

2020-2021 Environmental Science Syllabus

Ms. Taylor

Room # 111

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Directions to Parents and Students: Please retain this portion of the syllabus for your records. I must have the second handout for my records before the student can participate in labs and activities. Please fill out, sign, and return to my classroom as soon as possible. THANK YOU!

Welcome to Environmental Science!

Welcome! I am super excited to be teaching Environmental Science this year! I hope to make this class fun and engaging for students. This syllabus contains important information. Please read carefully and if there are any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Materials Required for Class

Pens/Pencils	Highlighters	Paper
Calculator (Optional)	Notecards (Optional)	
1.5"- 2" Binder for Labs	Folder/2nd Binder (To keep up with class notes and assignments)	

Other materials may be needed as necessary for projects that come up throughout the year. I will give plenty of notice and time for those materials to be gathered. If there is any issue with supplies or materials, please let me know. You may email me and we can work together to make sure the student gets what they need to be successful in this class.

My Expectations

1. Cell phones- Cells phones will be put away at the beginning of class. Misuse of cell phones or other electronic devices will result in the devices being picked up and students can have them back after class. If the problem continues on more than one occasion, phones and devices will be taken to the office and students or parents can pick up the devices at the end of the school day. Students will be permitted to use their cell phones with permission or instructed by the teacher only.
2. School Equipment- Improper use of computers or other school equipment can result in serious consequences. Please be respectful of all school equipment.
3. Respect- Students are expected to treat all class members with respect at all times. Derogatory remarks and foul language will not be tolerated.
4. Personal Conduct- All class members are to practice integrity, respect, and personal responsibility.
5. Additional Help or Time- Students are encouraged to attend before and after school for additional assistance. I arrive at school at 7:45am and do not leave until 4pm. I will be happy to meet with students/parents by appointment if those times do not work for anyone. Please email me to set up a time if needed.
6. Dismissal- The bell doesn't dismiss the class. I will dismiss the class when we are completed and the students area/desks are cleaned. The students **MUST** clean their area before leaving my class.

7. **Safety**- Class and Lab Safety is a **MUST** and violations will have serious consequences. I must have a signed (by both student and guardian) safety contract on file for students to participate in laboratory activities.

Course Overview- A Hands-On Approach to Learning

The goal of this course is to teach everyone to become aware of their surroundings and the condition of our immediate, state, national, and global environment. We will study the impact that humans have on earth, plants, and animals. We will also study the mistakes made and the lessons learned. Most of the course will be problem based learning and will involve numerous projects: some with experimentation and data collection in the classroom as well as around our campus.

This is a student-centered class. Students are empowered to use any resource material available to them including the class library, reliable internet sources, and data collected from experiments to gain knowledge for their individual/team projects.

Many of the labs will be hands-on activities and some cannot be duplicated outside of class. Alternate assignments will be available to students who miss class with excused absences.

Grades

1. The standard grading scale (90's A, 80's B, etc) will be used in class.
2. Students grades will come from daily classwork, homework, participation and completion of projects, quizzes, and end of chapter/unit tests. Penalties will be enforced for non-participation and failing to meet deadlines.
3. Scoring Rubrics will be given to students prior to projects.
4. Semester tests will be given to all non-exempt students.
5. Since students will be involved in short and long term projects, an organized binder must be maintained. Some projects/labs will be simultaneous, therefore an organized binder must accompany students to class everyday. This binder will be scored at the end of each semester.
6. Students who have not maintained a successful grade will be assigned to the RTI program.

Students will have several opportunities to be successful in class, however cooperation, dependability, and effort are essential for success.

Absences

All assignments missed due to student absence **must** be made up. There will be a folder that contains the assignments for students to complete. Alternate assignments will be assigned for missed labs/data collection assignments or any other class work that cannot be made up efficiently outside of class.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to an awesome year!

Thank you,

Ms. Taylor