Earth and Environmental Science Syllabus

Rocky River High School

Fall 2015

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**Course Description**

Welcome to Earth and Environmental Science! This is a fast-paced, interactive course in which we will be exploring the North Carolina core standards every day through labs, activities, and demonstrations. Earth and Environmental Science is very relevant in the world around us, and it is my hope that by the end of this course you will have a deeper and more profound understanding of the environmental issues that will carry you successfully through all future science courses and make you a more globally aware and responsible citizen of this world.

**Required Materials**

Each day, all students are required to have:

* 3-ring binder (1 or 1.5 inches is preferred) for Earth and Environmental Science ONLY
  + This binder can be left in the classroom or taken home after each block
* 3-hole punched loose-leaf binder paper
* Pens and/or pencils

Other supplies (rulers, colored pencils, crayons, markers, tape, etc.) will be provided in class; however, these items exist in limited quantities, so if you can bring these as well, then please do! If you have any difficulty obtaining these items, please speak to Mr. Marosy. Supplies must be obtained by **Monday, August 31st, 2015**. *This will count as our first quiz grade*!

**Big Goal**

* ALL students will achieve *at least* **85% mastery** of each content objective as measured by quizzes, unit assessments, and exams.

**Classroom Code**

In order to create a safe and productive classroom environment, AND to help us reach our Big Goal, it is my expectation that the following rules will be followed every day in class:

1. Do not talk while Mr. Marosy or another student is talking.
2. Respect each student’s personal space “bubble.” If it’s not yours, don’t touch it.
3. No eating or drinking. Only bottled water is allowed in class.
4. No personal grooming. This includes, but is not limited to, applying make-up, combing, brushing, or any type of hair care in class.
5. Work and own it. Students will be expected to be engaged and actively participating in the material every day. We are here to learn, and learning requires work. Take responsibility for your work and your actions and do not make excuses.

**Consequences**

In the event that a student does not meet the classroom or RRHS expectations, the following consequence chain will be followed:

1. Warning
2. Seat change
3. Lunch detention in room C128 (completed during student’s lunch)
4. Removal from classroom, administrative referral, and parent contact

**Attendance Policy**

The Make-Up Work bin will include copies of all of the materials worked on each day of the week. It is **YOUR** responsibility to find out what you missed and ask questions if you need clarification. If work was assigned BEFORE you were absent, it is due the day you return. If work was assigned DURING your absence, you have 5 days to turn in the make-up work. Labs may or may not be made up depending on the availability of materials. If you miss a test or quiz, you have 5 days to make it up. Tests MUST be made up after school or during lunch. Class time will not be used for make-up work. If you fail to take the test within 5 days it will result in a zero and the student will have to arrange for a retake.

If you miss more than 15 days of class, it results in an automatic failure of the course. You will need to attend recovery in order to pass. It is **YOUR** responsibility to keep track of your attendance and seek recovery before the end of the semester.

**Bathroom and Water Fountain Policy**

Students are expected to use the bathroom and/or water fountains BEFORE class begins. In the event that a student needs to use the bathroom during class time, the following procedures will be followed. Students will receive 3 bathroom passes per quarter. Any unused passes can be turned in at the end of the quarter for 2 bonus points (per pass) on the midterm or final exam (for a total of 6 points).

**Cell Phones/Electronics**

In the event that cell phones may be used for any reason, Mr. Marosy will verbally instruct you to take out and use your phone accordingly. **At no time will any student be allowed to charge a phone or device, take/post/view pictures or videos on any social media site, play games, or watch videos/movies that are not related to the academic content.** Additionally, students should not be making phone calls at any time during the day. Any violation of this policy will result in consequences up to and including confiscation of a student’s phone. A confiscated cell phone will be returned to the student at the end of the block. Cell phone use is a privilege that can be revoked at any time.

**Grading**

In accordance with CMS and Rocky River School policy, students’ quarter grades will be calculated as follows:

*Quarter 1* Grading Scale

Formal Assessments 55% A = 90 – 100

Tests B = 80 – 89

Labs C = 70 – 79

Projects D = 60 – 69 Informal Assessments 25% F = 0 – 59 Classwork and Participation

Quizzes

Midterm Exam 20%

*Quarter 2*

Formal Assessments 70%

Tests

Labs

Projects

Informal Assessments 30%

Classwork/Notebooks

Quizzes

Homework

Participation

The overall course grade will be calculated as follows:

Quarter 1 37.5%

Quarter 2 37.5%

Final Exam 25%

**Retests and Late Work**

All students will have the opportunity to take a retest to demonstrate mastery if the initial score is below 79%. Any student wishing to retake a test must complete a “Retake Checklist” before retaking the test. As per Rocky River HS school policy, a late assignment will be accepted up to 5 school days after the due date with a 10% daily deduction.

**Homework**

Occasionally, homework will be assigned to supplement the material learned in class or to complete any work not finished during class. However, it is my belief that all material can be mastered in class, during the time allotted for class work (with the exception of studying for exams). If students work diligently and efficiently during class time, they will typically not receive any homework for that class period.

**Cheating**

Cheating, plagiarism, and any form of academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. Any student found in violation of this policy will receive a zero on the assignment and receive an administrative referral, which may result in up to 5 days of OSS.

**Tentative Semester Plan (Subject to change)**

Unit 0: Introduction, Inquiry, and the Scientific Method

Unit 1: Astronomy

Unit 2: Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes, and Volcanoes

Unit 3: Rocks, Weathering, Erosion, and Soil

Unit 4: Water Resources

[Midterm]

Unit 5: Oceans and Atmosphere

Unit 6: Meteorology

Unit 7: Climate and Energy

Unit 8: Sustainability and Ecology

[NC Final Exam]

**Mr. Marosy’s Schedule**

If you wish to come see me for after school tutoring, you must notify me 24 HOURS in advance (the day before) and indicate your reason for attending. If you do not do so, I cannot guarantee that I will have the materials you need. Beginning in October, I will be at wrestling practice from 2:30-5:00pm every Monday-Friday in the cafeteria, but I am available any day by appointment only. Tutoring after wrestling season (March) will occur every Monday after school, unless otherwise noted, from 2:30pm-3:30pm.