



Honors Science Research
Instructors: Debbie Nipar Hamilton High School

Dear Research Participant,

Welcome to the Honors Science Research Program! To best prepare for this year please read all of the information below. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Nipar nipar.debbie@cusd80.com

First let's discuss what qualities a student researcher must possess to be successful. A research student has to be passionate and inquisitive. You will need to find a topic you are interested in to the extent that you want to spend hours, days, and weeks researching that topic. You need to have the desire to research and analyze your topic until you find a brand new variable that has never been studied before. Next, a research student has to be driven to find a way to make that study happen. This may happen in a school lab or at a lab outside of school. You will have to send dozens of emails and resend those emails until you make a contact with a person that can help you realize your vision. A research student has to have the *tenacity* to keep researching and keep contacting people until you finally find a way to make your project happen. Finally, as a student researcher, you must possess presentation skills that allow you to communicate your results to a variety of audiences. Below you will find our class outline as well as our classroom policies.

We are so excited for this year!!
Happy researching,
Mrs. Nipar

Course Outline

1st Quarter

- Choose topic, presentation of possible topics.
- Research, research and more research.
- At least one scientific journal article evaluated with rubric.
- Journal article presentation.
- Review of literature due at the end of the first quarter.
- Conferences throughout.

2nd Quarter

- Possible mentor contacts
- Protocol development (methods and materials).
- Budget proposal.
- Grant writing.
- ISEF paper work completed.
- Final presentation that includes all of the above.
- Possible experimentation.
- Conferences throughout.

3rd Quarter

- Experimentation, lab release time during research if needed.

- HISEF (regular three panel board). Winners only will go to AzSEF.
- Create PowerPoint board for AzSEF.
- Final presentations for competition in HISEF and AzSEF.
- Conferences throughout

4th Quarter

- Prepare for ISEF/other national competitions
- Investigate continuation projects or new project ideas.
- *Undiscovered Scientist* publication
- Final Presentation
- Google Science Fair

Class Expectations

Follow all school rules including but not limited to no food, drink, or profanity in class. Students will be conferenced with and parents contacted if any behavior or academic problems arise.

Diversity statement:

All individuals have a right to an educational environment free from bias, prejudice and bigotry. As members of the Hamilton High School educational community, students are expected to refrain from participation in acts of harassment that are designed to demean another student's race, gender, ethnicity, religious preference, disability or sexual orientation.

Tardy/Attendance Policy

Students are expected to be their seats and ready to work when the bell rings. Students will be assigned after school detention after 2 late arrivals.

Students may be dropped from the class after 9 absences.

Release time for lab

One of the benefits of the research class is possible release time for students to work in a lab or with mentors off campus. Before students can use release time they must do the following:

- Have a completed research plan.
- The student must ask for and the parents and student must fill out a lab release contract.
- Students will get a sticker to put on their ID indicating that they have been approved for release time.
- Students must sign out on the lab release calendar at least 2 school days before they go to lab. Students that do not do this will be counted as absent.
- Students will maintain a sign in/sign out sheet with their mentors at lab.

Conference dates

Students must be ready (with all materials) to conference on their assigned day. At least 10% will be deducted for each late day. Conference schedules will be assigned within the first two weeks of the school year.

Required Competitions

The culminating activity for the Honors Science Research program is participation in several science fairs. Students are required to participate in HISEF (our district fair) and AzSEF (the state fair) and the Google Science Fair. Students are encouraged to participate in other competitions as well as may use entrance in other competitions as menu points.

Grading

- Required assignments (100%)
 - Includes conferences, assigned papers, presentations, etc.
- Student Assignment Calendars as well as other important class information will be made available on my website <https://www.cusd80.com/Domain/2155>.
- Student grades can be accessed online via the following steps:
 - Step 1: Enter Your Email Address that you provided to your child's school
 - Step 2: Click Submit
 - Step 3: Open the email from Campus No Reply - campus@smtp2.cusd80.com (You may need to look in your spam or junk folder) and click on the link provided.
 - Step 4: After clicking on the link from the above step, you will enter in a password and then click Create My Account.
 - Step 5: Login to the parent portal with your new account.

Grading Scale- per district policy grades will assigned using the following percentages:

90 – 100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

Acceptable Use Policy

Students will be required to adhere to school district acceptable use policy for technology. Please refer to the student handbook.

Appropriate use of technology – board policy IJNDC-R:

The Governing Board intends that technological resources provided by the District be used in a safe responsible and proper manner in support of the instructional program and for the advancement of student learning. It is the policy of the Chandler Unified School District to maintain an environment that promotes ethical and responsible conduct in all electronic resource activities by staff and students. The District reserves the right to monitor use of the District's systems for improper use without warning or prior consent. Students shall be informed that computer files and electronic communications, including email, are not private and may be accessed by the District at any time. Inappropriate use may result in disciplinary action and/or legal action in accordance with the law and Board policy. Please visit the student handbook at <https://www.cusd80.com/handbooks> for further details about appropriate use of technology use.

Virtual Attendance Statement:

Attendance is based on engagement. If a student is not present for synchronous instruction and does not complete the asynchronous/alternative assignment for the daily class meeting, then the student is considered absent. Teachers will contact attendance clerks once a student is determined to be absent.