

Environmental Systems Syllabus

Ms. Biswell	Tutorials and Email
Room E217 cbiswell@houstonisd.org	• Office hours/ Tutorial times are Monday and Tuesday during lunch • Emails will receive a response within 24 hours during business days. Teams tends to receive a faster response.

Course Description:

This course is significantly different from other science courses! It is an environmental course that will cover a depth of topics related to the environment, while also using every opportunity to be out in the environment to practice, demonstrate and expand on our learning from the classroom. The primary emphasis of the course is to develop an understanding of concepts rather than memorizing facts. Students will gain a grasp of science as a process rather than an accumulation of facts. Students will develop personal experiences in scientific inquiry, they will recognize unifying themes that integrate the major topics of ecology, and they will apply biological knowledge and critical thinking to environmental and social concerns.

Materials:

1. Pencils and pens
2. Highlighter
3. Eraser
4. 1 subject notebook (spiral or composition) or binder with paper for notes and activities
5. School Laptop

Classroom Expectations

1. Arrive on time ready to begin
2. Follow instructions given
3. Be an active Participant
4. Show respect to others
5. Pay attention to the speaker
6. Upon entering the classroom begin the Warm-Up or Do - Now activity
7. Students are responsible for accessing assignments missed due to absences

Grading Policy

Major Grades: 70% Tests, and Projects

Minor Grades: 30% Quizzes, Activities, Classroom Assignments

Extra Credit

Extra points may be earned from completing warm-up activities. Exam review guides will be collected and added towards minor grades in the grade book. These opportunities are rare. Please take advantage of them!

Late/Missed Work

Each day the assignment is not received past the due date 10 points will be deducted. Major grades will not be accepted after five class days. Minor grades will not be accepted after three class days. No work is accepted after the end of the grading cycle.

Retesting Policy

- Students are permitted to make corrections or retake any major grade assessment to raise the grade to a max of 70 points.
- Should the score be above 50%
 - The student must complete test corrections to raise the grade
- Should the score be below 50%
 - The student must complete the following to raise the grade
 - Attend a tutorial session
 - Complete correction assignment
 - Complete a retake of the test

Field Journal and Service Requirement

Field Journal - Students will be responsible for submitting an online slides project for every cycle. Each portfolio will require students to compile information gathered throughout the cycle. Students will be given at least 7 days to complete their portfolio.

Service - All students must participate in one after school Wolf Prairie or Garden Service event each semester. Events are on Mondays from 3:45pm to 5:15pm. Service events count towards one major grade to be recorded on cycle 3 and cycle 6 gradebook. Please email teacher should you requires an alternative assignment.

Final Exam

Each semester the final exam will consist of two parts.

As of August 28th 2023

10% Article Read and Respond

90% Multiple Choice Exam