

Environmental Science 2016-17

Syllabus



Instructor: Ms. Diane Collins

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Course Description:

This course introduces students to environmental concepts and issues from an interdisciplinary approach. Environmental issues and controversies will be explored from ecological, biological, social, economic, ethical, and governmental policy positions. Students will gain an understanding of the basic scientific method, tools, and techniques needed to understand and analyze environmental issues such as population growth, resource depletion, industrial and municipal pollution (air, water & trash), climate change, alternative energy and sustainability.

Students will be graded on all that they do for this course, including 10 percent for participation. This means coming to class prepared and ready to learn, as well as appropriately participating in class discussions and activities. A large portion of the course will be project-based.

Grading Policies for Homework and Classwork:

- Late assignments will lose credit for each day late.
- All homework assignments must be turned in within two weeks of the due date or receive a grade of "F" in my gradebook.
- All assignments with scores below 80% may be corrected to earn back half credit (up to an 80%). Corrections must be *correct* and turned in within one week of being passed back. Some corrections may require additional work to show understanding.

Organization:

- I have provided a yellow folder to store classwork/homework assignments and the first project. Roughly every two projects will require a new folder that you will provide. If you wish, you may use your own method of organization.
- At the end of each unit, folders should be safely stored at home.
- Students will keep a journal that I have provided and that is usually left in class.

I look forward to an eventful year of exploration into our natural world and our impact!