

Challenger High School
2021-2022
Environmental Science Syllabi
CEDARS Code 3003, 9/7/21
SCI 201/202

Instructor: Veronica Hagman School Phone: (253) 800-6820 Email: vhagman@bethelsd.org

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: Lab Science or Elective 0.5 NCAA Approved

Time Requirements/Absences:

Students will be required to complete 15 hours of class time and about 3 hours of homework per week for this science class. Students are encouraged to contact the instructor about absences in order to determine how the student will make up any missed assignments. Parents can contact the Main Office to excuse absences.

Course Description:

Environmental Science is a course that looks at the relationship of living organisms to each other and to the non-living world. Students use scientific inquiry, engineering practices and problem solving to explore and understand the environment. Students study a variety of integrated subjects with a focus on the process of doing science to promote deep thought, application and discussion & communication to discover answers. Topics include ecology, evolution, food webs, interrelationships, cycles, air, land, water, the atmosphere, and the effects of pollution, global climate change, sustainability, energy use, population growth/density, laboratory studies and student-centered projects. This class will require that you go outside to complete labs; you can leave extra clothes, boots, shoes or rain gear in class. Students are working toward meeting state and national standards in life and earth sciences. A list of science standards can be found at the following links:

- <http://www.nextgenscience.org/next-generation-science-standards>

- **Course content:** student will demonstrate a basic understanding of the following: (Over a 18 week time period to earn a 1.0 credit and 9 week period of time to earn a .5 credit.)

SCI201

1. STEM Careers & Environmental Justice
2. Ecology & Ecosystem Dynamics & Biodiversity
3. Biodiversity & Evolution
4. Natural Resources: Water Resources & Pollution

SCI202

5. Renewable and Nonrenewable Resources
6. Energy types, transfers and trade-offs
7. Environmental Quality & Concerns -- Air pollution & Climate Change
8. Soil & Agriculture Unit

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Materials (may include but are not limited to)

- District approved curriculum (textbook & online resources: Environmental Science Sustaining Your World by National Geographic & Cengage Learning)
- iPad, writing utensils and science notebook (can be a notebook that is composition-style or spiral-bound)
- Students will use the Canvas website to interact with this course throughout the school year. Students will be given access and instructions on navigating and interacting with Canvas. ● Internet Sites, Lab experiences, Computer based learning models, Reading materials, Videos ● All materials will be provided by the instructor

Assessments (may include but not limited to)

- Oral/Written expression for mastery understanding of course concepts and demonstration of the application of course concepts.
 - It is highly recommended that Formative Assessments (FASS) (includes Daily Work, Class Work, Homework, etc.) be thoroughly completed in a timely manner. Late work will be given a small penalty. Work is graded on a standard of knowledge demonstrated by the student.
- Assessments that take place after learning has presumably occurred will be used to determine the overall grade.
- Summative assessments (SASS) can be retaken (one time) to demonstrate proficiency and for a better overall grade. Only the improved grade will appear in the grade book (Synergy). ● New information showing additional learning and growth about any given standard will replace old information and grades will reflect the most recent learning.
- Performance based evaluations through labs and projects.
- Assessment weights:
 - 60% Summative Assessments (SASS) -- tests, quizzes, & projects
 - 40% Formative Assessments (FASS) -- practice, daily work, classwork, homework, participation/engagement/performance, Lab and group work
- Grades are available on Synergy through the StudentVUE or ParentVUE
- Progress reports will be done monthly by the instructor.

Progress

- Student progress is monitored weekly. Student monthly progress is at the discretion of the certificated teacher based on weekly evaluations and the students' ability to complete the required learning benchmarks for that month.
- If a student fails to make collective progress for all weeks, then monthly progress is unsatisfactory. Student monthly progress is specifically evaluated against progress benchmarks, which are clearly defined in the course for each month.
- In addition to the course schedule, these benchmarks may also come in the form of lesson, unit, assignment and/or assessment completion dates.
- These established progress benchmarks will allow teachers and students to assess the students' educational progress in meeting the course learning standards.
- At a minimum, students must turn in at least one assignment per week to maintain a status of "making monthly progress," but will need to complete all the instructor is asking for each week in order to complete the course on time.

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Grading Scale: (Progress reports will be done monthly)

- **A** (93-100%) Student demonstrates exemplary abilities through scores earned; student showed outstanding mastery of expected skills/learning.
- **A-** (90-92.99%)
- **B+** (87-89.99%)
- **B** (83-86.99%) Student demonstrates approaching exemplary abilities through scores learned on assessments; student shows approaching mastery of expected skills/learning. ● **B-** (80-82.99%)
- **C+** (77-79.99%)
- **C** (73-76.99%) Student demonstrates adequate abilities through scores earned; student showed adequate mastery of expected skills/learning.
- **C-** (70-72.99%)
- **D** (60-69%) Student demonstrates an emerging ability through scores earned: student showed limited mastery of expected skills/learning.
- **F** (59% or below) Student has not demonstrated mastery of expected skills: student showed minimal or no evidence of expected skills/learning

Relationships to other Content Areas

- Completion of this course will require the student to integrate the following skills: mathematical, logical, linguistic, social, historical, societal, technological, reading and writing.

Online Learning / Class Expectations

- **Participate in classes** by following the instruction schedule as much as possible. Teachers are introducing, presenting and reviewing the day's lesson during these sessions. There will also be opportunities for small group or one-on-one assistance to help students be successful. Providing 'face-to-face' instruction gives a sense of community, participation, and two-way feedback.
- ● **Communicate with the teacher.** Open communication is super important, especially if you have a situation that prevents you from joining class sessions.
- ● **Complete homework / asynchronous (on your own) assignments.** Each week, you will have learning tasks/activities/homework to complete on your own time.
- **Do not use cell phones during class.** Devices can be distracting from the tasks important to learning. Always ask your teacher if there is an emergency.
- **Follow directions the first time, the fast way.** We will be able to learn effectively when we can accomplish tasks quickly. There are learning procedures and routines to enable us to know what to do in most situations and it is critical to pay attention to the teacher to gain skills and knowledge.
- **Show Respect.** All students have a right to learn in a safe and equitable classroom. They have the right to ask questions and be heard in classroom discussions. Ideas are discussed in a science community, not the people who present the ideas. **Students will be required to participate & work in small groups and will be assessed on their performance/demonstration of skills and knowledge.**

- **Regular attendance is critical to the learning of this class; plan on being punctual and using class time to remain on-task.** Students are expected to make positive contributions to class discussions and assignments. Many class experiences cannot be re-created on an individual basis. It is the student's responsibility to get assignments or make-up for activities that have been missed due to an absence.
- **Ask questions and/or seek help when needed.** It is the responsibility of the student to keep up to date records including use of a planner and science notebook. Students are encouraged to put forth hard work in class and use all of the opportunities for extra assistance available.
Do your best work; incomplete work will be returned for you to complete.
- **Demonstrate self-control.** All students are expected to act in a manner that does not detract from the learning of others. Each student is responsible for his/her own behavior. Refer to the District Students Rights and Responsibilities Handbook for further details on behavioral expectations.