Honors Environmental Science

Semester: Fall 2019                                                    Kent Island High School
Teacher: Megan Cloutier                                                      Credit: One
Department: Science                                                      Prerequisite: Biology
Room: 203
Email: megan.cloutier@qacps.org

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Honors environmental science is a rigorous course designed to highlight basic ecological concepts and emphasize the impact humans have on the biosphere. Some areas that we will focus on are contemporary issues such as air and water pollution, global climate change, ozone depletion, acid rain, hazardous and solid waste, alternative energy resources, deforestation, overfishing, biodiversity, endangered species, and their ecological, economic, and human health impacts.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

The students will:
- Explain how matter and energy move through the biosphere
- Investigate the interdependence of organisms within their biotic environment
- Analyze the relationships between humans and the Earth’s resources
- Develop and apply knowledge and skill gained from an environmental investigation to an action project or projects which protect and sustain the environment

COURSE OUTLINE: * this outline is tentative and may change throughout the semester *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Time Frame for Semester (approximate)</th>
<th>Time Frame for Hybrid year long course (approximate)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>Intro to Environmental Science</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-7</td>
<td>Earth’s Ecosystems</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>9 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-10</td>
<td>Populations/Biodiversity</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-15</td>
<td>Water, Air, and Land</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>8 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>16-19, 20-21</td>
<td>Mineral and Energy Resources/ Human Health and the Future</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>8 weeks</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**EXPLANATION OF ASSESSMENTS**

Students will be graded using a variety of methods, including but not limited to: daily assignments, tests and quizzes, labs, notebooks, projects, and a final exam. **TESTS will be announced - QUIZZES may be unannounced.**

**GRADING POLICY:**
- Progress (Formative) assessments (assignments, quizzes, homework, labs, notebooks, midterm) - 40%
- Mastery (Summative) Assessments (tests, projects) - 45%
- Final Exam - 15% of final grade

**TEXTBOOK:**
Environmental Science: Holt - McDougal, 2013

**MATERIALS NEEDED FOR CLASS:**
1. Textbook
2. (1 inch) 3 ring binder (for this class only)
3. 8 dividers
4. Paper reinforcers (1 pack)
5. Pencils and blue or black pens
6. Highlighter
7. Calculator
8. Paper – both lined and graphing
9. Fully charged laptop (with charger, needed daily!)

**ASSIGNMENTS & EXAMS POLICY:**
1. Keep your course notebooks neat, organized, and up-to-date. This includes ALL papers handed out in class, warm ups, notes, and labs. **Notebooks will be graded periodically.**

**Late Assignments**
- Late assignments are those that are submitted late not due to an absence.
  - Late work will be accepted with the following restrictions:
    - Work must be turned in within 3 days of the due date (unless circumstances for an extension have been approved by the teacher and/or administration).
Work accepted after the expected due date may be subjected to a lower grade due to lateness, not to exceed a maximum reduction of 30%.

Work will be collected at the beginning of class and placed in the appropriate bin.

2. Retakes/Revision (Summative Exams except the midterm and final):
   Students will be allowed to retake or revise summative assessments (with the exception of midterm and final exams) within 10 school days from the time the test is returned if they score 69% or less and they may earn up to a 70%. Grades may not be averaged and the student’s new grade is to reflect the higher grade up to a 70%. The student, NOT the teacher, has the responsibility to schedule a make-up test.

4. Once a month students will turn in one current event article summary (two pages typed doubled spaced, 12 pt. font) with the article printed/torn out/or copied and attached to their summary that incorporates/discusses/provides an example of an aspect of environmental science. Sources that may be used are valid Internet sites, newspaper articles, magazine articles, and scientific journal articles. Each summary will be worth 48 points which will quickly add up over the semester so be sure to complete them! If you need help locating a source please let me know ASAP. Rubrics for these will be handed out in class. Students can earn 5 bonus points if they share their article in class.

5. Students will be completing some projects outside of class as well as in class. Details for these will be discussed in class at a later date.

HOMEWORK POLICY:

Students will receive various homework assignments throughout the semester which can include but are not limited to worksheets, projects, surveys, and research projects. Homework assignments will be graded on a point system or checked for completion the next day in class.

EXTRA CREDIT:

There will be times throughout the semester in which students will have the opportunity to earn extra credit points. These opportunities will be announced and explained by the instructor prior to students receiving the assignment.

CLASSROOM GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS & PROCEDURES:

1. Come to class on time with your required materials every day ready to work and be in your seat before the bell rings, otherwise you are considered tardy.
   a. First Offense - Verbal Warning
b. Second Offense - Parent Notification
   c. Third Offense - After School Detention
   d. Fourth Offense - Referral

2. Display courtesy and respect to yourself, others, learning, and property at all times.
3. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking.
4. Remain in your seat unless the instructor gives you permission otherwise.
5. Save pencil-sharpening, trash, and asking questions relevant to the material, for after instruction time.
6. Work only on environmental science material during class time unless you have the instructor’s permission to work on something else.
7. Follow all laboratory rules at all times as outlined in the Laboratory Safety Contract.
8. Mobile learning devices (cellphones) and laptops may only be used only with the teacher’s permission. All other times they must be on silent and put away in your backpack.

IF YOU ARE ABSENT FROM CLASS:

For a day:
   a. Get missed notes from a classmate and/or Google Classroom and see the teacher for your makeup work which can be found in the absentee folder in the classroom. If you have questions about an assignment ask the teacher before or after class.

For multiple days:
   a. Parents/guardians should be encouraged to communicate regarding make-up work that may be completed while the student is out of school. It is the student’s responsibility to turn in the work to the teacher. Parents/Guardians can also make arrangements to have make-up work picked up in the Guidance Office. A student shall be allowed a reasonable number of days, at least equivalent to the number of days absent, to make up work. All make-up work will be graded in accordance with the regular classroom grading policy and must be completed within the established time period.

Note to Student:
My sincere hope is for you to be successful in this class and to have fun in the process. Please do not hesitate to come see me if you are having problems (don’t wait until things get out of hand). I am here to help you be successful and encourage you to do your best ☺ Finally, this is an elective class. As such you have elected to take the class and are expected to participate in and complete all assigned work. Let’s work together for your success!
Note to Parents/Guardians:
My goal in this class is your student’s success. Please ask him/her often to see progress reports, tests, and assignments or log on to Parent Portal to view current grades. Please do not hesitate to email me anytime if you have a question or concern regarding your student’s progress. You can reach me first block (8:00 - 9:25) or after school on Tuesdays. I look forward to working with you and your student this year!

* Please read, fill out, sign, & return the attached forms. *

Thank you!
Honors Environmental Science Syllabus  
(complete the back of this sheet as well please) →

Dad/Guardian name_______________________________________

Home phone______________________________________________

Address__________________________________________________

E-mail address____________________________________________

Work place________________________________________________

Work phone_______________________________________________

Mom/Guardian name________________________________________

Home phone_______________________________________________

Address__________________________________________________

E-mail address____________________________________________

Work place________________________________________________

Work phone_______________________________________________

Please feel free to write any other information you would like me to know in the space provided below. If extra space is needed you may use the back of this page.

Thank you!
* NOTE to Parent/Guardian *

Parent Portal is the QACPS website that allows you to see your student’s current grades by going to the Internet. If you are not already signed up, please call the guidance office (410-643-7172) for more information.

I have read and understand the information given on the attached syllabus, and I will do my best to uphold my responsibilities in Honors Environmental Science.

Date: __________________________

Student name: ____________________________________________ (please print)

Student signature: ____________________________________________

Parent/Guardian name: ______________________________________ (please print)

Parent/Guardian signature: ____________________________________

Does your student have any allergies? Please list below:
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

Any other information that I should know about your student:
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________