



**Environmental Science Course Syllabus**  
**Wilby High School**  
**2014-2015**  
**Mr. Geanacopoulos**

**Course Description:** This course provides a broad overview and aspects of earth science, ecology, Biodiversity, energy sources, pollution, and sustainability.

**Wilby Core Values and Beliefs:** “The Students, faculty, staff, and administration of Wilby High School will work cooperatively with families, members of the community, and the Board of Education to create a safe, welcoming, and academic environment which embraces, challenges, and nurtures the diverse talents, interests, and learning styles of all its students. All students will leave Wilby High School with the self-respect, respect for others, knowledge, and skills necessary to become independent, intellectually curious, and self-fulfilled members of society.”

**RULES:**

1. HAVE RESPECT. That goes for each other, for teachers, for you, and for the classroom. Rude behavior will NOT be tolerated.
2. Use common sense. You are responsible for your own actions and will be disciplined accordingly.
3. Come to class on time and with the proper materials to complete the assignments.
4. NO CELL PHONES ARE ALLOWED IN CLASS. If caught with a phone during class time it WILL be confiscated and returned at the end of the day OR turned into your Vice Principal if deemed necessary. In addition, if you are seen with a cell phone during an assignment/assessment you will receive a ZERO on that task assuming you are cheating or photographing something you shouldn't be. (\*emergency's OK, just go into the hall after asking the teacher, as not to disrupt the class.)
5. You are responsible for your make-up work if you miss class. (Refer to folders on board). However, if you skip a class you will not be able to make up the work.

**Seating:** You will have assigned seating. I reserve the right to change seating at any time.

**Cheating/Plagiarism:** Cheating will not be tolerated. If there is a test being administered and I catch you cheating, you will receive a zero. Plagiarism is not tolerated. If I find that you have plagiarized in any way, you will receive a zero on the assignment and a phone call will be placed to your parents.

**EXPECTATIONS:**

- **Arrive to class on time**
- **Bring proper supplies for the class (notebook, writing utensil, assignments, etc.)**
- **Mature attitude and respectful demeanor**
- **Participate in discussion**
- **Hand work in on time**
- **Have fun**

**\*Act like adults****Grading Policy:**

**Tests—35%**, Tests will usually be given after each chapter is completed to assess retention of information covered.

**Quizzes—25%**, Quiz's will be given each week to follow up the most recent topics covered in class, or as deemed necessary to gauge students understanding of the subject.

**Activities—20%**, Class activities include two Independent Science Research Projects that will be explained later on during class. One will be due just before midterms, and the other at the end of the year. Other assorted activities throughout the year will also be performed depending on the topic.

**Class work/Participation—15%**, Students are expected to participate and engage in discussions and during the day. We will cover many issues that are being discussed all over the planet, some controversial, and I want to hear your educated opinions about them. There are issues that threaten different aspects of all our lives and as such a need for solutions.

**Homework—5%**, Homework will be in the form of reading, worksheets, or other types of reinforcement to strengthen the students understanding of daily discussions.

**Negative Consequences:**

First time: Verbal Warning

Second Time: Detention/Student-Teacher Conference

Third Time: Detention/Parents Called

Fourth Time: Written Referral to the Office

Fifth Time: Parent-Teacher-Administrator Conference

Severe Disruption: Student sent immediately to the office, phone call home, written referral and a parent-teacher-administrator conference

**Consequence for having an electronic device:**

First offense: Verbal warning

Second offense: Confiscation (pick up at the end of the day)

Third offense: Confiscation and detention (device sent down to office for a parent/guardian to pick up)

**STUDENTS:** I have read this classroom discipline plan and understand it. I will honor it.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Laboratory Safety Guidelines & Contract**

### **General guidelines**

1. Conduct yourself responsibly at all times.
2. Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. Ask questions if you do not understand.
3. No student is allowed in the classroom without a teacher. If there is no teacher in the room, DO NOT ENTER!
4. Do not touch any equipment or materials before instructed to do so.
5. NO FOOD IN THE LAB!!!
6. Never start the lab unless you have received prior approval from me.
7. Always read the lab packet before you perform the lab.
8. Keep your work area neat and clean.
9. Leave your backpack under your chair at all times (never in the aisles, or in the lab area).
10. Never leave liquid-filled containers uncovered.
11. Know the location and operation of all safety equipment.
12. Do not run, shout, or throw things in the lab.
13. Notify me if an unsafe condition exists in the classroom.
14. Dispose of all chemicals properly. I will instruct you about how to dispose of specific chemicals.
15. Keep your hands away from your face while doing labs. Also, always wash your hands after the clean-up is complete.
16. Rinse out all glassware and leave it to dry in the designated locations.
17. Stay at your lab bench during labs.
18. Know what to do if there is a fire drill.
19. Treat preserved biological specimens respectfully
20. Carry sharps appropriately; tips down and away.

### **Accidents**

1. Immediately report ALL injuries, no matter how minor, to me.
2. Use the eyewash or shower if you are splashed with a chemical. Always assume that the chemicals are hazardous.

### **Clothing**

1. Goggles, aprons and gloves must be worn.
2. Contact lenses should be avoided
3. Only close-toed shoes may be worn on lab days.
4. Tie long hair behind your head.
5. No loose clothing or jewelry.

### **Handling Chemicals**

1. Consider all lab chemicals to be hazardous.
2. Double check the label before using a chemical
3. Take only the amount of chemical you will use.
4. Never return unused chemicals to their original container (see # 14 above).
5. Never let a chemical near your mouth.

6. Never remove chemicals or other materials from the lab.
7. Always hold chemical bottles with two hands when transporting them.

### **Handling Glassware**

1. Never handle broken glass. If a piece of glassware breaks, notify me immediately and I will dispose of it.
2. Never use chipped glassware.

### **Heating Substances**

1. Use caution when heating something with a Bunsen burner. Do not put any substance in the flame, and always light the burner at arm's length.
2. Never leave a lit burner unattended.
3. Never look into a container that is being heated.

## **Laboratory Contract Agreement**

### **Student**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the guidelines listed in the attached document. I promise to follow these guidelines. I understand that failure to follow these or other verbal guidelines may result in removal from the lab, detention, failure and/or dismissal from the course.

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Signature

Date

