

Course Syllabus: Natural Resources & Ecology
Spring 2016 - 1 Credit

Instructor: Mr. Brady Eischeid
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Schedule: 4th Period, 10:39 AM - 11:23 AM

Course Description:

This course provides students a variety of experiences that are in the fields of natural resources and ecology. Students will explore hands-on projects and activities while studying topics such as renewable resources, land use, ecology, water quality, stewardship, and environmental agencies. Study of the natural world including biomes, land, air, water, energy, use and care as well as a focus on issues surrounding man's interaction with the Earth will be addressed in this course. Students will also participate in classroom discussion about leadership development and the National FFA Organization and continue their implementation of a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) program.

Course Supplies:

Required	Binder/folder, pencils, paper (notebook or loose leaf), Internet access
Suggested	Headphones/earbuds

Course Concepts & Tasks:

There are seven major concepts discussed in this course, organized into large multi-lesson units: Introduction of Natural Resources, Water Management, Quality Problems, Soil and Forestry, Ecology and Habitats, Wildlife Exploration, and Improving Natural Resources. Units may include a variety of activities and tasks, including daily assignments, projects, reports, labs, field trips, and assessments. Throughout the year, students will work on tasks both individually and in groups.

Standards & Benchmarks:

This course is aligned with the National Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources (ANFR) Career Cluster Content Standards and the Iowa/Common Core Standards for High School Science, 21st Century Skills, Mathematics and English Language Arts, Grade 9-12. A full list of standards and benchmarks aligned with this course can be found [here](#).

Expectations:

Students will follow all required procedures when working in classroom and laboratory settings. When completing lab activities, students must have all necessary safety equipment present. Students should come to class ready to work and should maintain a positive and cooperative attitude. There will be times that work needs to be completed outside of class; students are expected to complete this work promptly and bring completed assignments and projects with them to class on their assigned due dates.

Policies:

- Tardies** Students should make an effort to arrive on time to class every day. Since this course is held at an off-campus location, some adjustments will be made for students commuting to class. Tardies are unacceptable and are promptly reported to the high school office. Recurring tardies will result in detentions and parent contact as defined in the CHS Student Handbook.
- Absences** Students are expected to show up to class every day; sometimes, absences are necessary for reasons that are either excused or unexcused (examples listed in the CHS Student Handbook). When a student is absent from class, it is *their* responsibility to coordinate what schoolwork they need to make up with their instructor. Assignments and tests that are due the day a student is absent are expected to be completed and turned in on the day the student returns.
- Cheating** Plagiarism, or cheating of any other kind, will *not* be tolerated in the classroom. Any student found to be producing schoolwork that is not either of their own original work or properly cited as work from another will be referred to the high school office.
- Technology** Students should refrain from using technology during class time unless requested to do so by the instructor. At times, it will be necessary to use technology (cell phones, computers, lab equipment, shop equipment, etc.) in the agricultural education classroom. It is the responsibility of the students to respect the technology around them as the property of the school and employ extreme care and precaution when using equipment to further their learning of the course.
- Discipline** If classroom policies are disregarded by the student, or if

the instructor finds it necessary for classroom management, discipline procedures may be used by the teacher and/or the high school administration. Depending on severity, procedures may include (but are not limited to): verbal warnings, loss of points, detentions, removals from class, office referrals, parental contact, and suspensions from school. Three office referrals/removals from class will result in loss of credit and a failing course grade for the semester.

Resources This course utilizes Google Classroom for many assignments and materials throughout the year (requires Internet access). Google Classroom can be accessed at <https://classroom.google.com> and requires log-in information that will be given at the beginning of the course.

Facilities Agricultural education courses are held at 414 N Clark Street, and include students from both Carroll High School and Kuemper Catholic High School. On-campus facilities include a shop, greenhouse, and two classrooms. Bathrooms and watering fountains are also on-site.

FFA/SAE This course, like other agricultural education courses, discusses the National FFA Organization and supervised agricultural experience (SAE) programs in-depth. All students in agriculture class are automatically paid members of the Carroll Area FFA chapter. Active FFA membership is highly recommended, but not required. Students are also expected to keep in-class records for their SAE project, which merges agricultural career experience with experiential/hands-on learning. Regardless of the student's extracurricular participation with FFA, they are expected to participate in classroom discussions on the FFA organization and SAE programs. A portion of the quarter and semester grades will be dedicated to participation and SAE records.

Grading:	92.50-100	A	72.50-76.49	C
	89.50-92.49	A-	69.50-72.49	C-
	86.50-89.49	B+	66.50-69.49	D+
	82.50-86.49	B	62.50-66.49	D
	79.50-82.49	B-	59.50-62.49	D-
	76.50-79.49	C+	0.00-59.49	F

Course points are unweighted, and include daily assignments, discussion/participation, quizzes, exams, and projects/papers.

Semester Grade

**40% First Quarter Grade
40% Second Quarter Grade
20% Semester Final Grade**

Course Schedule:

1	1/21-1/22	Introduction to course/syllabus	1.1
2	1/25-1/29	Renewable and Non-Renewable Resources	1.2
3	2/1-2/5	History of Natural Resources; Water Cycle	1.3, 2.1
4	2/8-2/12	Watershed Management	2.2

5	2/15-2/19	Air/Water Pollution; Weather and Climate	3.1, 3.2
6	2/22-2/26	Weather and Climate	3.2
7	2/29-3/4	Soil Profiles; Decomposition/Biodegradation	4.1, 4.2
8	3/7-3/11	Forestry; Carbon Footprints	4.3, 4.4
9	3/14-3/17	Ecology; Biomes, Ecosystems, and Habitats	5.1, 5.2
10	3/21-3/24	Ecological Relationships	5.3
11	3/29-4/1	Wildlife Management	6.1
12	4/4-4/8	Wildlife Management; Aquaculture	6.1, 6.2
13	4/11-4/15	Conservation and Stewardship	7.1
14	4/18-4/22	Careers and Issues in Natural Resources	7.2
15	4/25-4/29	Sustainable Agriculture	7.3
16	5/2-5/6	Final Project	7.4
17	5/9-5/13	Final Project	7.4
18	5/16-5/20	SAE records project; semester review	7.4
19	5/23-5/27	Semester Tests	7.4