



SYLLABUS 7-8 STEM 2018-2019

Work Hard ~ Be Kind ~ Be Smart

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

Mrs. Barbara Cushing
B.S. Statistics w/ emphasis in Computer Science
M.Ed. Education
Secondary STEM Certification
Science, Mathematics, and Gifted Education Endorsement
Barbara.Cushing@asu.edu
bcushingasuprep.weebly.com
Room 165

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

STEM class is a yearlong, four term course that is partially aligned with both Common Core Standards, and the Cambridge International Secondary I Science Syllabus and Curriculum. Students will complete the course with knowledge of:

- The nature of science itself, and a deep understanding of the scientific method and how to solve problems scientifically
- The further development of inquiry skills, including the use of applications of science, math, and inquiry in the context of everyday situations and in other subjects that they may be studying
- The ability to analyze problems logically, effectively use evidence to support argumentation, develop models, interpret data, construct explanations, and design solutions
- The development of “habits of mind” not only in a scientific setting, such as ways to solve problems, analyze a given situation, and find inter-disciplinary connections between scientific content and the world around them, but also in academic context, preparing students to move on to higher education through good habits and enhanced cognitive ability.

ASSESSMENT STANDARDS & OBJECTIVES:

The students must demonstrate mastery of these objectives in both an academic and practical setting. STEM objectives will academically support the Cambridge Secondary I standards being taught in science class, as well as ensuring that students can:

- Understand relevant scientific concepts, terminology, and notation
- Recall accurately and use successfully appropriate manipulative and technological techniques
- Apply problem solving and scientific skills and techniques
- Clearly communicate data regarding the student's findings

ASU PREPARATORY ACADEMY EXPECTATIONS:

- Respect yourself
- Respect others
- Respect this place

CLASSROOM POLICIES:

The following are STEM Lab Protocols that must be followed:

- **Be prepared to work** - Be in class and ready to work at the official start time for the class. Come to class with all necessary materials for success. Take responsibility for your own learning.
- **Be appropriate** - Any conduct, which is harmful, obstructive, disruptive, or interferes with the educational process is prohibited. You are expected to respect the educational environment. All Arizona State University Preparatory policies will be strictly adhered to and enforced in this classroom, including but not limited to the use of electronic devices, dress code, and academic dishonesty.
- **Be attentive** - You are responsible for attaining information given. You are also expected to be present and engaged from the beginning of class to the end. Offer ideas, participate in discussions and group activities, and complete your own work.
- **Be positive** - Enjoy the opportunity to learn and respectfully listen to ideas and opinions that may differ from your own opinions. Put forth your best effort with every endeavor.
- **Be professional** - Lab equipment is expensive; you are expected to behave professionally and if you do not, you may not be able to participate.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES:

- No food, drink, gum, or candy in class unless specified by the teacher.
- Be prepared to write every day.
- Remain in assigned seat unless directed otherwise.
- Pencil sharpening, throwing away papers, etc. will take place prior to the start of class.
- Once you have entered the classroom, you are in "learning mode" and will begin completing the daily seatwork.
- Socializing/horseplay will not take place within the classroom.
- With a limited number of minutes in the class and many objectives, we must work diligently at all times.
- Passes from class will be limited. Students need to be in class at all times in order to effectively participate.

DUE DATES:

- Effort and mastery assignments must be turned in on the due date.
- If a student does not attempt or does not turn in an assignment or assessment, the teacher will enter a "M" in the grade book which calculates as a "0".

ABSENT WORK:

- Unless otherwise specified, all assignments are due at the start of class on the day they are assigned.
- It is the student's responsibility to keep track of his/her absences and make-up work.
- Students will work with their teacher to turn in work after being absent as promptly as possible. Any tests or quizzes will be made up within one week and needs to be scheduled with the teacher.

- In the event that you are absent, visit my Weebly webpage where you will find the course's online plan book.
- If there are any handouts that you missed, you can download them from the plan book or get them from the make-up work bin in the classroom.
- The retake/late work procedures are stated below. Please communicate with me if you have any questions.
- Please note that individual student needs will be taken into account. Contact me with any questions.

* All policies are up to the teacher's discretion depending on circumstances

PLAGIARISM:

It is the responsibility of the student to not deceive the instructor in any way in regard to the authorship of the work that he/she presents as his/her own. Consequences for plagiarism will be in accordance with the Arizona State University Preparatory student code of conduct. Plagiarism will be reported to the administration.

GRADING INFORMATION:

Students enrolled at ASU Preparatory Academy will receive two letter grades in each of their courses. One of the letter grades is an **academic grade** that demonstrates if the student mastered the course objectives. The second grade is an **effort grade** that could reflect attendance, participation, discussions, or completion of practice assignments. Both of the letter grades will adhere to the following grading scale, but only the **academic grade** will be reflected on the student's final transcript and included in the grade point average.

A*	Exceeds Plus	97 – 100
A	Exceeds	90 – 96
B	Meets	80 – 89
C	Approaches	70 – 79
D	Approaches	60 – 69
F	Falls Far Below	50 – 59

MATERIALS: The following items are suggested for this class:

- 4 Composition Books (One book per quarter)
- Pocket Folder
- Pencils
- Scissors
- Colored Pencils
- Metric/Standard Ruler
- Graph Paper

6-8 Policies / Procedures for 2018 – 2019

Technology

1. Cell phones and personal electronic devices are to be put away upon entering the building each morning.
2. Students should not pull out their cell phone until they leave the gates outside of the building at the end of the school day.

3. Students may not listen to music at any time, and personal headphones may only be used when directed by a teacher.
4. If a student fails to be on approved websites, he/she will lose technology privileges.

Agenda

1. You must have your agenda every day.
2. Students are responsible for replacing a lost agenda.
3. You must write all classwork and homework that is assigned.
4. Foundations teachers will check to make sure that students have their agendas.

Note: Missing agendas may result in lunch reflection.

Bathroom

1. You must sign out, take a pass with you, and sign in when you return.
2. Place pass in the provided basket in restroom. Bring it back with you.
3. You must use the designated 6-8 restrooms by the front office.

Lunch

1. You must be sitting or walking if you are inside. No running in the halls.
2. Pick up any garbage in your area after you eat.
3. Classroom voices are to be used indoors.
4. Return all tables and chairs to their original positions.

Transitions

1. No bathroom breaks during transition time. You must check in with your teacher.
2. Be respectful.
3. No running or horseplay in the halls.
4. Be silent when moving through the halls. Other classes are in session.
5. Line up in designated areas outside of your classrooms.
6. Inappropriate behavior will result in lunch reflection time.

Showing Mastery

1. One week deadline for any re-attempt.
2. Students with less than a 70% will be able to re-attempt to show mastery.
3. Mastery re-attempts will result in no more than 80% in the grade book.
4. ONLY tests will be allowed for a re-attempt.**
5. Only one re-attempt permitted.**

Late Work

1. Homework and projects must be turned in by the due date.
2. Late work is required within one week after the due date. **
3. Late work grades will result in no more than 80% in the grade book.
4. No re-takes on homework. **
5. If work is not completed, the grade will display as missing and result in a score of 0 (ZERO).

*** Teacher discretion depending on circumstances*

Reflection

1. Students who have received a line in their agenda for behavior (e.g. excessive talking, off-task, etc.) will go to Mr. Scholes room at lunchtime.
2. Students who receive a line for incomplete/missing homework will go to Mrs. Wojtalik's room at lunch to work on completing the homework.
3. Be prompt. Students receiving reflection must be in the reflection room no later than 11:25 am. That gives time for a student to get lunch.

P.R.I.D.E. (Personal Responsibility in Daily Effort)

Every quarter, there is a reward for students whose behavior, academics, and overall effort has shown to be the ASU Prep way. Students must maintain the following for each quarter in order to participate.

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
No more than 3 visits to Reflection	No more than 2 visits to Reflection	No more than 1 visit to Reflection	No more than 1 visit to Reflection

Thank you!

Mrs. Cushing