



## **Middle School Science Certificate Program (MSSCP) Expectations**

*Participants are expected to come to class on time and stay the full time. The course is hands-on in nature and participants are expected to be fully involved in the class. Although the material may be challenging or new to a participant every reasonable effort will be made to help the participant be successful. If a participant is having difficulty with a particular concept, it is expected that the participant will seek help from fellow participants, the instructors, and by conducting more activities/reading/research on the topic. It is RPDP's firm belief that, if a participant is expected to teach the content and use pedagogy in a particular manner in the middle school classroom, then they must experience the same content and pedagogy in MSSCP classroom. Every effort will be made to provide the participants with labs and activities that they in turn may teach their students, with the understanding that at times the participants will be taught the Nevada State Science Standards to a higher level of understanding than what is expected from a high school student.*

**Successful completion (of Certificate Program):** Maintain a composite grade of 80% or better in all MSSCP courses.

**Successful completion (of Course):** In order for a class to count toward the Certificate Program a grade of 80% or better must be earned for the class.

**Grading:** Grades will be based on class participation, attendance, quizzes, tests, final exam, assignments, labs, and activities.

**Tardy Policy:** A tardy will be considered an absence if the person misses more than 30 minutes of any given hour. This includes but is not limited to someone coming in late, or leaving early. If a person is tardy for a class, then each hour of the course will be counted separately for attendance purposes. For example, a person that is 1 hour and 10 minutes late for class will be considered to have missed 1 hour of the class. A person 1 hour and 30 minutes late for class will be considered to have missed 2 hours of class.) The 30-minute late policy is consistent with the CCSD Tardy Policy enforced in CCSD secondary schools.

## Southern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program



**Attendance for Courses Offered Weekly throughout a Semester:** Attendance is mandatory. For the purposes of attendance every 4 hours of class time will count as 1 class period. If a person is tardy (at least 30 minutes late to class and less than 1 hour 30 minutes late) on 4 separate days that person will be considered to have been absent for an entire class period. For each full class absence, or equivalent thereof, the participant's grade will be reduced by 10%. The maximum a participant's grade will be reduced due to absences will be 30%.

***Make Up for Courses Offered Weekly throughout a Semester:*** Attendance is mandatory at all sessions. If there is a circumstance that requires you to be absent for one class, this must be discussed privately with your instructor. Only one four-hour class can be made up during the course.

*If participants are absent and desire to make up the absence and activities, they may do the following:*

- 1. Obtain the hand-outs/labs/activities that they missed.*
- 2. Conduct the missed labs/activities at their school site on their own time.*
- 3. All appropriate lab write-ups and paperwork are to be turned in to the course instructor in a timely manner. This timely manner is preferably prior the next class meeting and definitely within two weeks. After two weeks have passed, no make up will be allowed.*

**Attendance and Make Up for Courses Offered during a One or Two-Week Period:** Attendance is mandatory, and there is no provision for any make up. For the purposes of attendance every 4 hours of class time will count as 1 class period. If a person is tardy (at least 30 minutes late to class and less than 1 hour 30 minutes late) on 4 separate days that person will be considered to have been absent for an entire class period. For each full class absence, or equivalent thereof, the participant's grade will be reduced by 25%.

**Cell Phones:** We ask that all cell phones be turned off or set to vibrate/silent mode. We understand that there may be circumstances that require you to be in communication with someone, but routine/casual conversations should taken place during breaks or outside of class time.