

## FORSYTH COUNTY COURSE SYLLABUS 2020 – 2021

**COURSE TITLE: Environmental Science**

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**Textbook:** We will have a small **class set** of Holten *Environmental Science* in the classroom. Replacement cost: \$69.85 Personal use textbooks may be checked out through the Media Center, or students may access a PDF version on ITS Learning. **Learning Resources/Textbook(s):** All learning resources, both print and digital, are meant to support and enhance the student learning experience of this class. Below are the names of the textbooks and websites that will be used in this course. Some of the web-based resources require parent permission per federal regulations. Federal laws that guide parent permission requirements are as follows:

- **Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA):** The school is required by CIPA to have technology measures and policies in place that protect students from harmful materials including those that are obscene and pornographic. Any harmful content contained within inappropriate sites will be blocked.  
<http://fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.html>
- **Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA):** COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under 13 years of age. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes. <https://www.ftc.gov/tips-advice/business-center/guidance/complying-coppa-frequently-asked-questions-0>
- **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):** FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents the right to review records. Under FERPA, schools may disclose directory information in certain circumstances.  
<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

Please review the resource list. Each website related to the curriculum resources is provided along with their privacy policies. Should you have any questions regarding these resources immediately contact the course teacher via email or phone.

Name of Resource*	Digital	Privacy Policy
Earth Science - Holt, Rinehart & Winston Glencoe (2008)	<a href="#">Digital Access</a> On-level	<a href="#">Permissions</a>
Living in the Environment - Cengage (2014)	<a href="#">Owl Access</a> Advanced Placement	<a href="#">Permissions</a>
Georgia Virtual School	<a href="#">Environmental Science</a> On-level <a href="#">AP Environmental Science</a> <a href="#">Earth Systems</a>	<a href="http://www.gavirtuallearning.org/terms.aspx">http://www.gavirtuallearning.org/terms.aspx</a>
Discovery Education	<a href="#">Classlink Access SEV1-5</a> <a href="#">Classlink Access SES1-6</a>	<a href="#">Discovery Media</a> Terms of Use
NewsELA Environmental Science	<a href="#">Classlink Access</a> CLEVER	<a href="#">NewsELA Privacy Policy</a>

\* The following resources are county approved. These resources may vary by school due to sequencing, pacing, curriculum design, and/or individual needs of students.

Parent Initial for Approval **	Name of Resource	Website	Privacy Policy
	NSTA Podcast for the Classroom	<a href="#">Blick on Flicks</a>	<a href="#">Policy</a>
	M.I.T. OpenCourseware	<a href="#">M.I.T. Science, Technology, &amp; Society</a>	<a href="#">Privacy Policy</a>
	HHMI biointeractive	<a href="#">Classroom Resources</a>	<a href="#">Ed Framework In Progress</a>

**\*\* The following resources are web-based resources that require parent permission. By signing the syllabus, the parent is approving these resources. Should you have any questions regarding any of these classroom resources, please contact your student's teacher via email.**

**Materials Needed:** Your student will need a notebook that is at least 8.5x11 inches, pens, and pencils. **Optional (but recommended)** materials are dividers, organizational folder, colored pencils, and highlighters (3 colors for study purposes).

**Course Description:** The Environmental Science curriculum is designed to extend student investigations that began in grades K-8. It integrates the study of many components of our environment, including the human impact on our planet. The concepts integrated into this course include: flow of energy & cycling of matter, interconnection of all life, stability and change in an ecosystem, conservation and resource allocation, and evaluation of human activity and technology.

**Course Standards:** Course Standards can be found at [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org) or you can post them on your webpage and/or offer a copy to parents. Students and parents must be made aware of how you will provide standards and how they can gain access to them.

**Teacher Expectations for Students:** Students are expected to attend class prepared with all materials including the correct notebook and a writing utensil. In addition, students are expected to complete assignments on time.

**Itslearning:** ITS Learning is our online resource center. It has our class calendar (under the Planner), all the assignments of each unit, general information about the class, and much more. You are expected to log on at least once a day. Checking ITS is how you will stay prepared for class. It is your job to know what is there. You will be responsible for printing your pages for the week. If you do not have a printer at home there is a printer in the library. If you have any questions about how to use ITS or where to find something, do not hesitate to ask.

#### **Student Expectations for Teacher:**

Students can expect formative grades to be returned and posted within 5 days. Summative assignments will be returned and posted within 10 days. Usually you can expect your grades to be posted well before these deadlines. On rare occasion I too may need a short extension, especially with longer projects. I will notify you when your work is submitted if I will need more time.

If, for whatever reason, your work does not meet expectations there will be several options to improve your grade. First, at the end of each unit students will have the opportunity to replace their lowest quiz grade with their summative test grade upon completion of their test review (which must be turned in the day of the test). Another opportunity will be to do test corrects on 1 summative per semester. The student will receive half credit for each right answer corrected. The student must complete test corrections during the recovery time in class. Also, at the midterm and final exam periods, grade replacement opportunity will be offered. In order to earn grade replacement, students will need to complete additional study materials and turn in before the exam. The student will then be able to replace the lowest summative assessment with the grade earned on the corresponding midterm or final. I am always available to communicate with you and your parents. The quickest way to reach me is via email. I will respond within 24 hours, usually within a few hours. You or your parents can use email to schedule a phone conference or a meeting. If there is a specific issue with your behavior or performance in class your parents can expect a phone call. If you or your parents have any questions or concerns please never hesitate to get in touch.

**Standards:** You can find the course standards on the course itslearning page. I will also have copies available at our curriculum night.

#### **Safety Goggles**

To reduce the possible spread COVID-19 by lab safety goggles, every lab will be equipped with a spray bottle of 70% isopropyl alcohol solution to sterilize goggles between each use. Students are welcome to bring their own goggles provided the goggles meet safety standards. They must be splash proof and have a Z87+ impact rating. The linked goggles should meet the safety guidelines required at most colleges as well. Safety glasses are not acceptable protection. Suitable goggles are linked below. An electronic copy of the syllabus can be accessed on Itslearning so that you can follow the links.

Flinnsci.com [AP3306](#) or [AP3309 for Fog Free.](#)

Amazon.com - [Green Safety Goggles](#)

#### **Grading Policy:**

A = 90 – 100

#### **Grading Calculations – NON-EOCT, Yearlong Course**

*Course Average* = Semester 1 (50%) + Semester 2 (50%)

Midterm and Final Exams count as 2 summative assessments each.

*Semester Grade* = 75% Summative + 25% Formative

B = 80 – 89  
 C = 70 – 79  
 Failing = Below 70

**Required Assignments:** Students will be required to complete a semester project as well as numerous formative assignments such as labs, worksheets, diagrams, and quizzes. At the end of each unit the students will have 1 summative assessment. **“Summative evaluations may not be given until ALL formative feedback has been returned”**

**Year at a Glance:**

FALL SEMESTER 2020	SPRING SEMESTER 2021
1 – Human	5 – Water
2 – Air	8 – Agriculture
3 – Evolution	9 – Livestock
4 – Reproduction	10 – Stewardship
<b>Midterm</b>	<b>Final</b>

**Late Work:** All work is due IN CLASS on the due date. Assignments, and even tests, will be marked as **MISSING** in Parent Portal until they are turned in/made up. Missing assignments not turned in at the end of a semester will become a permanent zero in the gradebook.

- “As your teacher, I will hold you responsible for late work and missing assignments by labeling them as MISSING in Student Portal. In an effort to create opportunities for all students to turn in late or missing assignments, LASSO will be available on Saturdays throughout each semester as well as Lunch and Learn support available daily.”

**Makeup Work:** All missed work and assessments are **the responsibility of the student** when they are absent from school. A student who is **absent** on the class **day before** a regularly scheduled assessment will be responsible for completing the assignment **on the regularly scheduled day and time**. Students who have been absent more than two consecutive days (including the assessment day) will be given five (5) school days to make up the assessment and/or other assignments. This does not include major projects, research papers, etc., where the deadline has been posted in advance. At teacher’s discretion, a longer period of time to make up work may be granted for extenuating circumstances.

**Guidelines for BYOT Use:**

LHS teachers and students will work together to ensure the most productive learning environment in the classroom. Use of BYOT supports the use of technology devices as a tool in a student’s education.

- Devices are to be “powered down” as the classroom teacher directs.
- Disregard of a directive by the classroom teacher to power down will be addressed with a progressive approach beginning with a verbal warning.
- Continued disregard of a directive by the classroom teacher to power down may be considered insubordination and addressed as a code of conduct violation.
- During summative assessments, devices will be powered down and put out of sight until all students in the classroom have completed the assessment and all materials have been collected by the teacher.
- FCSS: **Makeup Work:** *Make up work is defined as work assigned during a student’s absence, not work assigned prior to an absence. The student has five (5) school days upon returning to school to complete make-up work. The teacher has the discretion to grant a longer period to make up work, if there are extenuating circumstances.*

**Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an honest and responsible manner. In the classroom, academic integrity involves a range of issues, including – but not limited to – cheating, plagiarism, and facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others. Violations of academic integrity as outlined in the Forsyth County Schools Code of Conduct will be addressed according to the guidelines listed there.

**Discipline/Tardy:**

It is the student’s responsibility to get to class on time follow the classroom rules at all times. Students are expected to treat classmates and instructors with respect at all times. See below for a progressive plan to address tardiness and classroom disruptions.

- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> time (phone or disruption)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> time (phone or disruption) – Student assigned department detention
- 5<sup>th</sup> time (phone or disruption) Office referral

**SYLLABUS:**

By signing below, you are indicating that you have read and understand the syllabus.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

**SAFETY CONTRACT:**

**AGREEMENT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
(student's name) have read and agree to follow all of the safety rules set forth in this contract. I realize that I must obey these rules to ensure my own safety, and that of my fellow students and instructors. I will cooperate to the fullest extent with my instructor and fellow students to maintain a safe lab environment. I will also closely follow the oral and written instructions provided by the instructor. I am aware that any violation of this safety contract that results in unsafe conduct in the laboratory or misbehavior on my part, may result in being removed from the laboratory, detention, receiving a failing grade, and/or dismissal from the course.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We feel that you should be informed regarding the school's effort to create and maintain a safe science classroom/laboratory environment.

With the cooperation of the instructors, parents, and students, a safety instruction program can eliminate, prevent, and correct possible hazards.

You should be aware of the safety instructions your son/daughter will receive before engaging in any laboratory work. Please read the list of safety rules above. No student will be permitted to perform laboratory activities unless this contract is signed by both the student and parent/guardian and is on file with the teacher.

Your signature on this contract indicates that you have read this Student Safety Contract, are aware of the measures taken to ensure the safety of your son/daughter in the science laboratory, and will instruct your son/daughter to uphold his/her agreement to follow these rules and procedures in the laboratory.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date