

Environmental Science

2011-2012

Mrs. Amy Vohsing

Everyone is gifted. Some blossom sooner than others!

The Environmental courses will define ecology and identify some important ecological concerns we face today. We will explore the interconnectedness among ecosystems and the biosphere. We will learn how to think critically about the major environmental dilemmas and issues that shape our current stage of time. We will compare the ways that water, carbon, nitrogen, sulfur, and phosphorus cycle within ecosystems. The movement, distribution, and fate of toxins in the environment will also be discussed.

Emphasis will be placed on UNDERSTANDING and USING a scientific principle as well as rote memorization. Tests will include application questions which will test your knowledge of the concept studied.

My teaching philosophy is- Firm Fair & Fun!

Weekly Syllabus: I will post a weekly syllabus on Fri/Mon of every week on the NC bulletin board and progress book. The bulletin board can be found on the webpage under academics/individual courses. I will also post on Progress Book. This will have information on what we plan to cover every day, homework, vocabulary, test dates, and any updates on the grading policy. I have found this to be a valuable tool for those who want to work ahead or for those who are absent.

Interesting (I know this word is subjective☺) science articles will also be posted on the Bulletin Board & may be used to obtain extra points on examinations!

***Grading Policy:**

Tests & Quizzes	25%	Labs	25%
Homework/current events	25%	Reports/Ntbk	25%

*will change quarterly/Check NC bulletin board (under individual course descriptions)
Tests will be worth more throughout the year

NO EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN!!

Grading scale: per school policy.

A	100-93	C	76-73
A-	92-90	C-	72-70
B+	87-89	D+	69-67
B	86-83	D	66-63
B-	82-80	D-	62-60
C+	79-77	F	Below 60

Test format: Examinations and quizzes will be objective style including multiple choice, fill-in, true-false, matching, labeling, short definitions, and short answer essay. You will be expected to **USE** the knowledge you have acquired in class and **APPLY** it.

Missed quizzes/tests: Please try not to miss any examinations. The examinations will be **DIFFERENT** from those given in class and may include an essay approach. They can be taken after school. **You are expected to make these arrangements with me. I will not hunt you down for make-up examinations.**

Homework: A variety of assignments will be due **ON TIME!** **ALL WORK** should be placed in the **BASKET** on my desk!

Labs & Projects: Grading scale may change to accommodate these activities. Labs are to be turned in **ON TIME.** A lab test will be given periodically through the year. There will be at least one project per quarter.

Technology: We will use the IVDL lab to view currently discussed science topics. Lap top computers will also be used to extend outside the classroom to tap into other scientific resources.

Notebooks: You will need a **three ring binder** to hold ALL of your work. ***YOU will be responsible for holding onto your work for the quarter in case there is a grade discrepancy.*** You will need **loose leaf paper (or computer paper)** to take notes, and **dividers (5)**. Try to also have some sort of **pocket and/or folder** for those items that don't have 3 ring holes and **index cards (optional for vocabulary)**. The notebook does NOT need to be new or pretty (you can make your own dividers). It will be graded on completeness, organization and neatness.

Notebook sections: Notes, Homework, Labs, Quizzes, and Tests

Plagiarism will be dealt with harshly!! **REFER TO ACADEMIC CODE!!!!**

I will treat you like young, respectful, Christian adults and will expect you to treat others the same way! There is NO excuse for rude or bad behavior.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year teaching you!! The subject can be a lot of work but also a lot of fun!! Welcome back to all of you! **Mrs. Vohsing ☺**

avohsing@laca.org

We are also matched with a class in Bulgaria through Worldwide Studies!-(Peace Corps) Pen-pal option

Field trips: Stream studies, classes held outside on occasion-dependng on behavior
Possible Stone Lab Trip-OSU

Speaker: Local people working in the field of environmental science

WEBPAGE*

Go to NC homepage. Click on Academics...click on individual courses...go to Science.....click on Mrs. Vohsing's webpage!! ☺

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