



Environmental Science Syllabus 2015-2016

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Course Description: This course is a study of how the environment works, how we interact with the environment, and how we can live more sustainably. It will emphasize and develop critical thinking and decision-making skills needed to analyze the complex issues concerning the challenges facing our environment. For specific content and characteristics of science objectives, please refer to the GPS website at:

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/standards/Georgia%20Performance%20Standards/EnvironmentalScienceStandards-Approved2006.pdf>.

For science literacy standards, please refer to: https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Documents/CCGPS_11-12_SS-Science-Tech-Literacy_Standards.pdf

Syllabus Objectives

Unit	Unit Title	Standards/Topics/Content	Corresponding Chapters in text	Approximate Time (weeks)
1	Understanding the Environment	SEV4 a,d,f: Availability, allocation, & conservation of energy and resources SEV5c,d: Effect of human activities on ecosystems	1, 2	4 weeks
2	The Living World	SEV1 a-f: Flow of energy & cycling of matter SEV 2 a-d: Earth as one interconnected system SEV3 a-e: Stability & change in ecosystems SEV5 a: Factors affecting Population growth	3-6	9 weeks
3	Human Population and Pollution	SEV5 b, e: Effects of population growth and pollution	7, 11, 14-17	12 weeks
4	Energy Resource and consumption	SEV4 b, c, d & e: utilization, consumption, accessibility and availability of commonly used and alternative fuels.	12-13	5 weeks
5	Sustaining Biodiversity & Human Societies	SEV5 c, d & f: global ecosystems, human activity influence and technology on ecosystems; local sustainability, political, legal, social and economic awareness	8-10, 18	6 weeks

Text: *Environmental Science, 11th edition*. By G. T. Miller, Thomson Brooks/Cole, 2006; **Replacement cost: \$72.00**

Materials (please bring daily to class): textbook, 3-ringed binder with dividers, paper, black/blue pens, #2 pencils, red pen, highlighter, scientific calculator.

CLASSROOM RULES:

- Obey all school rules.
- Be polite and respectful. Listen when someone else is talking. Respect other's property.
- Be prompt, prepared (with required materials), alert and ready to learn. Follow all class procedures.
- Unacceptable behavior during a lab or class activity will result in a grade of ZERO for that activity.
- No food or drinks** other than bottled water may be consumed in the science classroom. During labs, no bottled or chewing gum is allowed.



water

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES:

1. Student Responsibility: You are expected to be respectful towards your teacher, classmates and the property of others. Correction of student misconduct will be according to Northview High School and Fulton County policies.

2. Grading Procedure:

Tests/Projects: 35% Labs: 25% Quizzes: 10% Formative Assessments (Homework / Classwork): 15% Final Exam: 15%

3. Grading Scale: A= 90 and above B= 80-89 C=70-79 F= 69 and below

4. Seating Chart: Every student will be assigned a place to sit in the class. Seating assignments will be changed periodically.

5. Tardy Students: Students must be in their seats and ready to begin work when the bell rings. The tardy policy **per 6 weeks** is:



1st Tardy: Verbal Warning

2nd Tardy: Verbal Warning and Teacher Intervention

3rd Tardy: Office Managed (referral to administrator)

6. Leaving the Room: Students must use the time between classes to take care of personal matters. No student may leave the room during the first & last 10 minutes of class. No lining up at the door before the bell rings. A pass is required to leave the room.

7. Student Participation: Students are expected to pay attention and contribute to class discussion, activities and labs. This includes taking notes. Be an active learner. Do not be afraid to ask questions! If you don't understand something, please come in for help.

8. Honor Code Policy: As explained in the student handbook, cheating is defined as "the giving or receiving, in any form, information relating to a gradable experience." Violations of the honor code will result in a zero for the assignment, plus an honor code violation form placed in the student's disciplinary file. Read the handbook carefully to fully understand what constitutes a violation. The Honor Code policy will be strictly enforced. For major assessments, a formal Honor Code statement will be signed.

Upon teacher request, students may be required to email assignments to **turnitin.com**. The website checks the submission for plagiarism, and reports to the teacher that the student's work was not copied from any source.

9. Formative Assessments: Homework and Classwork will be assessed regularly. It may be graded based on accuracy or for completion/effort only. Classwork is comprised of activities that we do in class but are not labs. **In addition to assigned homework, students are expected to read each chapter in the textbook.**

10. Late Work: All work is due at the beginning of class on the date it is due. Late homework will be accepted for 50% credit up until the unit test date. Labs and projects will be accepted late for a penalty of 10% each day.

11. Make-up Work: You are responsible for making up all missed work. You will have 1 day per excused absence day to make up the work. **Labs, tests and quizzes must be scheduled promptly with the teacher upon return.** Pop quizzes do not need to be made-up. **You will have 1 week to make-up any missed labs** unless there are verifiable, extenuating circumstances. Assignments issued prior to the absence, including tests and quizzes scheduled for the day of return, are due upon the student's return. Students who are present for any portion of the school day (i.e. field trip) are expected to turn in all assignments due on that day to receive full credit. An excused absence makes the student eligible to receive full credit for making up the work missed. Extracurricular activities are not an excuse for not having time to do make-ups. Failure to make up a test or lab results in a grade of zero. Make-up work is to be handed directly to the teacher.

12. Missed Work: There will be a "Missed Work" binder in the room. I will place a copy of the weekly agenda, listing activities and homework, and any handouts for each day in the binder. **It is your duty to check the binder and get the material (notes, homework, handouts) that you missed.** A good idea is to have a "study buddy" to copy notes from and keep you informed.

13. Quizzes and Tests: Scheduled and "Pop" quizzes will be given to assess the level of student's understanding. There will be a test after the completion of every chapter or unit. Lab Performance Assessments and projects will be counted as a test or quiz grade.

14. Notebooks: Notebooks will include the syllabus, handouts, notes, labs, class work, homework, and quizzes/tests. Please save **all** your work to study for your cumulative final exam.

15. Lab Experiments: There will be lab experiments and hands-on activities in this course. It is critical that you listen carefully to instructions and perform the labs in a safe and accurate manner. Responsible lab behavior is expected of all students. Lab equipment is shared among all classes, so you will be responsible for paying for the replacement of any lab equipment that you break. Splash goggles and closed-toed shoes are required for labs involving chemical use.



16. Help Sessions: Extra help is available before and after school. Please see your teacher to arrange a mutually agreeable time.

17. Provision for Improving Grades (formerly known as the "recovery" policy) - Updated from Board Policy Docs -Aug 2011

Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade will be allowed when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Students should contact the teacher concerning recovery opportunities. Teachers are expected to establish a reasonable time period for recovery work to be completed during the semester. All recovery work must be directly related to course objectives and must be completed ten school days prior to the end of the semester.

Teachers will determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades.

18. Progress Reports: Progress reports will be issued every six weeks. Parents/guardians may access their children's assignments, grades, attendance, and discipline records via **Home Access Center**. Please visit www.northviewhigh.com.