



Ecology

COURSE INSTRUCTORS

Instructor	Email	Phone number
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Ecology is the scientific study of living organisms and how they interact with their environment. Students will examine the qualities of the Earth that make it suitable to support all life on Earth, including our own. Students will observe the natural world and read and write about the interactions of living things with their environment. Students will learn about the impact that humans have on ecosystems and the health of the planet. Junior standing and successful completion of one year of Biology are required to take Ecology.

Course Objectives: Upon completing of Ecology, students will:

- Acquire a greater appreciation of nature
- Understand the interactions that happen between the biosphere, atmosphere, lithosphere, and hydrosphere.
- Determine the impact of people's actions on the natural environment.
- Understand the delicate balance of ecosystems and the interactions between organisms and their environment.

COURSE MODULES (Unit Topics Only)

Semester 1	Semester 2
Water	Energy
Land	Climate

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Your grade is comprised of summative and formative assessments. The summative assessments are 70% of the final grade and the formative assessments are 30% of the final grade. A typical semester in Ecology class looks like this:

Type of assignment	Percentage of Grade	Total Points per semester	Breakdown of points
Summative	70%	300-400 points	*Three Projects/and or tests 100 pts each *Up to 100 additional points for other summatives (quizzes, projects, etc.)
Formative	30%	500-700 points	*Ranging from 5 to 40 points per assignment *Daily assignments such as: do nows, entry tickets, exit tickets, homework, worksheets, discussions, and other formative assignments as needed

**This is the planned breakdown of points, but it is subject to change*

If a student does not achieve mastery on a summative assessment (80%), it may be revised or retaken one time during the following unit. In order to revise the project or retake a test a student MUST attend a tutoring or relearning/reteaching session before the revision or retake. The student will earn the higher of the two summative scores (up to 80%).

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

1. Students are expected to check Google Classroom and email at least daily.
2. Students are expected to attend course sessions.
3. Students are expected to reach out to instructors when they have questions.

TECHNOLOGY

1. Students are expected to have working Chromebooks.
2. All communication will come through email and Google Classroom.
3. Supplemental Resources:

Class Website: Science classes will be using Google Classroom to deliver content.

***You are expected to check this website frequently for assignments and announcements. Posted deadlines will be strictly adhered to based on the policies described herein.

Textbook: Heithaus, Michael R., and Karen Arms. *Environmental Science*. Orlando, FL: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013. ISBN 978-0-547-90400-9

online textbook: classlink.com (my HRW icon)



LATE POLICY & MAKE-UP WORK

Students are expected to submit all work on time and meet all provided deadlines. If you are struggling to meet this expectation, please reach out to the course instructor in a timely manner.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It is essential for students to complete their own work at all times. Cheating means using the work of another person as their own, copying information or answers from another student, plagiarizing, allowing another student to copy work, excessive collaboration on an assignment meant to be done individually, or sharing test/quiz questions/answers with students who have not yet taken the test/quiz. If a student is caught violating these guidelines, he/she will receive disciplinary action according to school policy.

