

# Science Department Freshman Course Offerings

Rocky Hill High School



The goal of the Science Department at Rocky Hill High School is to provide a challenging learning experience for all students. This is accomplished by offering a variety of courses in the different disciplines of science at several levels. Our courses provide students with hands-on lab experiences, data interpretation, and critical reading and thinking using the inquiry method. The goal is for students to be able to make informed opinions and decisions about theories and current scientific issues.

As a freshman, there are two course options: 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Science (at the honors, academic, or general level) and Biology offered only at the honors level for freshman. Eight grade teachers make recommendations based on current student performance.

## Honors 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Science: SC500



This college-prep course is a contemporary interdisciplinary approach to the study of physical and Earth science. The curriculum covers the Next Generation Science Standards. Topics of current interest are incorporated into class discussions and lab investigations. Academically and self-motivated students selecting this top level freshman course should be able to read informational text, write coherent sentences and paragraphs, graph data, draw conclusions from data using an understanding of underlying concepts and demonstrate proficient organization and study skills.

## Academic 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Science: SC502



This course is also for the college bound student. Topics and curriculum remain the same as the Honors level, but students are provided with more scaffolding to meet learning expectations. Students should be strong readers and writers. It is strongly suggested that students in Academic 9<sup>th</sup> Grade English also be placed into this level. Students are expected to work independently in and out of class.

## General 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Science: SC504



The curriculum for this course is that same as for other levels. This course is designed for the student who needs to improve reading and writing skills. Students are provided structure and guidance to develop these skills. Students should have the ability to read text for understanding and write paragraphs. Facility with the use of calculators and basic math is needed. Students will perform lab experiments and write lab reports.

## Honors Biology: SC510



Some freshmen may accelerate their science course progression by going into Honors Biology, which is a sophomore course. This student must be a mature independent learner who needs a minimum of direction. The textbook used for this course is at the community college reading level. Students must have a strong command of foundational science concepts that would otherwise be reinforced in the Honors 9<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum. Students are recommended by current science teachers to take this course based on maturity and motivation.

Science Department Course Offerings	
Core Curriculum 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science Biology Chemistry Physics	Science Faculty Dr. Sharon Parker, Supervisor Ms. Kim Antol Dr. Matt DeBacco Mr. Michael Fagan Ms. Ellen Janiga Ms. Keela Parsons Ms. Mary Stewart Mr. Mike Tramontanis Mr. Tim Walsh
Elective Offerings Botany CT River Forensic Science Human Anatomy & Physiology UConn Biology Uconn Chemistry Uconn Physics	For questions contact Sharon Parker at <a href="mailto:parkers@rockyhillps.com">parkers@rockyhillps.com</a>