



Environmental Systems

Instructor: Tate Jaeger
Room: 250
Conference: 6th Period
Tutoring: By Appointment
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Course Overview

This course is an introduction to the essential topics in environmental systems. In this class, students will conduct laboratory investigations, use the scientific method, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving.

Text

Environmental Science, Heithaus & Arms (2013)

Required Materials

Students are expected to show up to class every day with the following items.

- Computer
- Writing utensil

Course Objectives

The objectives of this course are in line with TEKS Environmental Systems standards.

Course Organization

The following chart show the progression of this class through the year.

| Semester 1 | Semester 2 |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Introduction to the Environment | Populations |
| Ecological Dynamics | Pollution |
| Environmental Resources & Systems | Climate Change |
| Energy Flow & Interactions | Environmental Ethics, Research, & Laws |
| Natural Patterns in the Environment | |

Grading

60% Assignments

- In class work
- Homework
- Journals
- Labs

40% Assessments

- Tests
- Quizzes
- Projects

Grading Scale

| Percentage | Letter Grade |
|------------|--------------|
| 90-100% | A |
| 80-89% | B |
| 75-79% | C |
| 70-74% | D |
| <69% | F |



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Expectations

The following norms are expected in this class

- One person speaks at a time
- Kind language will be used when speaking to others
- Phones will be kept away during instruction
- Students will be productive

Consequence Ladder

If a student doesn't meet the expectations set by the class, the consequence ladder will take effect.

1. Verbal warning from the teacher
 2. Conversation with the teacher in class
 3. Call Home
 4. Counselor referral
 5. Office referral
- ❖ Severity Clause

Absence Policy

When a student returns to school after an absence check with the teacher before or after school or during independent work time for the makeup work. If a lab or test is missed, students must schedule an appointment to make up the lab or test before or after school. All work, labs, and tests **MUST** be made up within 20 days of a student's return.

Late Work Policy

All assignments are due at the beginning of the period. Any work handed in late will receive a 10% deduction each day past the due date.

Academic Integrity

Science is a subject involving collaboration. Students working together on labs should collect the same data; however, any conclusions made with that data should not be identical to that of peers. It is okay to discuss conclusions that can be made from group data, but it is not okay to copy a peer's conclusion verbatim. This is academic dishonesty. It is also academic dishonesty to directly copy text from any source. Any work that a student hands in **MUST** be in their own words. If a student is found to be academically dishonest, they will receive a zero for that assignment.