COURSE SYLLABUS

EXPECTATIONS

Respect - For yourself, for your teacher, for your fellow students. Do *not* interrupt while someone is speaking; do not talk to others while someone is speaking.

Act Responsibly - Show honesty/integrity on your assignments and examinations. Cheating on a homework, exam, or any work for this class will result in a zero with <u>no</u> chance to make up the assignment. In addition, a conference will be scheduled with your parents to discuss the situation.

Model Safety - Equipment and chemicals should be handled carefully and responsibly. **Strive for Excellence Always!** - Effort: do *your* best. **All** work that is assigned is important.

GRADING

Quizzes & Exams 70% Daily Work 10%

Lab/Class Notebook 20%

EXTRA CREDIT / RETAKING TESTS

If you do very poorly on a unit test, you may "retake" that test. This does not apply to group tests or quizzes. The retake will be composed of different questions that cover the same material, and your final score will be the average of the two tests. Extra credit will be made available at various times *during* the semester, *not* at the end, so take advantage of the opportunities as they arise.

MATERIALS

Graph paper composition book
Pencil/pen (pencil recommended)
3 ring binder (with paper)
Calculator (scientific calculator required)

Ear buds (recommended)
USB mouse (if desired)

You will be expected to bring materials to class. This includes notebook (with paper), pencil or pen, and calculator. In addition to daily notes, your binder should contain all materials handed out to you, including this sheet.

HOMEWORK

Homework will be turned in on standard 8½ x 11" paper. You will do all homework in pencil or blue or black ink. You will put your *full* name, date, and class in the upper right corner and the title of the assignment across the top. Any homework that doesn't meet this standard will be placed in the "no name" box.

Homework will be reviewed in class after it is turned in. Late homework will only receive half credit. Many of the quiz questions will be taken directly from the homework, so it behooves you to complete and understand your homework! Late homework is due by the time the test on that material is given. Any homework for that unit not turned in as of test time is automatically a zero.

LANGUAGE

Profanity and derogatory names or remarks regarding race, gender, or sexual preference are <u>not</u> allowed in my classroom. You'll receive <u>one</u> warning. After that, the first offense will receive one detention. Second occurrence: two detentions. Third time: we'll involve parents and administrators.

STUDY SESSIONS/EXTRA HELP

I will be available most *any* day of the week in the morning and until about 3:00 pm (or later most days) for anyone who wishes to make an appointment with me. While I appreciate 24 hours notice, most days you could even ask me before/after class if I'll be available after school that day. There will be optional extra study sessions once a week in March and April in the afternoons/evenings. These are highly recommended. I'm also happy to have impromptu sessions during the first semester by request of the class. *I'm here to help!*

Course Syllabus (cont.)

ABSENCES / TARDIES

If you are tardy, you will sign in on the list by the door for lunch detention.

If you are absent any homework assigned previous to your being absent will be due on the day you return to class. For work assigned *during* your absence, it is up to **you** to get the assignment(s) from either your classmates or from me directly. You can reach me either via the email address listed above or by leaving a phone message with the school which I shall be happy to return.

If you miss an exam or quiz with an *excused* absence, *you* need to make arrangements with me as soon as you return to make up that exam. If you don't make up the exam (or make arrangements to make up the exam) by the time the next exam is given, you will receive a zero on that exam. If you miss an exam by cutting class, you will also receive a zero.

LEAVING CLASS

You'll be given 5 hall passes from me at the beginning of the semester. If you need to leave class for some reason, and you've used all your passes or just don't have them with you, I will write you another pass, but you will have lunch detention or detention with me after school to make up for lost time.

If you are being dismissed from my class (going home, going to the counselor, etc.), you need a purple slip from the office or counselor, or the office needs to call me over the intercom. This means you need to go by the attendance office or the counselors' office *that day* and pick up a purple slip *or* your parents need to come into the office when they come to pick you up and have the office call my room. "My mom is waiting out in the parking lot, and I have an appointment." doesn't work.

Do not even ask me if you can go to another class. I do **not** like to bother the other teachers. Please don't disturb my class during another period unless it's <u>absolutely</u> necessary. Do not abuse the bathroom privileges. The bathrooms will be unavailable from 5 mins. before passing until 5 mins. after passing, so please don't even ask during that time. If I find that you're making an excessive number of trips to the bathroom, a call/email will be made to your parents to inform them that you may have a medical problem. The same is true for visits to the nurse. Please use <u>only</u> the bathrooms that are nearest to the class - do **not** take sight-seeing trips to use bathrooms in other parts of the building.

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT / FOOD & DRINK

No electronic equipment of any kind is allowed in my classroom. If I see or hear it, it will be confiscated until the end of class. Second confiscation, the item goes to office until the end of the day, and the parents receive notification. Third offense requires parents to come retrieve the item at the end of the school day. You may bring water into class. No other food or drink is allowed in the class.

CONTACTING ME

There are a number of ways for us to communicate outside class: web page, email, phone, etc. However, the most effective and efficient way to contact me is by email. I check my email often and will get back to you as quickly as possible. The two emails I use most often are my personal email and my school email: KevinQHall@netscape.net and khall@stu.nthurston.k12.wa.us. You are welcome to use either one. To contact me via phone, you can call the school at 412-4800. If I'm not available, you can leave a voice message. I also maintain a website for my classes at http://scienceclass.dreamhosters.com which you should check periodically.