

## Syllabus - Earth/Environmental Science 2024-25

Mr. Klakovich

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### Welcome to Earth and Environmental Science!

Everything that we need for life, from air to computers, we get from the Earth and this course explores the relationship between humans and our environment. Environmental Science fulfills one of the three required CHCCS science courses. The curriculum is based on the [NC Content standards for Earth Science](#) and will include units on: Astronomy, plate tectonics, soil and agriculture, ecology, water, energy, resource use, weather, and climate change

### Blended Earth Science (Choosing honors or not)

All students in this blended Earth science class will work together collaboratively all year and all of our discussions and notes will be at the same level. Students who choose to take honors credit will be expected to write in more detail and apply what we are learning in more sophisticated ways. Projects and tests for honors students will have additional components that will give them the opportunity to display their greater depth of understanding. They will also be expected to work more independently. All students need to decide if they would like to enroll in honors by the middle of the first grading period.

### Class norms

- 1) **Come to class ready to learn!** Please show up on time and try to get the most out of every day. You only live once! Do what you can to get enough rest and eat a good breakfast
- 2) **Bring your school issued Chromebook to every class.** You will often need your computer to complete assignments. Don't forget your power cord!
- 3) **Class starts when the bell rings.** Stop your conversations and get started with the instructions given at the beginning of class.
- 4) **Stay focussed by keeping your phone in your pocket and no earbuds in ears -** Focus on those around you rather than the virtual world in your phone. If your cell phone is out when it shouldn't be  
first time - I will keep it until the end of class.  
Second time - I will keep it until the end of the day  
Third time - I will keep it and submit a referral to administration  
Refusal to give me their phone is grounds for office referral
- 5) **Participate as much as you can!** Push yourself. There are many ways to participate in class. Ask questions, make comments, offer your help
- 6) **Be respectful of your fellow students and teacher.** Whether in small groups or when together with the whole class, be respectful of your classmates and teacher. Everyone has the right to be respected and heard.

### Kinds of assignments and Grades

Check your grade regularly to monitor your progress. All grades will be put into POWERSCHOOL. CANVAS will be used to submit electronic assignments.

#### Formative (50% of a student's grade)

- **Notebook** - Students will keep a paper notebook in the classroom where they will keep track of what we have learned. Notes, warm-up questions, lab observations and brainstorms are examples of what goes in the notebook. . If a student misses any of these, they will be expected to complete them before taking the test.
- **Classwork** - Some activities we do in class are credit no credit. Be sure to get all these done. They add up. If you miss class, find them in the agenda. This includes watching Edpuzzle videos

#### Summative (50% of a student's grade)

- **Projects** - These give students the opportunity to apply what they have learned and will be turned in for a grade. If a student scores less than 80% they will be given an opportunity to redo projects for a maximum of 80%

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- **Tests -** At the end of each unit we will take a formal assessment that will include multiple choice questions and written answers. It is very important that students take class seriously if they want to do well on tests. If a student scores less than 80%, they can participate in remediation to push their grade up to a maximum of 80%. Remediation may be different depending on the unit and may include test corrections or alternative assessments.
- **Final Project or assessment** At the end of the year, students will have a final project or test that will require them to look back on the entire year. This project or test will be worth 20% of their final grade. More about this assessment as the date approaches

### **Where to get and turn in assignments**

All work we do in class will be listed in our [class agendas](#). Scroll to the bottom of the page to get to the most current week. Assignments will be posted in the agenda. If the assignment is turned in online, the link in the agenda will take you to CANVAS. If you miss class for any reason, **check the agenda** to find out what you missed. Ask questions if you are confused. You will be expected to make up all missed work before the end of each unit. Work turned in AFTER the unit test or more than two weeks late will be given a grade of 50%. No assignments can be turned in after the end of the grading period.

### **How to get help when you need it**

Everyone needs help from time to time. Please reach out when you need to!

- 1) **Call a study buddy.** It is very helpful to know a couple people in your class who you can ask questions.
- 2) **Ask questions during class.** This might be during the big group discussion or while in table groups.
- 3) **Get help during flex time or lunch** - You can sign up for flex time help from our CANVAS home page and come to my room at lunch on Tuesdays
- 4) **Send Mr. Klakovich an email.**

**Don't wait when you are confused. Get help right away!**

### **Important tips to do well this year in Earth and Environmental Science**

#### **Get to class on time**

first tardy - warning

second tardy - contact parent

third tardy - referral - parent contact

#### **If you miss an assignment:**

Please complete missed work as soon as you can. Missed assignments will be scored 0% which will bring your overall grade down significantly. All work needs to be turned in by the unit test (or two weeks after it was assigned). Keep up with our current unit and you will perform better on tests. Being behind adds stress to your life!

#### **If you are having difficulty with an assignment:**

Turn in what you have done and ask for help. I will almost always give you an opportunity to finish what you have started

#### **Check my comments on assignments:**

I often leave important notes in the comments next to your assignment in powerschool. Most of the time, I will let you redo assignments that are not done well. Electronic assignments turned into CANVAS may have comments as well.

Be sure to set your CANVAS notifications to alert you when I have written a comment on your work (In the left side menu on our CANVAS homepage:

Account/Notifications/submission comments/daily summary (or immediately)

#### **If you miss class:**

Be sure to check the agenda for the day you missed

Click on presentation links and activities

Talk to me if there is anything you don't understand

#### **Sign up for office hours if you are falling behind or are confused about anything.**

Practice being a strong advocate for yourself! Get help when you need it. Reaching out is not a sign of weakness, it is a sign of intelligence!

Get help during TUESDAYS at lunch or sign up for a flex time slot on class CANVAS homepage

**NOTE TO PARENTS:**

Please fill out [THIS FORM](#) with your son or daughter to let me know you have read and understand the information in this syllabus and to give me your latest contact information. If your child is falling behind, expect an email or phone call from me so I can let you know what you can do to help. There is also a place for you to give me additional information about your child that you think I should know. During the year, please feel free to email me if you have any questions or concerns.

[Sklakovich@chccs.k12.nc.us](mailto:Sklakovich@chccs.k12.nc.us)