

Comparison between the Earth Science Regents and Honor Level Courses
September, 2008

	REGENTS	HONORS
Content	The course is based solely upon the New York State Regents Earth Science core curriculum.	The course is based upon the New York State Regents Earth Science core curriculum plus additional topics covered as dictated by class interest which may include the water budget, Eratosthenes principle, black holes, orienteering, star charts and celestial observations, volcanic types, calculation of the cloud base, advanced tornado and hurricane study, glacial flow rate, and others.
Texts and Resources	Text: <u>AMSCO Earth Science</u> by T. McGuire, 2005 Review: <u>UPCO Physical Setting Review of Earth Sci.</u> by R. Sigda, 2007	Text: <u>AMSCO Earth Science</u> by T. McGuire, 2005 Review: <u>UPCO Physical Setting Review of Earth Sci.</u> by R. Sigda, 2007
Long Term and Short Term Assignments	Daily homework assignments.	Daily homework assignments plus four quarterly honors projects are assigned requiring extensive reading of text and relevant materials, collection and interpretation of observed data, and manipulative skills. Projects are technology-based and may include preparation of a Powerpoint presentation to the class.
Homework	SchoolIsland and worksheet assignments of Regents-type questions. Approximately 30 min. of homework is assigned daily.	School Island and worksheet assignments of Regents-type questions. Questions require a deeper understanding of the higher level, more abstract concepts such as latitudinal star paths and calculation of sun's altitude on different seasonal dates. Approximately 45 min. of homework is assigned daily.

<p>Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tests • Quizzes • Labs 	<p>Tests usually consist of approximately 25 Regents exam-type multiple choice and five to six free response questions testing student understanding and recall of lab activities, reading assignments, graph interpretation, etc. NY State Regents Syllabus curriculum-appropriate lab activities, approximately 30 lab activities</p>	<p>Tests usually consist of approximately 35 multiple choice Regents exam-type questions requiring students to analyze, interpret and apply data obtained from reading passages, charts, graphs, and/or diagrams. NY State Regents curriculum-appropriate lab activities in addition to advanced labs requiring analytical and practical skills lab activities, approximately 40 lab activities.</p>
<p>OTHER:</p>	<p>Slower pace, more drill & practice, memorization of terminology</p>	<p>More rapid pace, more application and analysis of more abstract concepts.</p>