

Global Science

Syllabus

The goal of this class is to introduce you to the way in which science is all around you. Ecology and the environment will be stressed throughout the text. This class will require you to work and think about the ideas and concepts presented. The mathematics, hopefully, will be simplified and detailed memorization will be limited. For most of you this class will present a challenge (because of pace), but one which can be met by continuous DAILY work. The grades you receive will be the ones you earn.

There will be LIMITED Extra Credit!!!

Your grade will be based on a percentaged point system so it will be easy for you to keep track of your grades. Students are encouraged to keep track of their grades.

Your grades will be based on the following criteria:

TESTS - at least two tests per nine weeks will be given, preferably three, each worth 100 points. A review day will precede each test to answer any questions and wrap up the chapter. Expect tests to be a combination of multiple choice and essays. I retain tests for future use.

EXAMS - I believe in comprehensive semester exams which will be about 20 % of your semester grade.

QUIZZES - at least one a week ranging from 10 to 50 points. Quizzes can be short answer, essay, or problem solving. Only 10 point quizzes may not be announced.

WORKSHEETS - are issued to reinforce a concept that is difficult to get across and are almost always problem solving in nature. Point value will vary.

HOMEWORK - There will be some assignments, which you will need to spend some time outside of class. Points will vary.

LAB REPORTS - On the average of at least one lab per chapter with varying points each lab will be recorded with a net value of 20 points.

CURRENT EVENTS - Since the class is designed to make you more aware of the world around you, we will discuss topics in the news that relate to the topics we are covering. You will be required to find articles in the media (newspaper,

magazines, or internet) which either involves ecology, the environment, ornithology, or a current class topic. A short summary of the article as well as a copy of the article is to be turned in. I expect articles not news briefs. (50 points per grading period)

ORNITHOLOGY NOTEBOOK - You will keep a notebook of bird sightings, which will be graded each 9 weeks for content. Final project due at the end of the year. (100 points per grading period)

Homework is expected to be done, even if not collected for a grade. The intent of homework is not to create busywork, but to strengthen concepts presented in class and should not take more than one-half hour to complete most of it.

DUE DATES - All assignments will be posted and are to be written down. Homework is due the day after it is assigned. Worksheets are usually due at the end of the period. Lab reports are due two days after the work is completed. A grace period of one week will be allowed for any late papers, with a letter grade deduction for being late. Half credit given for work, which is over a week late. **NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER the last Monday of the nine-weeks. DUE DATES ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND I WILL NOT ALWAYS REMIND YOU OF LATE WORK.**

The absence and tardy policies of the school will be strictly enforced. You are tardy if you are not visibly in the room, ready to begin, when the bell rings. Repetitive, excused tardies will be questioned. It will be your responsibility to find out and complete assignments you miss either by checking with the teacher or asking your peers. Do not interrupt class to ask me about late assignments. Grace period will not be extended. Tests and quizzes will be made up during study halls or after school. If you miss only the day of the test, you will take it the day you return unless we start a new chapter. If you miss only the review day, you are expected to take the test with the class.

I expect you to come to class prepared to work. That means with paper, for notes and pop quizzes, something to write with, and a folder. I can not adequately stress how important it is to keep up with this class. Let me know if you need some extra help and we will arrange a time to meet. I stay late after school and can come in a little early, if need be. The one thing I am not is a mind reader so communication is essential.

I expect a really good year!