

Environmental Science 2018-19

Course Description

Welcome! I am very excited to begin another school year. Environmental science is a topic that is very broad and comprehensive. In this time in Earth's history we can most likely ALL agree that a working knowledge of our environment and the interactions between living and nonliving things is very important. Our environment is limited and how we take care of our earth is paramount to our existence!

This course will introduce you to many interests that affect our environment. These include economics, political policy, biology, chemistry, geology, human population and growth. The earth will be studied in terms of its soil, water and atmosphere. We will also look to local, national and global environmental problems that are current and some that have been corrected (or minimized). You will see that the solutions to these problems are often complicated. You will be expected to respond with your own ideas and beliefs in terms of where the priorities should be.

The textbook will be the center of this course. It is something you should read and study with each unit. The book is excellent in that it includes a central case study surrounding the 5 units and smaller case studies for each chapter. The text makes great references to these real-life cases throughout the unit and you are given many opportunities to respond to them with activities, labs, and class discussions.

Course requirements:

1. The ability to work hard in and out of the classroom.
2. Spiral notebook, one that will last at least a semester, for notes, homework, etc.
3. Classroom discussions: you are expected to participate. Weekly participation grades will be assigned.
4. You should complete the reading of every assigned chapter, paying close attention to details, graphs, figures and reading checks along the way.
5. Complete all labs and assignments.
6. Come ready to *LEARN* every day!

GRADING SCALE:

93 - 100 = A
90 - 92 = A-

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

Makeup Work:

You have 1 day per absence for makeup work. Lab make up may be difficult at times. Alternate assignments may be used for lab make up. Please see my website for tentative plans/assignments.

Online Text:

You will have access to your text at home with online etext. The textbooks are brand new and you are expected to take care of them or pay for damage.

Extra Credit:

From time to time, I do assign bonus/extra credit points throughout the semester. Take advantage of these opportunities when they are offered. Overall, please concern yourself with regular credit. Do NOT ask me to round your grade up at the end of a marking period or semester.

Classroom Rules:

Please see my web page (or on my classroom wall) if you need to see them again after we go over them.

Cell Phones:

Cell phones should be placed on back table before class starts. I will let you know when you can use your phone for class assignments/activities/projects. Also, I will follow the cell phone policy listed in the IMHS Student Handbook.

Mr. Waitrovich

Go Mountaineers!!!

