**ST. JOHN VIANNEY HIGH SCHOOL**

**Earth Science Syllabus**

**Mr. Touzinsky (Room 105)** **ktouzinsky@vianney.com**

This course incorporates the sciences of geology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy, as students seek to understand the non-living components that make up our universe--the Earth, its natural processes, history, and neighbors in space. Earth Science includes such topics as plate tectonics, geologic time, weather, motion of objects in space, and natural disasters. The aim of the course is to provide students with the tools to develop interest and appreciation for science, and realize that these processes can be applied in the Catholic, Marianist tradition to find answers to existing and future issues. The course uses an interactive approach to learning through hands-on activities, cooperative learning, and group projects. The approach and activities further develop laboratory techniques and critical thinking skills.

Topics will include:

 A. Structure and Composition of the Earth

 1. Intro to Earth Science

 2. Minerals

 3. Rocks

 4. Earth’s Resources

 B. Forces Which Shape the Earth

 1. Earthquakes and Interior

 2. Plate Tectonics

 3. Volcanoes and Igneous Activity

 C. Meteorology

 1. Moisture, Clouds, Precipitation

 2. Weather Patterns and Severe Storms

 3. Climates and Their Factors

 D. Geologic History

 1. Geologic Time

 2. History of the Earth

 E. Astonomy

 1. Origin of Astronomy

 2. Our Solar System

 3. The Sun

**TEXTBOOK:** Tarbuck and Lutgens. *Earth Science* (First ed.). Pearson Education, Inc.,

 Boston, 2011

**METHODS OF EVALUATION**: 60% Tests

 40% Homework, Labs, Class Research/Presentations

 FINAL EXAM is 15% of Final Grade

**AUTHENTIC ASSESSMENTS:** Group Presentations

 Powerpoint/Prezi Outlines

**CLASS MATERIALS**: Textbook Scientific Calculator Notebook Folder or Binder

 Spiral Notebook (opt.)

**KEY POINTS ABOUT THE COURSE:**

 1. RESPECT is an expectation at all times.

 2. Homework is due AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS. If it is turned in later, it will

 be considered late and graded accordingly.

 3. Late work will receive less credit and will be accepted only with the teacher’s

 approval.

 4. Come to class PREPARED.

 5. Be concerned with you grade ALL SEMESTER.

 6. If you are absent, YOU need to make the effort to get and make up your work.

 7. Communicate. If there are reasons your work is late or you are not prepared,

 please discuss them with me.

 8. There is no food allowed in the classroom. Water bottles are acceptable.

Final Exams:

B & C Period Fri., Dec. 21st