Course Description

A. COVER PAGE

Date of Submission (Please include Month, Day and Year)

1. Course Title

Physical Science Skills

2. Transcript Title(s) / Abbreviation(s)
Physical Sci Sk

3. Transcript Course Code(s) / Number(s)
SC6645

4. School
Pioneer Valley High School

5. District
Santa Maria Joint Union High School District

6. City
Santa Maria

7. School / District Web Site
www.smjuhsd.org

8. School Course List Contact

Name: Riccardo Magni

Title/Position: Science Department Head

Phone: 922-1305 **Ext.: *5411**

E-mail: rmagni@smjuhsd.org

9. Subject Area

- ☐ History/Social Science
- ☐ English
- ☐ Mathematics
- ☒ Laboratory Science
- ☐ Language other than English
- ☐ Visual & Performing Arts
  - ☐ Intro ☐ Advanced
- ☐ College Prep Elective

10. Grade Level(s) for which this course is designed

☒ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12

11. Seeking "Honors" Distinction?

☐ Yes ☒ No

12. Unit Value

- ☒ 0.5 (half year or semester equivalent)
- ☐ 1.0 (one year equivalent)
- ☐ 2.0 (two year equivalent)
- ☐ Other: _____

13. Is this an Internet-based course? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", who is the provider? ☐ UCCP ☐ PASS/Cyber High ☐ Other _____

14. Complete outlines are not needed for courses that were previously approved by UC. If course was previously approved, indicate in which category it falls.

- ☐ A course reinstated after removal within 3 years. Year removed from list? _____
  Same course title? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  If no, previous course title? _____
- ☐ An identical course approved at another school in same district. Which school? _____
  Same course title? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  If no, course title at other school? _____
- ☐ Year-long VPA course replacing two approved successive semester courses in the same discipline
- ☐ Approved Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) course
- ☐ Approved UC College Prep (UCCP) Online course
- ☐ Approved CDE Agricultural Education course
- ☐ Approved P.A.S.S./Cyber High course
- ☐ Approved ROP/C course. Name of ROP/C? _____
- ☐ Approved A.V.I.D. course
- ☐ Approved C.A.R.T. course
- ☐ Approved Project Lead the Way course
- ☐ Other. Explain: _____

15. Is this course modeled after an UC-approved course from another school <u>outside</u> your district?
Yes ☒ No
If so, which schools_____
Course title at other school_____

16. Pre-Requisites

17. Co-Requisites

18. Is this course a resubmission? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, date(s) of previous submission? _____
Title of previous submission? _____

19. Brief Course Description

This nine-week course has been designed to help Pioneer Valley students successfully transition into the high school environment. Besides proving academic support, this interdisciplinary class, which focuses on science, has several related goals: Promoting a healthy attitude about school and academics; while emphasizing goal setting and developing and maintaining a personal responsibility for learning and remaining a life long learner.

B. COURSE CONTENT

Please refer to instructions

20. Course Goals and/or Major Student Outcomes

Students will learn how to:

- Develop reading strategies
- Develop scientific vocabulary
- Improve lab skills
- Promote a positive attitude towards school.

21. Course Objectives

Students will:

- Learn the scientific method
- Do current event projects
- Learn about the continuity of a course
- Learn about how people learn.
- Develop graphing skills and interpreting tables and charts.
- Improve summarizing skills
- Learning how to use science lab equipment

22. Course Outline

Students will complete the following activities in Physical Science Study Skills

- Building the perfect airplane
- Graphing practice
- Scientific measurements
- Metric system practice
- Measuring lab
- Solar radiation lab
- Barometer lab
- Vinegar and milk lab
- States of matter
- Current event project
- Plate tectonics project
- Spectrum lab
- Volcano lab
- Goal planning
- Life skills survey
- Career planning
- Scaling the solar system
- Pinpointing an earthquake
- Energy sources project
- Rocks/Crystals/Minerals computer simulation
- Electromagnetic activity with waves

23. Texts & Supplemental Instructional Materials

None

24. **Key Assignments**
25. **Instructional Methods and/or Strategies**
26. **Assessment Methods and/or Tools**

C. HONORS COURSES ONLY

Please refer to instructions

27. **Indicate how this honors course is different from the standard course.**

D. OPTIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Please refer to instructions

28. **Context for Course (optional)**
29. **History of Course Development (optional)**