

Science 8: Course Outline

Course: Science 8
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Course Length: 10 months
September - June

Course Layout

This course is broken down as follows:

Unit	Topic	Suggested Due Dates
Preliminary Assignments	Course Outline About Me Activation Assignment	September
1	Biology	November
2	Chemistry	January
3	Physics	March
4	Earth Science	May
Course Completion	Core Competency Reflection	First Friday in June

Assessment

At the end of the year, you will receive a Proficiency Assessment for the course. There are no percentages or letter grades given for this course.

Each assignment, including the Learning Guides and the Inquiry Projects, will be marked on the proficiency scale. A rubric is attached to each assignment.

Proficiency	Explanation
Extending	You have demonstrated a sophisticated understanding of the concept and competency and/or broadened your learning beyond the expectations of this outcome. Your work is detailed and tidy and demonstrates an exceptional understanding of the learning outcomes.
Proficient	You have a complete understanding of the concept and competency. Your work is tidy and demonstrates the strategies used to solve the problems.
Developing	You have demonstrated a partial understanding of the concept and competencies.
Emerging	You have demonstrated an initial understanding of the concept and competency and require additional support to demonstrate understanding.

Tests will be marked using a percentage.

Percentage	Proficiency Scale
86%+	Extending
73% - 85%	Proficient
60% - 72%	Developing
0% - 59%	Emerging

Learning Guides

You are encouraged to complete the Learning Guide as you work through the lessons. There is a provided answer key for you to check your learning as you go. A strong student will examine their mistakes and try to fix them to improve their understanding.

Be sure to keep your work neat and organized as you will be studying from the Learning Guide for the Unit Test. Communicate your ideas as well as you can and try not to skip any questions. If you need help with a question, please email your teacher.

Inquiry Projects

Inquiry projects are designed for you to apply what learned to real life. Each unit has two inquiry projects:

- Inquiry Project 1: These are meant to be completed in under 2 hours. Students have multiple project choices to choose from.
- Inquiry Project 2: These are the largest components of each unit and provide opportunities for building scientific skills in STEAM. These inquiry projects will take up to 10 hours to be done proficiently.

Exam Supervision

There is a unit test at the end of each unit. All exams are "closed book" and require supervision.

Your parent or guardian must:

- ensure the student has submitted the inquiry projects and attempted the quizzes
- email the teacher at Elixa.Neumann@burnabyschools.ca for the passwords
- supervise your test-taking to ensure no additional notes or resources are used while taking the test.

Students will only have one attempt at the unit test unless you receive a score of Emerging or Developing. If this is the case, students will be asked to submit their completed and self-assessed learning guide to the Unit called "Tests: Rewind and Rise" before a second attempt will be made available.

Course Activity

Students must be working to complete learning engagements on a regular basis.

Students should aim to complete one unit every two months to finish the course from September to June. If students are joining the course late, an accelerated timeline is expected to reach course completion.

To finalize your registration in this course, complete the Activation unit within 30 days of your registration.

Contacting your Teacher

The best way to communicate with your teacher is through the Brightspace Email program. To access the email program, click on the small envelope at the top right-hand corner of your screen, then click Email. This will direct you to the Brightspace Email program.

Students should be checking their Brightspace email program at least once a week.

Parents and Guardians can email your teacher at Elixa.Neumann@burnabyschools.ca

Resources

There are NO textbooks required for this course. You do need a basic scientific calculator.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is unacceptable under any circumstance. You are expected to create authentic work which demonstrates your own understanding. If you are caught cheating, plagiarizing, or submitting AI-generated responses within this course without proper citations, you may be removed from the course.

Keys to Success

1. Actively work through each lesson: try examples and reflect on the materials.
2. Use the Learning Guide as your tool for documenting your understanding. Lay it out neatly and well organized.
3. Review feedback from your teacher before writing Unit Tests.
4. Use the message system for regular communication with your instructor.