

## Physical Science

### Course Syllabus

**Instructor:** Alli Leatherman, alli.leatherman@gmail.com

**Required Text:** *Physical Science (A Mastery-Oriented Curriculum)*, John D. Mays, Novare Science and Math (3rd edition). Students will also require a calculator in the second semester.

**Prerequisites:** None; appropriate grade levels: 7th-9th

**Course Times:** Class will meet once a week for one hour. Students should expect to spend 0.75 -1.5 hrs each non-class week day to complete course work.

**Fees:** Monthly tuition: \$40/month (or \$160/semester or \$320/year); one-time supply fee: \$30. Fees will be paid directly to the instructor via check or PayPal at the email address above.

**Course Description:** This course introduces students to foundational concepts behind the physical sciences (chemistry and physics). Topics will include atomic structure, energy, chemical compounds and reactions, waves, and electricity. Students will be introduced to the SI system and incorporate it into computations involving unit conversions and simple formulas. Laboratory activities will be included. Students will be introduced to writing formal lab reports.

**Canvas:** Much of the communication for class, including weekly assignments and quizzes, will take place using Canvas, an online learning management system. Students should provide the instructor with a personal email address. An invitation will be sent to that email for students to join the course. Parents are welcome to submit an email as well to be added in an observer role. Please note that students will need reliable internet access on a regular basis.

**Grading:** Students will have a cumulative quiz each week. Students will also turn in formal lab reports for experiments. One semester exam will be given in the fall and spring. Grades will be determined as follows:

Weekly Quizzes-- 50%

Lab Reports-- 30%

Semester Exam-- 10%

Participation in Class/Completing Practice Problems-- 10%

A grade will be given in the fall and spring semester. The fall grade and spring grade will then be averaged to determine a final course grade.

Grading scale:

90-100: A

80-89: B

70-79: C

60-69: D

Below 60: F

**Late Work:** Excused late work due to absence, illness, or extenuating circumstances approved by instructor will be accepted. Unexcused late work will be accepted on a limited basis at instructor's discretion. Late work may be subject to a penalty.