

**CORE SCIENCE III  
COURSE SYLLABUS  
TRUMBULL CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER  
Mr. McClain - Instructor  
2011-2012**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** The Core Science course centers on conceptual criteria, which is designed to supply the student with a general understanding of the material the s/he requires in order to successfully complete and pass the Science OGT. Students will be expected to apply and interpret the material they have been presented and/or collected with actual hands-on situations on a daily basis.

Students should attend the class each day, which is limited to one class period per day, five days a week, for the entire school year. Students are required to keep a comprehensive notebook containing daily class notes and graded material, which is included in the nine-week grade. The student is also urged to obtain a calculator in order to perform any math calculations in the course.

**INSTRUCTIONAL PHILOSOPHY:** Students will be expected to take the material presented in the class, and apply the concepts to real-life situations. Students will also be expected to present high-quality work, with only limited opportunities to re-submit work, should it not meet class standards. Classroom work, which makes up the majority of the grade, will consist of, but no limited to, reading, writing, discussions, problems solving, and some small projects. Lab works will be included in the course where applicable, with the student being graded on lab safety procedures, quality of written work, as well as the ability to follow written and/or verbal directions. Written exams, quizzes, in-class work, homework, worksheets, lab projects, and notebooks will be utilized to measure student achievement.

**Course Goals: (examples based on student requirements)**

1. Demonstrate a strong understanding of the periodic chart, and its impact on daily life, along with related terms and concepts.
2. Show a general understanding of chemical principles, laws, and equations.
3. Show a working knowledge of meteorology, and related terms.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of ecosystems and the interactions within them.
5. Show a working knowledge of mechanical advantage, and efficiency.
6. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of lab policies and safety procedures, as well as correct use of lab apparatus.
7. Demonstrate the ability to use all available information to produce projects and/or reports as assigned.

**Assessment Plan: Subject to adjustment/change**

- 25%** Weekly quizzes
- 15%** In-class assignments, Lab projects
- 15%** Book work, reports
- 15%** Notebook
- 30%** Class participation

**Grading Scale: Grades are awarded in percentages**

- A 92-100%**
- B 83-91%**
- C 74-82%**
- D 66-73%**
- F Below 66%**

**\*NOTE\***

Class participation is based on daily attendance and classroom discipline. Students are expected to contribute to the daily learning environment of the class, and to be in the class, just as their employer would want them to be on the job. The student earns 10 points each day they are in attendance. Their discipline (or lack thereof) determines how many of these 10 points are retained. The end of the grading period is when these accumulated points are totaled and added to the academic class grade, for their overall class grade. The students are made aware of this system from the first day of class, and failure to maintain good attendance and discipline can and will adversely affect their class grade. (School policy states that should a student miss 18 days or more that are unexcused, the student may not receive credit for the class.)

Students are graded according to the Trumbull Career and Technical Center grading scale. A Mid-term and Final exam is administered in this class, with an adjusted grade scale for these tests as follows:

- A 90% - 100%**
- B 80% - 89%**
- C 70% - 79%**
- D 60% - 69%**
- F 0 - 59%**

These exams are used to establish a Semester grade, which in turn aids in determining a final course grade.

