

Scientific Research Syllabus

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| Course OverviewThe purpose of this course is to prepare 9th grade IB students for the rigors of the IB program. This course focuses on developing skills in three different domains: Research, Communication and Public Speaking and Scientific Inquiry. This course utilizes Project Based Learning as the vehicle through which students demonstrate proficiency in these domains. In addition to working on these core skills, students will work on their 9th grade Capstone projects. These projects task students with working in collaborative groups to address needs in their school and in their community. Further information on 9th grade Capstone projects will be presented later in the year. Supply List* Fully Charged Laptop
* Loose Leaf Paper
* Pencils/ Pens
* Index Cards
* 3-Ring Binder (Optional)
* Highlighters
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# Course Schedule

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| Units | Skill Focus | Major Assessment |
| Unit 1:  | Research | Research Paper |
| Unit 2:  | Communication | Debate |
| Unit 3:  | Scientific Inquiry and Design | Shark Tank  |

# Homework Policy

Under the new RCBOE grading policy, homework is effective when utilized as meaningful practice for students towards mastery of the standards. However, as this course is designed to prepare students for the rigors of the IB Program there may be more frequent homework in this course than some others. The projects completed in this course may require more time than is allotted in a class period---it is the student’s responsibility to use their time effectively in class in order to minimize the amount of homework they have.

# Grading Categories and Grading Scale

This year there are only two categories of grades: Major and Minor

**Major Grades** (40%)

* Summative Projects
* Research Papers
* Presentations
* Formal Lab Reports

**Minor Grades (60%)**

* Classwork
* Quizzes
* Building Blocks for bigger projects

***Grading Scale:***

A (90-100) B (80-89) C (75-79) D (70-74) F (69 and below)

***Academic Honesty:***

All students must understand the basic meaning and significance of concepts that relate to academic honesty, especially authenticity and intellectual property. Any student work that is submitted for assessment must be entirely original.

Cheating involves copying other peoples’ work, turning it in as original work and committing plagiarism. Plagiarism is using words, ideas, and thoughts of others without giving them credit for the work that was done. This includes taking information from the internet.



**Scientific Research Syllabus and Classroom Procedures Contract**

Please complete and return this form.

August 8, 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Please take the time to review the contents in this syllabus and the Classroom Procedures on Canvas with your child. Please discuss with them the parameters of the class. Please sign and have your child return this form to Mrs. Rohde. Your signature below will confirm that you agree with the requirements and stipulations outlined in the syllabus and this course.

Please feel free to contact me via email if you have any questions or concerns. Looking forward to working with you and your child for a successful and productive school year.

Mrs. Rohde

Science Teacher

IB Project Coordinator

**Student Name:**

**Student Signature:**

**Parent Name:**

**Parent Signature:**

**Parent Email:**

**Cell number:**