



Darnell-Cookman Middle/High School  
2018-2019

Syllabus: Seventh Grade Science

**Course Title:** Comprehensive Science II Advanced

**Instructor's Name:** Mrs. Brandel

**Email:** [brandele@duvalschools.org](mailto:brandele@duvalschools.org)

**Darnell-Cookman Mission Statement:**

To prepare students for collegiate success through a rigorous college preparatory curriculum integrated with professional medical standards emphasizing integrity, the pursuit of academic excellence, and a passion for life-long learning

**Honor Code:**

Students at Darnell-Cookman Middle/High School, School of the Medical Arts will be expected to uphold the four benchmarks of our school and place high value on intellectual rigor and academic standards.

- **Honesty** – When students practice honesty, the result is fairness for everyone.
- **Respect** – Respect is treating others as we would like to be treated. In an environment of respect, work we call our own, is our own.
- **Responsibility** – Responsibility is the quality of being accountable for our actions and accepting the consequences of our actions.
- **Integrity** – Integrity is a commitment to a value even when others are not present to witness it.

Enrollment at Darnell-Cookman Middle/High School requires a commitment to these principles. Students are expected to acknowledge fully and in detail the work, thought, or ideas of another person if incorporated in work submitted for assessment; to submit separate pieces of work in fulfillment of the requirements of different components (i.e. research papers); to ensure that the work is their own and is never given to another student in any version (hard copy or electronic) knowing that it might be submitted for grading as the work of another student. In order to prevent a student from gaining an unfair advantage, these behaviors will result in the following:

- 1) **Grade of zero** – all students involved will earn a zero for the work and/or referral to Dean
- 2) **Documentation**- the incident will be recorded and a parent conference will be held

### **Course Introduction:**

Comprehensive science II is a yearlong course worth one credit. We will expand on many topics learned in sixth grade, and explore new ones. We will build our knowledge on the history of Earth and energy transfer. We will discuss ecological topics, and learn how different organisms interact. Lastly, we will delve into the science of heredity, and try to learn what makes us each unique.

### **Course Outline:**

#### **Unit 1: Safety and practice of Science**

- Safety
- Scientific Investigation

#### **Unit 2: Waves**

- Properties of Waves
- The Electromagnetic Spectrum and Light Waves
- Waves through Different Media

#### **Unit 3: Energy and Heat**

- Energy Conversion and Conservation
- Temperature
- Thermal Energy and Heat

#### **Unit 4: Earth's Change Over Time**

- Fossils
- Law of Superposition
- Absolute and Relative Dating

#### **Unit 5: Earths Structures**

- The Rock Cycle and Earth's Layers
- Theory of Plate Tectonics
- Mountain Building, Earthquakes, and Volcanoes

#### **Unit 6: Human Impact on the Earth**

- Deforestation and Urbanization
- Desertification, Erosion, and Changing the Flow of Water
- Air and Water Quality

#### **Unit 7: Cell Division**

- Mitosis and Asexual Reproduction
- Meiosis and Sexual Reproduction

#### **Unit 8: Heredity**

- Heredity
- Punnett Squares and Pedigrees

#### **Unit 9: Evolution**

- Theories, Laws, and Evidence
- Theory of Evolution
- Evidence by Natural Selection

#### **Unit 10: Ecology**

- Role in Energy Transfer
- Interactions in Communities
- Limiting Factors

## **Unit 11: Benchmark Review**

## **Unit 12: Biotechnology**

Cloning, Genetic Engineering, Artificial Selection  
Impact of Biotechnology

### **Course Materials**

1. Hard cover, one-subject spiral bound notebook with pockets ex. Five Star (no composition books, please)
2. One blue or black, and red pen.
3. Headphones (please ensure they can be used on a computer. No Bluetooth headphones or apple earbuds, please)

### **Grading Policy:**

Grades will be based on a percentage:

$$\frac{\text{Points Earned}}{\text{Points Possible}}$$

Points may vary based on assignment. Total points possible will be written on all assignments. Students and parents may view grades 24/7 on Focus. Passwords will be given out during the first week of class.

**Homework and Late Work:** Homework will be assigned almost daily. It will be due the following class period unless otherwise stated. If the student does not turn in homework, they may turn it in during the next class for a deduction of five points. Five points will be deducted for each day the homework is late.

**Make-up Work Policy:** Regular attendance in each forty-five day grading period is necessary for a student to be successful in school. Missing work shall be made-up for all absences, including suspension. Make-up work shall be allowed for each day of absence. Your child may earn up to full credit for such work submitted with acceptable time frame outlined within DCPS Student Progression Plan.

### **Parent/Teacher Conference Information:**

If you have a question about your son's/daughter's grade, please check FOCUS Grade Portal via One View to see if the teacher has left any notes about specific assignments. If you still have questions, feel free to email the teacher directly. If you have more general questions about your son's/daughter's overall academic progress, you can contact their school counselor or you can call Ms. Bennett at extension 1030 in the School Counseling Office to schedule an appointment for a parent/teacher conference. Please remember that parent/teacher conferences are only available on a limited basis and may not include all of your child's teachers. Please be specific when scheduling a conference to just those teachers that you need to meet face-to-face.

**Tutoring:**

Tutoring will be available by request. Generally, it will be before school, any day, or after school on Wednesdays from 3:00pm – 4:00p. Students must have a ride by 4:15pm or have arrangements to stay (and pay) for extended day.

**Other Information:**

I expect every student to come to class prepared and ready to learn. Students should treat others with respect and kindness. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Students and parents may access the class website at any time for daily agenda and important documents. Keeping up to date with daily activities is vital to the success of each student. The course website is as follows: [www.brandelscience.weebly.com](http://www.brandelscience.weebly.com)

---

*Cut at the line above and return only the portion below to Mrs. Brandel*

We have read and discussed the syllabus information above and understand the course requirements and expectations for 7<sup>th</sup> grade science.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed parent/guardian name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent /guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Parent Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_