ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SYLLABUS

Fall 2017

Mr. Mason W. Sheffield  Room: 229  Course Numbers: 5852
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Course Description: Environmental science is the study of the biological, chemical, and physical conditions of an environment and their effect on the various organisms contained therein. Students will have the opportunity to explore all areas of environmental science in this course. Students will also engage in experiments and investigations that will challenge them to think critically. The class will also conduct several semester-long studies.

Course of Study

Unit 1  Introduction to Environmental Science
Unit 2  Ecology
Unit 3  Populations
Unit 4  Water, Air, and Land
Unit 5  Mineral and Energy Resources

Materials:

Text: Environmental Science by Karen Arms, Holt publishers $70.00. (We will be using an online version/a class set). If a student needs to checkout out a textbook from me they may do so by coming to me after school and officially checking out a book. They are responsible for returning the book to me so I can mark their name off of the list. Failure to do so or failure to return the book will result in a fine being added to your student account. We will be using a lot of articles and outside sources for the class. I will provide links on my webpage when possible.

Please consult the supply list that was provided. A copy may also be found on my school website.

NOTE: It is important that you bring all materials to class daily.

Grading:

Grading Scale:

Summative (53%)
Formative (47%)
These together count as 80% of the semester grade.
The Final/EOCT accounts for the remaining 20% of the semester final grade.

A (90-100)
B (80-89)
C (74-79)
D (70-73)
F (≤ 69)

Daily: Consists of homework, class work (daily warm ups, article reading responses), and quizzes. It is very important that you complete all homework assignments. Homework assignments are given to enhance learning and promote student success. Generally, there will be enough time to do your work during class. We do daily warm ups and on some Fridays have a quiz over these and/or materials covered in class. Warm ups are on the board and change from day to day.

Tests/Projects: Expect a test at the end of each chapter and/or unit which is about every two weeks. It is very important that you take every measure possible to prepare for tests because they are a major part of your grade. When projects are assigned you are expected to put forth your very best effort. We will be taking cumulative SLO tests at the end of the semester.

Laboratory Procedures: You must follow all lab safety rules when conducting a lab. Specific safety issues will be emphasized at the beginning of each lab. You are also required to sign a lab safety contract to verify that you have read all lab safety rules before you can participate in any labs or activities. This is a legally binding document.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to change any section of this course syllabus at any time during the semester to more adequately meet the needs, interest or abilities of the students.
Make-up Work: All work is expected to be completed for any absences. Time allotted to complete work will be conducive to county guidelines. You will not be allowed to make up work for unexcused absences. You are responsible to come to me to arrange make up work for absences.

All students will have the opportunity to make up work that is not submitted on time (projects and research assignments excluded) unless otherwise noted by myself. There will be a 10 points per week point deduction for late work down to a 70. However, ANY item that is going to be turned in must include a late work form completely filled out and stapled to it. This form can be found on my SHS webpage and Google Classroom page.


Daily Procedures and Rules:
1. You are expected to adhere to all rules set forth by SHS.
2. Be prepared when you enter the classroom.
3. DO NOT CHEAT! EVER! Parents I need your support on this.
4. No eating, drinking, or chewing gum (we do not want to attract bugs and other vermin).
5. Enter the room prepared to work. All assignments are to be turned in upon entering the classroom. You are expected to sit in your assigned seat and stay in it until dismissed.
6. Do not interrupt me or anyone that is taking a turn speaking. You must be acknowledged before contributing to any class discussions.
7. Always clean up after yourself.
8. Use very special care when handling lab materials. You are responsible for any broken materials due to negligence.
9. Respect yourself and others. This is the golden rule in my class. If you follow this rule you should have no problem following the above rules.

Tardy/Discipline Procedures:
The school's tardy rule is completely enforced.

Academic Honesty:
You are expected to do your own work. Cheating will result in a zero for the assignment, discipline referral, and immediate parent contact. You are only cheating yourself when you fail to do your own work. Do not let someone copy your work. I give not only the person that copied the work the above consequences; I also give the person that they copied from the above consequences. CHEATING IN ANY FORM IS NOT TOLERATED!

Attendance:
Failure to attend class will negatively impact your grade, please attend class. Make-up lab dates will be posted for each lab.

Tutoring: I provide tutoring as do other teachers. If you need help don’t be embarrassed to ask. My tutoring schedule will be posted later, but you can make arrangements with me for tutoring after school. You must provide your own transportation. Tutoring time is not time to make up missing work. That is for you to do at home.

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I have read Mr. Sheffield’s environmental science syllabus and fully understand the guidelines set forth in this course syllabus. I will also check Infinite Campus weekly to see my/my student’s grades. Please return this page once it is signed to Mr. Sheffield. Keep the first two pages for your records.

Student Name (printed) ________________________________________________________________

Student Signature ___________________________ Date __________________

Parent Name (printed) ________________________________________________________________

Parent Signature ___________________________ Date __________________

Parent contact information (most current filled out by parent or guardian)

Preferred phone: ________________________________

Best time to reach: ________________________________

Email: _________________________________________

Do you have computer/internet access at home? YES   NO

Do you (student) have a smartphone? YES   NO

Do you have access to Infinite Campus? YES   NO

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