Thomas Edison Charter School South

*9th grade—Health Syllabus*

*Mrs. Smith*

**Course Preview**

This course is designed to provide opportunities for students to acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for life-long, health-enhancing behaviors. We will discuss many topics that will help students throughout their lives.  We will discuss ways to relieve and cope with stress, suicide prevention, how to stay healthy, the importance of healthy and positive relationships, self-concept and home safety.  We will also be discussing drug and substance abuse including short and long term affects.  We will also learn about communicable and non-communicable diseases accompanied with human anatomy and a sex education unit.

**Expectations**

**Respect for all.**Each student is responsible for their individual behavior, language, staying on task in class and being prepared for class.  Students will allow me to teach, and other students to learn.  Students will respect the opinions and thoughts of others.  Some topics we will cover can be very sensitive for some students, I will not deal with anyone making fun of or putting another student down.  This class can and will be really fun if students are willing to participate and respect others.

**Consequences**

1. First occurrence: Teacher warning
2. Second occurrence: Apology note
3. Third occurrence: Call home

**Grading Policy**

* Grades will be comprised of participation, homework, quizzes, journal checks and exams.
* Most work will be done in class.  If however, homework is given, it will be due the next day in class at the beginning of class, unless stated otherwise.
* Neatness counts, if I cannot read it, it is not accepted as valid.  Students will be allowed to redo the test or assignment.  Students should take pride in their work and put forth the effort to turn in a neat and organized assignment or test.
* Extra credit may be offered by the instructor during the school year and will be offered for the entire class only.  **DO NOT ASK** for individual extra credit.

**Notebook Requirements**

All students are to maintain a health-only three ring binder.  The binder should include dividers and notebook paper.  The notebook should be brought to class each day and should contain all materials pertaining to the semester.  We will be working in these notebooks everyday! Notebooks will be checked by the instructor periodically during the semester for neatness and organization.  Students will be graded on such checks.

**Testing Policy**

Tests will be given at the end of each unit.  We will have a review day for each test. Announcement of written, practical testing or quizzes will be announced generally 3 or more days in advance.

Students absent the day of an exam will be expected to take the exam **two days after they return.**Students must take care of their responsibility regarding this matter.  If a test is missed, they should show up at 7:50 AM that morning to make up the test or make other arrangements with the instructor.  Students absent the day before the exam are still expected to take the exam on the scheduled day **even if they missed the review.**

In the case of extended absences, make-up tests will be given before school or at lunch.  A time must be scheduled with the instructor to make-up an exam upon immediately returning to school.  This will avoid receiving a 0% for the exam.

Students who know in advance they will be missing an exam due to school activities must make arrangements with the instructor before the expected absence.

**Absences**

Students are responsible for obtaining and completing all assignments due to absences.  If a student is absent, they may complete a written summary of a health related article.  The summary must be turned in within 2 days of returning to school.  This is an optional assignment and not required.  However, if not completed, the student will not receive the possible daily grade they would have if they had been at school.  This applies for all absences:  school related or not.

Incomplete work will automatically turn into an “F” if the work is not made up within ***2 days*** following the absence.  Special circumstances may be considered by the instructor.

**Cheating**

There is a zero tolerance for cheating.  Such offenses will result in a zero for the assignment for individuals involved without an option to make up the assignment or to do extra credit.

**Tardies**

Students must be in their seat when class is supposed to begin.  1st offense – nothing, 2nd offense-reminder, 3rd offense—deduction in citizenship.  Any further offenses will consist of deductions in citizenship.  Administrative referrals will be made at the instructor’s discretion.

**Class Dismissal:**  Class will be dismissed by the instructor!

**Cell Phones / I Pods etc.**

Do not have them out in class, or try to use them in class.  If I see them I will take them.  Students will have to obtain them back from the office after school.

**Instructor Availability**

* Before school 7:50AM.
* Immediately after school until 3:30 PM

**Parents/Guardians**

I am looking forward to working with your student.  Please feel free to contact me during the semester if you have any questions, or concerns regarding this course or your student’s progress.  My planning periods are from 8:50-9:20 and 12:30-12:50. My email is kali.smith@edisoncs.org.

Kali Smith