



**District of Columbia Public Schools
Duke Ellington School of the Arts
Science Department
Environmental Science Syllabus
SY 2009-2010**



Course Title: Environmental Science

Textbook/Authors: Environmental Science/Arms, Savannah, Georgia (Holt 2008)

Credits/Units: 1 Carnegie Credit

Teacher: Mr. Joaquin Peña

Teacher E-mail: jpenamedina@yahoo.com

Class Web Page: www.freewebs.com/jpenamedina

Tutoring/Help: Each day before 8:30AM, (when possible), At Lunch Time (11:30-12:30) or After 1:55PM each day (When possible).

Contact Hours: Monday's Schedule: 45 minutes, Regular Schedule: (Tu. thru Fr.): 90 Minutes

Overview Course Description: Environmental Science is the study of the environment and the factors that affects it including the population. You will be able to understand and explain things that occur around you. You will explore the relation between the environment and the humans and how this affects every aspect of your life. The course requires your full attention and as part of the evaluation, labs are required. Labs are a very important part of the course where you apply and investigate various concepts.

Content Standards: Students will study various scientific concepts under the following Environmental Science Standards:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. Scientific Investigation and Inquiry | 5. Natural Resources |
| 2. Environmental Systems | 6. Watersheds and Wetlands |
| 3. Ecosystems | 7. Energy in the Earth System |
| 4. Population | 8. Environmental Quality |

Materials Needed:

The following materials are required **EACH TIME** you come to class:

1 Composition Notebook for class notes.

Pencils with eraser.

(Other materials not listed here will be required. When request it, you must bring the materials.)

Evaluation:

The performance in the course will be evaluated by the following evaluation criteria:

-Tests (will be announced with at least 2 days in advance.)

-Daily Work (including attendance, lateness, completing work, bringing materials, failing to observe rules, etc)

-Notebook (Students **MUST** take notes. The teacher will inspect the notebook daily. Each advisory, they have to show all the notes taken during the advisory. The notebook is one grade.)

- Pop Quizzes (may or may not be announced)
- Lab Reports (Each report is due on the very same lab day. Reports are based on the lab experience.)
- Environmental Science Project (1 each advisory)
- Classwork (Work done in class such as practice problems, etc.)
- Homework or Assignments (Will not be accepted if they are not delivered in the requested day)
- Handouts Portfolio (During each advisory, handouts will be given. They help to study and understand each topic. Students must prepare a portfolio with them. One portfolio each advisory.)

Grade Policy:

The course grade will be as follows:

- A+= 93-100
- A = 90-92
- B+= 87-89
- B = 83-86
- B-= 80-82
- C+= 79-77
- C = 73-76
- C-= 70-72
- D+= 67-69
- D = 64-66
- F= 63-0

Course Policy, Rules and Expectations

1) Environmental Science is a course that requires time and study. Attendance is mandatory always. Students are expected to be seated when the second bell rings. At the second bell, door will be closed and you need to get a pass in the main office. Students with more than 5 unexcused absences will be notified to the Chair of Student and their grade will change automatically to an FA (Fail due to Attendance). If you were absent during a test, you need to have an excuse in order to take the make up test. A period of 4 days after receiving the excuse will be granted for taking the missed test. Contact the teacher to coordinate the make up test.

2) Homework is not accepted if you don't bring it. Labs are a required part of the course, so you need to be here. ***YOU CAN'T MAKE UP A LAB*** without bringing a valid excuse (medical excuse, etc). If a valid excuse is not provided, the lab score will be 0.

3) Late students can't enter the room without a pass. Consecutive lateness will cost you points of your grade. As possible, the class material will be posted in the class web page, so if you are absent, you can check the current work in there. Nevertheless, don't rely on this. ***YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DAILY WORK, TEST, QUIZZES, ETC, EVEN IF YOU ARE ABSENT.*** If the material is not in the web page, you're still responsible for the material. Don't hesitate to talk to the teacher or send an e-mail if you have a question, remember...the teacher can help, but you have to do your part.

4) Students should respect themselves, their peers and the teacher. Always come prepared to work. You should take care of the things before entering the room. Once in the room, permission will not be given to look for class stuff. ***ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD OR DRINKS IN THE CLASSROOM AND/OR ELECTRONIC DEVICES SUCH AS IPOD, PSP, RECORDERS, CELL PHONES, ETC. THESE DEVICES WILL BE CONFISCATED IF SEEN.***

5) Failing to follow these expectations will ***COST YOU*** points from your daily work and eventually, will affect your overall grade.

Acknowledge of Understanding Course Policies

I have read and understand the stated expectations, course policy, rules and grading policies presented for the Environmental Science Course. I agree to follow all the expectations, policies and rules. If I fail to follow them, I understand that it could affect my grade in the Environmental Science course.

Student Signature

Date

Period

Parent Signature

Date