



Westside Secondary School

Orangeville, Ontario, Canada



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www.ugdsb.on.ca/westside

Course: SNC1P	Teacher	Phone Extension	Email
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Course Description: This course enables students to develop their understanding of basic concepts in biology, chemistry, earth and space science, and physics, and to apply their knowledge of science to everyday situations. They are also given opportunities to develop practical skills related to scientific investigation. Students will plan and conduct investigations into everyday problems and issues related to the four units of study, as listed below.

Big Ideas: The curriculum in each unit targets “Big Ideas” that are laid out by Ontario’s Ministry of Education and adapted by Westside teachers. The following chart outlines the Big Ideas being explored and evaluated in each unit of this course. For more information on the overall course expectations, visit http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/secondary/science910_2008.pdf.

Unit of Study	Big Ideas
Biology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecosystems consist of a variety of components, including, in many cases, humans.• The sustainability of ecosystems depends on balanced interactions between their components.• Human activity can affect the sustainability of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.
Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elements and compounds have specific properties that determine their uses.• The use of elements and compounds has both positive and negative effects on society and the environment.
Earth and Space Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celestial objects in the solar system and universe have specific properties that can be investigated and understood.• Technologies developed for space exploration have practical applications on Earth.
Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electricity is a form of energy produced from a variety of non-renewable and renewable sources.• The production and consumption of electrical energy has social, economic, and environmental implications.• Static and current electricity have distinct properties that determine how they are used.

Instructional Strategies: Westside teachers use a variety of instructional strategies to help students develop and improve skills in the following areas: character, citizenship, communication, critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration and teamwork, and creativity and imagination.

<p>Achievement Categories: Student learning is assessed and evaluated in a balanced manner with respect to the following four interrelated categories of knowledge and skills.</p>	<p>Knowledge & Understanding Thinking & Inquiry Communication Application</p>
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<p>Assessment and Evaluation: Assessments for and as learning are used to improve student success by providing opportunities to demonstrate understanding of course expectations prior to the evaluation of learning. Evaluations of learning are where students demonstrate their understanding of Big Ideas and key expectations. Failure to complete an evaluation of learning may result in the credit not being granted because certain expectations of the course have not been met.</p>	
<p>Term Work Evaluations 70%</p>	<p>Final Evaluation(s) 30%</p>
<p>Biology Unit: Test and Inquiry Activity Chemistry Unit: Test and Lab Activity Earth and Space Science Unit: Test and Inquiry Activity Physics Unit: Test and Lab Activity</p>	<p>Culminating Activity (10%) Exam (20%)</p>

Late Work

- Students are expected to complete all assigned work and submit it by the teacher's established due date. Every attempt will be made to encourage students to complete all assigned work on time so their grade represents their actual achievement. For late and missed summative assessments, please see the *Westside Students' Contract for Missing Evidence of Learning*.

For this course only (this is a pilot project) each student has the opportunity to be exempt from the final exam.

For this course only (this is a pilot project) each student has the opportunity to be exempt from the final exam. For the student to be exempt from the final exam they must:

- Be absent no more than 10 classes in total for the semester (excused or unexcused)
 - An overall term mark of 70%
 - Achieve at least a 70% on each unit test

When a student does not achieve a 70% or above on a unit test and still wants the opportunity to achieve a 70% on the test to be exempt from their final exam, they must demonstrate sufficient understanding (70%) through the following methods:

- remediation sessions for that test with their teacher following that particular test at the teacher's direction - a maximum of two opportunities are offered

Or:

- at the teacher's discretion, complete an alternate evaluation to demonstrate the required understanding(s)

Safety Agreement

- All students will receive a safety agreement and will sign and return the UGDSB Student Safety Agreement.

Textbook

- Nelson Science Connections 9 – replacement fee for a lost or damaged textbook is \$90

Enhancement Fee

- Voluntary enrichment fees may apply to this course. If a student does not pay, he/she will not be able to complete the activity but will still be able to meet the course expectations.
- \$5.00 for an owl pellet dissection (\$10/owl pellet working with a partner)

Electronic Devices

- The science department at Westside S.S. has a policy that no electronic devices (e.g. cell phones, tablets, iPods, mp3 players etc.) are allowed during evaluations. For this reason, students are reminded to bring a scientific calculator when needed.

Classroom Rules

- Students are expected to follow the rules of conduct, as referenced on the school's web site:
<http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/westside/>.

In addition to these general rules of Westside Secondary School, the rules for the science classroom are as follows:

- no food or drink of any kind is allowed in a science classroom
- respect the people, equipment, and furnishings of the science classroom
- immediately stop any activity and give your attention to the teacher when asked to do so
- summative evaluations of learning will not leave the classroom, but are available for students to discuss with the teacher