

Grading (Grades 7-8)

Mr. Osborn's Grading Philosophy:

I cannot make you do well. Only you can decide to do well! My job is to help you do well if you wish. If you get a good grade it is because you chose to do the things that it took to get a good grade. If you get a poor grade it is because you chose to do the things that it took to get a poor grade. It is up to you how well you do in this class. I would like to see each student earn a good grade. However, I will not force anyone to do well.

Students who normally do well...**Significantly share** in the responsibility for their own learning with their teachers. They typically do the following:

- Come to class prepared. (Keep a neat and organized binder.)
- Listen carefully to directions.
- Read carefully.
- Stay on task.
- They are responsible for absences.
- Actively participate in class.
- Review learning materials over a period of time rather than cramming the night before a test.
- Make classes a high priority.

Quarter Grades:

The following procedure will be used to determine quarter grades. All graded items fall into one of the following types of grades. Each is described below.

Test or Quiz Grades – These are tests or quizzes that are given after the students have gone through a section or unit. These are used to assess the student's understanding of the topic. These may be typical chapter or unit tests or section quizzes. These grades will count for **60%** of your grade.

Activity/Lab Grades – These activities or labs are normally completed in class. They generally require some type of data collection, write-up, or conclusion that must be turned in. These grades will count for **25%** of your grade.

Participation Grades - These grades are determined weekly by Mr. Osborn based upon the following list and will contribute **10%** of your grade.

25 points for students who can answer "YES" to these questions...

- Do you regularly attend class?
- Are you completing all the work?
- Are you making up work if absent?
- Are you coming to class prepared?
- Are you listening to and following instructions?
- Are you involved in discussions and activities?
- Are you contributing to group work?
- Are you focused and staying on task during class?
- Are you refraining from interrupting class?
- Are you refraining from inappropriate comments?

Everything Else - These include homework, other classwork, check for understanding quizzes, etc. These grades will count **5%** of your grade. These grades are considered “check-off” assignments. These types of assignments have 3 possible grades - 10/10 for quality work, 8/10 for satisfactory work, 0/10 for unsatisfactory work.

The following scale taken from school policy will be used to determine the letter grade.

A	93 - 100	Excellent
B	86 - 92	Good
C	78 – 85	Satisfactory
D	70 - 77	Needs Improvement
N/C	69 or lower	No Credit

Late Assignments:

- Most assignments will have a specific due date.
- Unless otherwise indicated, assignments are due immediately at the **beginning** of class the day it is due.
- Assignments not completed at this time will be considered late and a zero will be entered in the grade book until the assignment is turned in and graded.
- Students turning in assignments late will receive a 10% reduction in grading per school day after the due date. Assignments will be accepted until the end of the unit.

Absences:

Students are responsible for class work when absent from school. Go to Mr. Osborn’s “Lesson Plans” at the science home page to determine what you missed while you were absent.

(<https://sites.google.com/humphrey.esu7.org/hps-science-home-page/home>)

You may also come in and see Mr. Osborn during study hall and before or after school to talk about missed work. The beginning of class is not a good time to ask about missed work.

Any “papers” handed out while you were absent will be available to you in the black folders in Mr. Osborn’s room.

Makeup work – Any graded assignment missed or due on the day of illness will fall under the “School Policy” on makeup work. Essentially it says, “two school days to make up work for each day of absence”.

Planned or School Activity Absences - School policy says - “Work should be made up before the absence”. Oftentimes this is not possible. If it is not possible, arrangements should be made to make up work as soon as possible after returning to school. We will follow the “two days to make up work for each day of absence” guidelines as set forth in the handbook.

You may visit with Mr. Osborn about planned absences before or after school or during study hall. Class time will not be used to discuss makeup work for a planned absence.

Extended Absences

Students who are going to be absent for an extended period of time (more than 3 days) will work with Mr. Osborn and determine the best procedure for making up work and meeting the requirements of the class. This must be done on an individual basis.

Zoom

The science classes are designed for in class learning. Much of the learning takes place via activities done at school. These can not be done at home nor can they be done via zoom. Homework assignments such as outlines can be completed at home and can be shared via google classroom.

The following procedures will be used if you are interested in zooming in for a class.

- Zoom will be available upon request only and if the instruction for the day is zoom appropriate. Email Mr. Osborn (mitchosborn@humphrey.esu7.org) indicating you will be absent and you would like to zoom in. He will provide a link.
- Lab activities will be made up when you return.
- Tests and quizzes will be made up when you return.

Extra Credit:

Students may earn “bonus points” for various activities throughout the semester. Mr. Osborn will inform you of these activities. Mr. Osborn will keep records of bonus points earned by each student. Students may request to use these points at any time. When requested, these points will be added to the “test and quiz” category total. Bonus points may raise the category no more than 3 percentage points. To use bonus points a student must come in before or after school or send an email letting Mr. Osborn know how many points they want to use.

(revised 8/24)