



## Scientific Research Course Syllabus 2018-2019 Mrs. Kelly

### Basic Supplies:

1. 3 sharpened Pencils with erasers/pens
2. 2 Composition books (required for science fair)

**Course Description:** Scientific Research will have two main components. Students will complete work for science fair during the first semester while also working on assignments related to this year's Grand Challenge of Engineering. The National Academy of Engineering (NAE) Grand Challenge that students will focus on is "Restore and Improve Urban Infrastructure". Students will work both independently and with their classmates to collaborate with the Savannah Chatham Homeless Authority on the Veterans' Village project. Students will have hands on experience while observing all components of infrastructure associated with erecting a housing area.

**ClassCraft:** Students and parents will be provided with a personal log in for the online platform ClassCraft. This platform allows for a token economy to exist within the classroom. Students are able to earn "money" by displaying good behavior and completing various tasks. They may then use their "money" to purchase privileges, such as eating in class or charging their iPad. Parents can also monitor student behavior in class. Notation within the platform is made for each negative behavior, such as talking or being off task, the student has during the class period. The student's character will lose Health Points and the reason for the loss of points will be stated. If the same negative behaviors are recurring, then a ticket may be issued as a result.

**Format:** This class will be tied in with students' physical science class. Students will be expected to apply knowledge obtained to their developing solutions related to infrastructure. Students will receive guided instruction throughout the course. Due dates will be provided and will serve as checkpoints to ensure students are on track for the completion of the final project, whether it be science fair or grand challenge related. It is the student's responsibility to complete work by the due date. Work not submitted on time will be entered as an zero.

**Academic Grading Policy:** Academic grades will be based on scores from assessments (60%), and class work (40%). Work is graded not only on getting the correct answer, but using the correct lab protocol, working as a team, developing scientific vocabulary, explaining the processes, and writing to show a deep understanding of the topic.

### Grading Scale:

A = 90%-100%    B = 80%-89%    C = 74%-79%    D = 70%-73%    F = 0%-69%

**Methods of Evaluation:** Tasks; Tests; Quizzes; Daily Assignments; Group Activities, Homework

- Tasks are designed to answer the question "How is this used in real life?" Some tasks are designed as a cooperative learning experience and some will be individual assignments. Each student is responsible for turning in their own copy of the task and will receive an individual grade; NOT A GROUP GRADE.
- Quizzes and tests will be given based on content taught in conjunction with Mrs. Hobbs Physical Science class.
- Assessment grades (aside from physical science tests) will come from science fair assignments and various assignments tied to Grand Challenge.
- Homework is a method of reinforcement, preliminary research, and independent practice. Students will be given ample time in class to work on assignments. Students should rarely have homework that takes more than 20 minutes.
- Students are expected to turn in all work the day it is due.

**Make-up Procedure:**

The following late and missing assignment policy has been compiled and recorded in an attempt to streamline and unify The STEM Academy @ Bartlett under one cohesive system, in accordance with Board Policy IHA-R(1). The rationalization behind the specifics of this policy keep our academically talented students in mind while reinforcing the importance of completing work and submitting on time as guided practice and formative assessment. **Work that is not submitted will result in a 0%.** Late is defined as any work turned in after the designated due date. Students will have 3 days after the zero is entered into the gradebook to make up the assignment however; only one assignment can be made up during the quarter for a maximum possible grade of 80%.

**Classroom Rules:**

1. Students will enter the classroom in a quiet and orderly manner
2. Respect all faculty and staff in the building, your classmates, other students in the building, and school property. Please respect everyone's personal space and property.
3. Come to class prepared to learn.
4. Please follow the Student/Parent Handbook for Success.
5. Students will not speak when the teacher or other students are speaking.
6. Always wear your School I.D. Badge around your neck at all times.
7. Students are responsible for any items brought into the room. If you bring it in, you take it out.
8. Students will not be permitted to use their cellphones in class without permission. Students may keep their phones in their book bags or hang them in the cell phone holder in my classroom. However, if they choose to hold on to their cell phone and I find them using it during class they will receive a ticket.

**Parents:** Please review this syllabus with your child. Open communication is the best way for us to work together for the benefit of your child, so if you have any questions or concerns- please contact me at the school at (912) 395-3500 or email [lauren.kelly@sccpss.com](mailto:lauren.kelly@sccpss.com) You can also access my website at [eighthgraderesearch.weebly.com](http://eighthgraderesearch.weebly.com) A copy of this syllabus as well as the course calendar will be available online.

I am looking forward to a productive and successful year with your child!

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_