



7th Grade Science 2025-2026

Instructor: Rachel Still

Course Title: 7th Grade Science

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Course Meets: A/B Alternating Days

Direct Phone: (352) 392-1554

Office Location: Second Floor Green Wing

Please review the information shared within the following link:

- [2025-2026 Code of Student Conduct](#)

Course Description

This course is a comprehensive science course designed to give students both content knowledge and scientific skills practice. The main goals of this course are to develop the inquisitive abilities of every student so that they become capable scientific investigators. The curriculum provides for ample opportunities to acquire scientific knowledge by making connections with real-life experiences. The students will also engage in real-world science through several scientific practices: asking questions; developing models; planning and carrying out investigations, analyzing and interpreting data; constructing evidence-based explanations, engaging in scientific argumentation and collaborating and communicating information. During the course of a year the students will explore different topics within the four main branches of Science: Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Earth Science. Further course information can be found here: <https://www.cpalms.org/public/search/Course>

Course Grade

Course grades will be finalized on a semester basis.

Tests linked to the Course

The standards in this course will be a part of the 8th grade science end-of-course state test taken at the end of the students 8th grade year, covering 6-8 science standards.

Goals & Standards

The goal of this course is to build science content knowledge and scientific skills practice. Standards can be found here: <https://www.cpalms.org/public/search/Course>



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Course Schedule

Semester 1 Units	Semester 2 Units
Nature of Science	Cellular Reproduction
Geosphere and Rock Layers	Homeostasis in Organisms
Energy	Human Body Systems
Weather and Climate	Inheritance and Genetics
Human Impact on the Earth	Adaptations
Cells	Organisms Classifications

Required course materials

- [Texts and Media](#)

Procedures

- Supplies: Folder, chromebook, pencil
- Extra help, extensions, and retakes can be accessed during our WIN Wednesday curriculum days occurring every Wednesday in a 5-day school week.

General Expectations

4Rs

- Responsible: Students must attend and be on time to class.
- Respectful: Students must show respect for each other and the classroom/school space.
- Resilient: Students are willing to take on challenges and use skills to overcome them.
- Ready: Students are prepared to work and learn everyday.

Late Work Policy



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Habits of Work assignments are scored based on timeliness and quality, thus will either not be accepted late or will result in lost points. Formative assignments will be accepted late with no score penalty. Summative makeups will occur during WIN Wednesday time.

Communication Protocols

Students can communicate with me by email, canvas message, or canvas assignment comment outside of a normal class period.

Families can communicate with me by emailing me at r.still@pky.ufl.edu

Electronic Device Policy

Students must come to class every day with their charged Chromebook. During class, the Chromebook should be used only to participate in the class. Students should not have personal electronic devices out during class at any time for any purpose, unless instructed to do so.

Kindergarten-8th Grade

Students may possess a wireless communication device on school property or while attending a school function, but they are not allowed to use it at any time during the school day from the start of the instructional day to the end of the instructional day.

9th-12th Grade

Students may possess a wireless communications device but may only use it outside of class time - or when a teacher gives explicit permission for instructional purposes. Devices must be stored in teacher-designated areas during instructional time.

PK will provide access to telephones for students who need to contact families during times when they are prohibited from using their personal device.

Grading Policy and Assessments

P.K. Yonge's Grading and Credit system is based on our shared beliefs about the purpose of assessment:

- Students should have a clear understanding and shared ownership of learning goals
- Grades should communicate what students know and are able to do both within and across disciplines
- Students should have multiple opportunities to practice, receive feedback, and demonstrate their knowledge and skills



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- It is critical for students to develop productive habits of work alongside content and skill development

Type	Examples	% of Grade
Habits of Work	In-class practice, textbook review questions, vocabulary drawing activity	5%
Formative	Quiz on canvas, claim-evidence-reasoning writing response, graphing activity	20%
Summative	Canvas multiple-choice question, projects	75%

The chart below outlines the relationship between numerical grades, letter grades, mastery-language, and credit within our mastery-based system.

Mastery-Language	Range (4-point grade system)	Meets Standard Course Credit Earned
Mastery (A)	3.51 - 4.0	GPA Point 4
Proficient (B)	3.01 - 3.5	GPA Point 3
Approaching (C)	2.51 - 3	GPA Point 2
Beginning (D)	2.01 - 2.5	GPA Point 1
Not Meeting (F)	.01 - 2.0	No Course Credit
No Evidence	0	No Course Credit



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Academic Dishonesty

It is expected that the work you submit in this and all of your courses is your own original work, or if not, contains full acknowledgment of borrowed sources. The following instances are academically dishonest:

- Searching answers during a summative assessment
- Copying work from another student
- Using an AI tool to create a writing response
- Using notes or other class materials during a summative assessment

Any academic dishonesty will result in the *failure of that assignment as the minimum consequence*; other consequences range from failure of the course to academic probation to dismissal from P.K. Yonge.

ALL instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the student's counselor, Behavior Coach, and Administration.