

Sydney Academy

Science 10

Semester 2, 2009-2010

Teacher: Ron Mazzocca *School email address* *rmazzocca@staff.ednet.ns.ca.*
School phone number *562-5464*

The Science 10 course is designed as an introduction to the high school science curriculum and to prepare students for future science courses such as Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Geology, Oceans and Environmental Science. The development of basic academic skills and a positive attitude toward science and education in general are the primary goals of this course. Reading, studying, problem solving, participation in classroom discussions and activities as well as lab work are stressed in this course. Students are expected to come to class prepared to work, stay on task, keep up with assignments and complete homework

Attendance is a key factor in determining the level of success a student will achieve. Illnesses, appointments, as well as personal commitments and problems are an aspect of life and cannot be avoided. ***It is however necessary for students to realize they are still responsible for work missed during excused or unexcused absences.*** The date for tests, labs, assignments as well as homework will be posted on the school homework page each day. Parents/ guardians are urged to use this site (sacademy@cbv.ns.ca) to keep track of their child's workload.

I am available to meet with students for extra help most days at 3:00 pm Monday to Thursday.

The Science 10 program is based on the following units of study:

- 1. Ecology** – This unit explores the concept of sustainability in ecosystems. We will explore interactions of the various components found in ecosystems and the effects these interactions have on the biotic and abiotic communities.
- 2. Chemistry** – In this unit we look at the basic atomic structure and use this as a starting point to explain the formation of chemical compounds. In addition students are introduced to writing equations for simple type of chemical reactions.
- 3. Physics** – This unit examines the physics of motion. We will look at how motion is studied, described, and analyzed. In addition we look into how the physics of motion applies to our daily life.
- 4. Weather** – In this unit, we will study the effects solar energy, air and water have on weather. We examine local, regional and national weather and climate patterns with regard to their effect on humans.

Units of study are covered in the assigned textbook. In addition, students will also be given handout notes at various times throughout the year.

The assessment policy of the school can be seen on the attached sheet.

Final exam	30%
Tests, quizzes and assignments	50%
Class mark and lab work	20%

Make up tests will not be given for an excused or unexcused absence in this course. Students will have sufficient numbers of tests and other assessment components to arrive at a mark. Missing two or more tests will negatively impact the course mark, unless the school is notified of an exceptional circumstance within five days of missing the test. It should be noted the value of each test may, vary, depending on the quantity of work covered and the difficulty of the material on the test. Tests returned to the students are to be signed by a parent or guardian and returned to the teacher within 3 school days.

If any concerns arise regarding the course or the progress of your child in this course, please call the school at (562-5464) and leave a message or send an email to rmazzocca@staff.ednet.ns.ca. I will contact you at the earliest possible opportunity.

Student name _____

Contact person _____

Phone number for contact person _____

Any medical conditions
which will affect classroom
performance or lab activities. _____

Any personal, ethical or
moral concerns with
dissection of animals. _____

Please sign and date on the following lines and return to me as soon as possible to indicate that the above has been read and is understood.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date
