



Environmental Science Syllabus 2018-2019

Ms. Danielle Wildermuth

Room 329S

Office Hours:**

Wednesday/Friday: 8:48-10:21

Tuesday/Thursday: 8:48-10:21

**Available upon appointment

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Course Overview:

Environmental science is the study of how humans interact with the environment. Ecology is the study of the interactions between organisms and their environment. This course provides a background in the fundamental principles of ecological, biodiversity and sustainability. As a class we will gain an understanding of how the natural world works and develop an understanding of how scientific methods are used to construct ecological knowledge. The course will also dive into some of today's major ecological challenges, and the important research that is being conducted to address them, This class is an elective.

This class is aimed at giving students an overview of the field of environmental science and how it applies to the sustainability of human societies. It will also touch on how the interactions between individuals and their environments scale up to the global ecosystem. A major section of this course will be over the "green revolution" and its importance and relevance to the 21st century.

Classroom Procedures

- For every class
 - Something to write with
 - Something to write on that is specifically for this class (notebook or binder)
 - Textbook (not everyday but I will tell you when you need it)
- When you walk into class you have the first 5-10 minutes to yourself. If there is a Do Now you must do this right away. During the rest of the time you may finish homework, talk quietly or be on your phones. This is a privilege that can be taken away if needed based on individual behavior. You also must have all materials needed for the class out and ready to go by the end of this time.
- If we have a lab proper lab attire must be worn that day. I will tell you the safety precautions needed at least two classes prior to the lab. Failure to wear proper lab attire will result in a 10 point loss in the overall lab grade.
 - This usually consists of closed toed shoes, long sleeved shirts and long pants. You should also have something to tie your hair back if you have longer hair.
- If you need to leave the class for an emergency please alert me right away. If it is

not an emergency (bathroom, forgot to get something from locker etc.) please wait for classroom down time. Please do not disrupt class unless it is a true emergency.

Daily Work:

Daily work completed both in class or out of the classroom counts as part of your formative grade. This includes Do Nows . There will be daily work--reading and writing assignments that are very important as a foundation for our class. It will be your responsibility to get all missed assignments that need to be made up should you be absent. Do not count on me to automatically give it to you—PLEASE ask for it! YOU are responsible for YOUR knowledge.

Project/Quizzes:

There will be projects assigned throughout the semester. These assignments will count as part of your formative grade. If quizzes will be given, they will be formative in nature. Quizzes MAY be given at any time without warning.

Summative Assessments:

These will comprise 60% of your grade and can include quizzes, chapter or unit tests, projects, presentations and labs. Tests may be given at the end of each chapter or at the end of each unit. The test date will be announced well in advance and we will review the material in class. Quizzes MAY be given at any time without warning. Your semester final examination will be comprehensive and count as 10% of your grade. REMEMBER: Your performance in this class is entirely up to you!!

Final Exam: Will count as 10% of your grade and be comprehensive, covering the entire semester's material

Grading

It is important to remember that I do not pass or fail you in this class. YOU are entirely responsible for your performance in this class. Failure to do the work and study for test may result in your EARNING a failing grade. Likewise, completion of the work can most likely result in your EARNING a passing grade. Grades will be issued as follows:

Formative Assessments- 40% Summative Assessments- 60%

A-90%-100%

B-80%-89%

C-70%-79%

D-60%-69%

F-1%-59%

Formative Assessments include: daily work, projects/quizzes, "do now exercises"
Semester grades are calculated by accumulating all points throughout the entire

semester's grade to total 90%. The remaining 10% is the comprehensive semester final exam. REMEMBER: Your performance in this class is entirely up to you!!

Late work policy:

Depending on the assignment all work must be turned in on its assigned due date. Failure to do so will result in a 10% decrease of the grade for said assignment per day late. Certain projects or larger assignments will not be accepted later than one day per the teacher's discretion. You will be notified in advance if this policy has to be changed/ amended.

Make up work policy:

In the event that you miss class it is YOUR responsibility to get the work you missed both in and out of class. You will be given the same amount of days to complete the assignment as you would have if you were in class the day it was assigned.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism, cheating on an exam, copying of homework or test answers, and/or arranging for others to do schoolwork or exams are all considered to be dishonest, wrong and in opposition to the purpose of learning. Students found committing academic dishonesty (cheating on an exam, copying homework, plagiarism) can receive a grade of "F" or "0" and could face disciplinary action. Your parent/guardian will be notified. This includes final exams. Teachers have the option to provide the student with another opportunity to test with less credit offered. Repeated offenses will lead to more serious consequences, potentially including course failure. We are here to learn, please maintain your academic integrity accordingly and do not copy nor allow anyone to copy your work. Just **DON'T** do it!

Course Outline (tentative)

Time Period:	Quarter:	Theme:	Topic:
September	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to environmental science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Science and the environment• Tools of Environmental Science• The Dynamic earth
October	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The organization of earth• How ecosystems work• Biomes• Aquatic ecosystems
November	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding populations• The human population• Biodiversity
January	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water, Air and Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water• Air• Atmosphere and climate change

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land • Food and agriculture
February	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mineral and energy resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mining and mineral resources • Nonrenewable energy • Renewable energy • Waste
March	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our health and our future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The environment and human health
April	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our health and our future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economics, Policy and the Future
May	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field experience • Research projects • Catch up 	