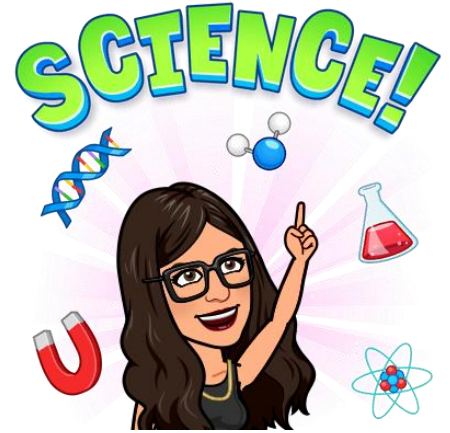


Welcome to Ms Serigano's Sophomore InSTAR Class!!!

Email: jserigan@3villagecsd.org

Hey there, new students!!! I'm Ms Serigano and I have the honor and privilege of being your guide through the incredible world of science research during your Sophomore year of InSTAR!

My mission this year is to provide all of my students with a high-quality educational experience regardless of the unusual settings and restrictions we are facing. My goal is for each of my students to have compelling hands-on experiences that help them to develop an appreciation for science research.



About InSTAR:

InSTAR (Independent Science Technology and Research) is a non-traditional program that involves many activities not measurable by the standard methods for assessing students' performance. As a result, grading is based on your **effort and performance** on assigned projects, **timely submission** of required papers and projects, **participation** in class discussions and projects, and **maintenance** of your InSTAR **research journal**.

Research Journal:

A research journal is to be kept throughout your three years in the program, which will be periodically reviewed and graded. As a scientist, it is important to document your ideas, list important articles you have read, data you have collected, searches for mentors, and specific projects. The journal is intended to help you develop this habit, as well as provide you with reminders of things you have found interesting and might like to investigate later on in your scientific career.

Our Mindset in InSTAR:

We fully realize some research endeavors may not prove fruitful (ex: it didn't work); this is not an unusual event in scientific investigation. Evaluation of your performance will not be based on whether a project was successful, but rather on the amount of **effort and thought** you put into the project.

Each assignment will be weighted according to its difficulty and time involved to compute your quarterly grade. Work that is turned in late will receive a deduction in points. Work that is done poorly, or not fulfilling specified requirements, will be penalized accordingly and needs to be redone properly. Each quarter is worth 25% of your final grade.

My Expectations for Everyone:

This school year will come with many challenges for both students and teachers. **We have to be compassionate and understanding with each other for us to succeed as a community.** I will be

experimenting with a multitude of methods to keep you engaged, involved, and inspired. We can expect that there will be technical difficulties from time to time. **We must be patient, laugh through the chaos, and try our best to stay positive.**

Our Classroom Routine:

The first few minutes of class will be mostly setting ourselves up with our chromebooks and InSTAR notebooks. We'll establish specific routines together as we go, but for now, read through these expectations so you know how to be prepared for class.

My Expectations for Students:

- Get to class on time.
- Have your chromebook charged and ready. Bring your InSTAR Notebook and writing utensils.
- Wear a mask over your nose & mouth- I will give the opportunity for a mask break during each class period.

Chromebook Preparedness Score:

Primarily, our lessons will be completed in our InSTAR notebooks while referring to the digital assignments on our Chromebooks. To instill good habits with being consistently prepared, I will periodically check for Chromebooks. .

- a. Starting Monday September 13th: I will begin to use Chromebook Preparedness Scores for ALL Students.
 - i. If a student is prepared with their charged chromebook at the beginning of the period, they will receive a 1 out of 1 point for the day.
 - ii. If a student is not prepared with a charged chromebook, they will receive a 0 out of 1 point.

Cell Phone Policy:

Cell phones should be out of your sight at all times during class. They may be used during break only. If a student chooses to use a phone during class, they will receive one warning. Any subsequent cell phone use will result in a referral to the dean.

Face Mask Policy:

Face masks must be worn at all times over the nose and mouth. Students may shift mask to drink beverages while in the classroom. However, food cannot be consumed in the room and must be taken into the hallway. Multiple warnings about proper mask wearing will result in referral to the dean and a phone call home.

Remind App:

To receive text alerts and reminders concerning due dates and grading updates, download the Remind App or send a text to "81010" with the message **"@instar8b" for Ms Serigano's InSTAR section**. Parents are encouraged to add themselves to our class roster so they can receive important updates.

Disclaimer

The course policies outlined in this Syllabus are subject to change depending on many factors within the 2021-22 school year. I will update this specific syllabus as periodically as possible and highlight the changes.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. I am optimistic that we can work together to manifest an unforgettable year!

Ms Serigano

