

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SYLLABUS

Henry Grady High School

Instructor: Ms. Korri Ellis

Room Number: C312

Email: kellis@atlanta.k12.ga.us

Tutorial Hours: 3:30-4:00 Thursdays
and by appointment before and after school



I. Course Description:

Environmental Science is a year-long course designed to show thematic connections between a variety of science disciplines including biology, chemistry, and physics. It gives students a coherent and realistic picture of the applications of a variety of scientific concepts as they manifest in our environment. During this first semester of environmental science, students will focus on human population growth, natural resources, and ecosystem dynamics. The aim of this course to increase students knowledge of the environmental challenges of today, while continuing to cultivate scientific critical thinking skills.

II. Text:

Holt, *Environmental Science*

Cost: \$70.00

III. Materials Required Daily:

- 1) Pen (blue or black ink only) or Pencil
- 2) Loose leaf paper
- 3) 3-Ring Binder
- 4) Composition book (will stay in the classroom at all times)

IV. Course Content Skills and Standards

A. Science Skills

Students will:

- Use science process skills in laboratory or field investigations, including observation, classification, communication, metric measurement, prediction, inference and, collecting and analyzing data
- Use traditional reference materials to explore background and historical information regarding a scientific concept
- Learn and use, on a regular basis, standard safety practices for laboratory or field investigations
- Identify the significance of accurate, precise, and subjective/objective measurements, use of reliable tools, safety measure, and career training in environmental monitoring

B. Course Content Standards

STUDENTS WILL...

SEV1: Investigate the flow of energy and cycling of matter within an ecosystem and relate these phenomena to human society.

SEV2: Demonstrate an understanding that the Earth is one interconnected system.

SEV3: Describe stability and change in ecosystems.

SEV4: Understand and describe availability, allocation and conservation of energy and other resources

SEV5: Recognize that human beings are part of the global ecosystem and will evaluate the effects of human activities and technology on ecosystems

V. Classroom Format, Requirements, and Evaluation:

This course uses a variety of classroom methods, including lectures, class discussions, group work, individual work, labs, field studies, student written and oral projects, and active student participation. Students are expected to participate in, and complete all aspects of required work to the best of their ability. Student achievement will be evaluated in a holistic manner, taking into account all aspects performance.

Tests and quizzes will be given regularly throughout the semester, with a comprehensive final exam the conclusion of the semester.

VI. Grading System:

Student grades will be recorded in the district mandated on-line portal, Infinite Campus.

Grades will be weighted as follows:

Tests	20%
Quizzes	10%
Labs & Research	35%
Class work & Homework & Class Participation	20%
Final Exam	15%

Grading Scale

A= 100-90

B= 89-80

C= 70-79

F= 69-0

VII. Exam Grade Remediation

Students will be given the opportunity to participate in exam remediation for exams that they earn a non-passing (69% or lower) grade on. This is an opportunity for students to take a 2nd exam on the same material in a different format than the original exam.

The guidelines for this opportunity are as follows:

- Exam remediation occurs during tutorial hours ONLY (not during class)
- Exam remediation is available only to students who earn a 69 or below on an exam grade
- Exam remediation must be completed within one week of the return of the graded exam

VII. Student Success:

I am very interested in the success of every student. If you are having trouble with a particular assignment or concept, do not hesitate to seek help from me. I am available for extra help during tutorial hours, and also before and after school by appointment. Students and parents are encouraged to also use email in order to contact me at kellis@atlanta.k12.ga.us

VIII. Policies & Procedures:

i. ATTENDANCE:

In order to succeed in this class a student **MUST** be present. After returning from an absence, it is the student's responsibility to provide the instructor with an excuse form issued by the attendance office within 3 days of returning from an absence.

It is the student's responsibility to retrieve the assignments and the notes missed when absent for any reason. **Make-up work will not be addressed during class. Students must see Ms. Ellis during tutorial hours** or by appointment in order to receive any make-up work. Remember: **STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING UP ALL ASSIGNMENTS AND NOTES MISSED DUE TO AN ABSENCE FOR ANY REASON.**

ii. TARDINESS:

Tardy students will not be admitted into the classroom without an excuse from the attendance or the discipline office. A student is considered tardy if they are not inside of the classroom when the tardy bell rings. **Loitering in the hallway or at the classroom door until the bell rings is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action.**

iii. MAKE-UP WORK:

It is the student's responsibility to inquire about what assignments, notes, and class work they have missed when they are absent with an excuse for any reason. **Work turned in after the due date will be graded for reduced credit.** In order to receive make-up work from an excused absence, students must come to tutorial, or make an appointment to do so. **Make-up work will NOT be addressed during class.**

iv. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Do your own work. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. While it is expected that students will discuss homework and classwork assignments, a student should never submit another person's work or ideas as their own. Quizzes, tests, and exams are always individual assignments and are never collaborative.

If a student is observed copying answers from another student's completed work or attempts to submit another's work or ideas as their own, then a grade of "0" will be assigned. To remove the "0," the assignment must be completed, from the start, in tutorial under the teacher's supervision and a grade no higher than 70% can be earned.

When group work is assigned, all members of a group are expected to complete every part of that assignment themselves, in tandem.

v. **DO NOT BRING TO CLASS:**

The following items are strictly forbidden from the classroom. If they are observed during class time, they will be confiscated from the student, and kept until the end of the day.

- Hats
- Mobile phones that are turned on (**vibrate or ring mode**)
- Food
- Drinks other than water
- Any electronic device other than a calculator
- Any item deemed to interfere with instruction

Chronic use of these forbidden items in the classroom will result in further disciplinary measures.

PLEASE REFER TO THE ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD POLICY REGARDING CONFISCATION OF AND RETURN OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES

vi. **CLASSROOM CONDUCT:**

It is necessary for all students to present themselves in a mature and appropriate manner that creates the best learning environment for everybody. Students must maintain respect for themselves, other students, the instructor, and our community at all times. Inappropriate behavior will result in the involvement of the student's parent/ guardian and the school administration to aid in both correction and disciplinary action.

PARENT/STUDENT SYLLABUS FORM

Please read, sign, date, and return this page of the syllabus to Ms. Ellis on or before:

1A: Tuesday, 8/16/11

1B,2B,3B: Wednesday, 8/17/11

*****(for a homework/class work grade)*****

STUDENT NAME (PRINTED): _____

CLASS PERIOD: _____

A Note to Parents & Guardians:

Please feel free to contact me with any questions and concerns you have regarding your child's success. The best way to contact me is via email. My school email address is : kellis@atlanta.k12.ga.us. Likewise, I will not hesitate to contact you if I think that it is necessary. If you do not use email you may leave a message for me by contacting the Grady main office at 404-802-3001, or schedule a conference with me through child's counselor.

We, the undersigned, have read and fully understand the guidelines for Ms. Ellis' Environmental Science class. I agree to abide by these guidelines, and all school policies throughout the school year.

Student Signature & Date

Parent/Guardian Signature & Date

Parent Guardian Contact Information
(TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN)

Name: _____

Best Contact Phone Number: _____

Email: _____