will result in no credit for the assignment or depending on the case, a grade of "F" for the course and letter of concern documenting the problem to the College of Education. Please see end of syllabus for clarification.

Special Services: Students requiring classroom accommodations or modifications because of a documented disability should discuss this need at the beginning of the semester. Students not registered with the Special Services Program should contact the Special Services Office, Nevins Hall 1115, 245-2498.

Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act: Grades cannot be posted by Name, Social Security Number, or other Personal Identifiers. Grades and student work will not be given over the telephone, by email or to another student.

Class Conduct

The learning environment has a very significant impact on the satisfaction and success of all students. Therefore, certain standards of decorum will be expected and maintained so that everyone can enjoy being in the lab and learning as much as possible. Inappropriate conduct such as rudeness, lack of collegiality, or other behavior that affects the c

Assessment of Learning

Class Participation and Attendance: Since more than half of this course involves active experiences, it is not possible to "make-up" missed material; therefore, attendance is mandatory. Absences need to be university approved and will require documentation substantiating the absence. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain missed material from one of their classmates. During lab you will be working in groups most of the time. To deduce your class participation, the other members of your group will evaluate your participation and effort; this will form the basis of your participation grade.

Anyone who misses more than 20% of the class sessions will receive a failing grade for the course.

Short Assignments: Short assignments will be given throughout the course to ensure understanding of the material that is being covered and sufficient preparation for tests and large projects. These assignments are worth 10% of your final grade which is based on whether directions were followed, the amount of effort put into the assignment and a clear demonstration of understanding of the material. These assignments will be described in class and are due at the beginning of lab. Any assignment turned in after your lab section will be counted as late. The penalty for late assignments is 5% per day, NO exceptions. Assignments MUST have your Name, Date and Lab Section indicated on it to be awarded full points. These assignments are graded according to the effort put forth by other students (i.e. a distribution is based around the best student response and the other students are graded accordingly).

Tests: There will be two midterm tests and two comprehensive tests. The most important reason for these tests is preparation for the GACE (Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators; http://www.gace.nesinc.com) test, but also serve to assess student performance. Do not depend on rote learning or memorization for these tests. Questions will require students to demonstrate individual construction of knowledge and application of the course information. Review of ALL class material is THE BEST preparation and is essential to excelling on tests by building connections between concepts.

Conceptual Essay (individual): You will have to submit one conceptual summary for Earth Science and one for Life Science at the end of each of these units. The conceptual summary should