Environmental Science

Instructor: Ms McLellan
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Course Description:
Lets be real- you are all living through one of the biggest environmental disaster era's in the history of humans! This class is designed to arm you with the knowledge to understand global and local environmental issues AND give you the tools to make good choices as adults. Yes we live in Maine, one of the greatest places in America, but did you know we frequently have air quality warnings because the pollutants in the air are dangerous to breathe? Or that several times this summer our local beaches have had swim warnings due to contamination? THESE are the kinds of issues we will be studying in class this year.

Topics of Study: include (but are not limited to, and not in this order) the following:

Introduction to Environmental Science
1. Why environmental science?
2. Tragedy of the Commons
3. Communicating about the environment

Ecology, Population, and Human Impact
1. Population Dynamics
2. Biomes and ecosystems
3. Ecosystem change
4. Invasive species
5. Climate Change

Air
1. Atmosphere
2. Air Pollution
3. Remediation

Geology
1. The Earth
2. Soils Remediation
3. Landfills
4. Mining

Water
1. Hydrologic cycle
2. Oceans
3. Watersheds
4. Water Testing
5. Wastewater Treatment

Materials Requested
1. Pencils or erasable pen
2. **Chromie- charged and ready to go each day.**

Extra Help
For quick questions: email is the best option, I check my school email frequently.
For study assistance: I am available before school from 7:00-7:45 and during my Blue 1 study hall.

WEDNESDAYS- are 100% devoted as catch up days and unit enders. We will spend the 1 hour class time finishing and handing in incomplete work or missed work and it is the last call before zero's become permanent in the grade book.

ATTENDANCE- The ONLY way to pass this class is to attend. We do a significant amount of hands on lab work and it is in real time and cannot always be repeated when students are absent. PLEASE make attendance a priority for you this year.

Grading Procedures:
IMPORTANT: this class is done **in class**- this means two things, first that there is no homework (yay!) but second is that it is CRITICAL to be in class regularly. We do a lot of labs and activities and you will get nothing of value from the class if you are not attending. Participation grades for lab days that cannot be made up will be recorded as zeros. This is especially important to pay attention to if this is your last science credit to graduate!

Student grades will be determined using a point system ranging from 10 points (daily assignments) to 100 points (midterm and final exams). Quarterly grades are calculated by taking the percentage of points earned compared to the total points possible.

KHS Grading Scale:

% Points Earned	Letter Grade
93-100	A
85-92	B
77-84	C
70-76	D
0-69	F

Classroom Rules and Regulations:
All rules stated in the Kennebunk High School Student Handbook will be enforced at all times. In addition, by the time the bell rings students are expected to be:

<u>Environmental Class Rules</u>

1. **NO CELL PHONES- Per school district policy, a student with a cell phone will report to the office.**

2. **KEEP AN OPEN MIND- Environmental Science may be the only science in which feelings and opinions are constantly mixed with the data. There are many subjects which are going to be controversial- *especially* in the current political climate. For this reason it is an absolute necessity that each student respect the opinions of others even when opposite to what you believe.**

3. **BE NICE! You can dislike school, you can dislike science, you can dislike people and all of that will be fine as long as you chill out and act kindly towards yourself, your classmates, and your teachers. That is all.**