

Alamo Heights Junior School
Science Department Grading Policy
2013-2014

The science department provides assignments, laboratories, classwork, projects, tests, and other instructional activities designed so that the student's performance indicates mastery of the designated course objectives. In accordance with district policy, the student's mastery level is the main factor in determining a grade on an assignment and in the course.

Graded Work: The following percentages represent the value that each component of the course contributes to the overall grade.

6th Grade: 40% Tests & Projects
 40% Classwork & Lab Activities
 20% Homework & Quizzes

7th Grade: 50% Tests & Projects
 25% Classwork & Lab Activities
 20% Homework & Quizzes
 5% *Academic Responsibility

8th Grade: 50% Tests & Projects
 25% Classwork & Lab Activities
 20% Homework & Quizzes
 5% *Academic Responsibility

* (Statement about academic responsibility category)

Late Work: Late work will only be accepted up until the summative assessment related to the content area or unit that the work is assigned. After the summative assessment, the work will not be accepted and a grade of zero will be issued for that particular assignment. As per district guidelines, the grade on late work will reflect student mastery, however, 10 points will be deducted from the *Academic Responsibility category of the overall grade for each assignment that is turned in late for students in 7th and 8th grades. Students in 6th grade Science will have an Academic Responsibility grade within the Homework & Quizzes category that reflects a 10- point loss for each assignment that is turned in late.

Reassessment for Mastery:

In accordance with state and district policies, a student shall be permitted a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a failing grade. The Science Department will use the following guidelines to act in accordance with this policy.

- Students who do not exhibit mastery, (grade of 75), on a major assessment will have the opportunity to be re-evaluated after being re-taught, receiving further instruction, or provided additional activities to promote mastery, except in cases of cheating.
- Students are responsible for scheduling time with teachers for re-teaching and for re-assessment. Re-teaching and re-assessment will occur within a reasonable time and, as per the AHISD Homework Guidelines, must take place prior to the next summative assessment.
- Teachers will offer reassessment for mastery of an assignment at least once.
- Re-assessment may assume the form(s) of an additional exam, special assignments, and/or another activity deemed appropriate by the teacher so long as it measures mastery of learning objectives being re-assessed.
- A grade of 75 is the maximum that can be earned on a re-assessment.
- This policy does not apply to semester or final exams.