2:00)	PLAN	ROOM #73
5th block (2:05-2:50)	ACT PREP	ROOM #73

ACT prep students assigned to this class will adhere to a rotation schedule in which they will spend approximately half of each nine-week grading period in one of four classes based on tested ACT subjects. Each class will be taught by a professional with expertise in that particular subject.

Classroom Rules and Expectations/Discipline Policy:

RESPECT

You should treat everyone around you with kindness and dignity. This includes your teacher and your peers. When I am talking to the class, I expect you to give me your full attention. Good character goes a long way. If you see someone struggling, either academically or socially, please take the time to help. You will be surprised what a difference YOU can make to someone in need.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is a vital part of your academic achievement. You should plan to be at school every day. In the event you miss this class, it is YOUR responsibility to find out if you missed any work and turn makeup work in to me in a timely manner. Any assignment not submitted to me in a timely manner will result in assignment to Saturday school or a grade of zero. See handbook for school attendance and makeup policy.

PUNCTUALITY

It is imperative for you to be to class on time each and every day. Each time you are late to class (not in your seat when the bell rings), you will receive a tardy in accordance with school policy. Chronic tardiness will result in a meeting with administration.

PREPARATION

You should bring all required materials to class each day and have them on your desk and ready to begin work when the bell rings. Failure to do so creates disruption and causes you to miss important information.

DISCIPLINE POLICY: Student discipline will be progressive depending on severity and frequency of the offense; a student's first offense should not merit as severe a consequence as a repeat offense. All relevant factors will be taken into consideration in determining an appropriate

consequence or penalty, including but not limited to verbal warning, written warning, loss of privileges, referral to school administration, in-school suspension, and out-of-school suspension.

These rules are in addition to any listed in your student handbook. In order to achieve success in this class, you should take responsibility for your behavior and adhere to all rules at all times. Refer to student handbook for the full listing of student rights, responsibilities, and rules.

Grading Policy:

Grades for ACT Prep will be determined by a percentage system. All assignments are graded on a percentage scale and assigned a category. The categories and their weights are as follows:

1st grading period:

Daily -- 60%

Exams – 40%

2nd grading period:

Daily -- 60%

Exams -- 40%

Make-up Work Policy:

If you are absent on the day an assignment is due, Giles County School Board policy allows you to turn in the work you missed within two school days without penalty. If you did not turn in the work and were present, your possible points allowed will drop every day the assignment is late. The amount it drops will depend on the assignment. If you are absent on a test day, you will need to meet with me to schedule a time to come in either during lunch or after school to make up the test. Makeup work is your responsibility. Any assignment not submitted to me in a timely manner will result in assignment to Saturday school or a grade of zero.

Instructional Materials:

- ACT practice workbooks and videos
- Handouts supplied by teacher

**Giles County High School will make instructional materials available for review within 10 days of a written parental request.*

Classroom Supply List:

- loose-leaf notebook paper
- pencils and/or ink pens (NOT RED OR A COLOR THAT IS HARD TO READ)
- pocket folder or loose-leaf binder with a section dedicated solely to this class
- highlighter

Standards/Topics Covered & Course Calendar:

The ACT science section is a 40-question, 35-minute test. Students will be trained to work quickly and efficiently in order to complete this portion of the ACT. Benchmark for the science portion of the ACT is a score of 23. Below are the categories that will be covered in this class and on the ACT, as well as the approximate percentage of questions from each. I have also included a brief description of each topic.

ACT Science Test Passage Formats

Passage Format	Additional Information	% of Questions (# of Questions)
Data Representation	understand, evaluate, and interpret information presented in graphs, tables, or charts	38% (approx. 15 questions)
Research Summaries	understand, evaluate, and analyze one or more experiments	45% (approx. 18 questions)
Conflicting Viewpoints	understand and evaluate conflicting viewpoints, theories, or hypotheses on a specific topic	17% (approx. 7 questions)

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____