DUBUQUE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Global Science
Mr. Weber
Ms. Redmond

"Better to light one candle, than to curse the darkness"

Welcome to Global Science! The work in here will be a combination of reading, notes, worksheets, videos, labs and tests. As much as possible, we will have a hands-on, minds-on approach to learning in Global Science. I would like to have you think and analyze information and not just recite it. I also try to incorporate as many laboratory activities as possible. I want you to work through, investigate and solve scientific questions and problems using the proper methods. Much of what we discuss involves real problems that occur in our world, many of them right here in our own community. All of you are approaching the age where your decisions make an impact on yourself, your surrounding community and the greater biosphere (aka – the Earth). Therefore, it is important that you as an individual and member of our community be able to make informed decisions. In the end I want to become a critical thinker that can apply new knowledge. Feel free to contact me if there is ever a question or concern.

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Course Description:
Global science is a yearlong course. The instructional methods of this curriculum are intended to develop student interest in studying, observing and understanding Earth systems, ecosystems, and human influences on these systems. The study of natural connections will help students become stewards of the environment, more informed citizens, and better decision-makers.

Standards:

Key Ongoing Performance Based Standards

- Can construct an appropriate graph based on data given.
- Can analyze graphs, tables and charts for interpretation.
- Can appropriately develop a position or solution that is supported with evidence and addresses both positives and negatives of their position when presented with an environmental problem.
  Claim >>>> Evidence>>>>>Reasoning
- Can explain their personal impact on the environment, with both positive and negative examples.
- Can analyze written text for opinion, facts, bias, and relevance.

Understand and apply knowledge of the interdependence of matter, energy, and organization of living systems.

- Understands and applies knowledge of Earth Systems and Resources
- Understand and apply knowledge of the interdependence of organisms.
- Understands and applies knowledge of population dynamics
- Understands and applies knowledge of land, air and water use

Course Expectations

1. Be on time every day.
2. Respect other students, teachers and the room.
3. Have your materials with you (***book, writing utensil, paper, completed assignments***). No you can't go to your locker.
4. Use appropriate language.
5. Put your cell phone away (in your pocket/book bag, on silent and out of sight). You cannot charge your phone in the room.
6. Participate in class discussions and activities. If you are sleeping, you will lose the privilege of using a chair and will need to stand. You should not be completing work for another class unless your work for this class is finished and there is time left at the end of the period.
7. All other general school rules apply

In the case that these expectations are not being met, you will most likely receive either a verbal or a nonverbal warning. If it continues to become a problem we will meet to develop a practical solution to remedy the problem.

Course Assessment

Your grade will be based on a number of components as we move through each quarter. These will include both formative (ongoing) and summative (at the end) assessments. Not all assignments will be graded for points. Assessments will include tests, quizzes, homework assignments, labs, group discussions, and projects. There is no specific weight or percentage that I give to each component. I simply add up the points you earned and calculate your percentage of the total possible points. A point of a test is worth the same as a point on any assignment. Having said that, my class generally breaks down to roughly 50% tests and 50% assignments. The grading percentages are as follows.

A	100% - 92%	A-	91% - 90%		
B+	89% - 88%	B	87% - 82%	B-	81% - 80%
C+	79% - 78%	C	77% - 72%	C-	71% - 70%
D+	69% - 68%	D	67% - 62%	D-	61% - 60%
F	Less than 60%				

Assignments that are turned in late are half credit. Any missing assignments must be turned in before the next test if you want to receive any credit. If you are absent you should see me either before class starts or at the end of the period. It is your responsibility to get any missing work, make up any tests, or hand in assignments from when you were absent. Generally, you will be given two days to complete the assignments from when you were absent.

Get in the habit of knowing your grade and checking powerschool. Grades will be updated regularly (at least once a week on powerschool). You need to be able to monitor your grade for any missing assignments that were the result of being absent or just not turned in.

Cheating Policies

If you are caught cheating or copying I will throw the assignment, test or quiz away and you will receive no points on it. Group work is acceptable when I have directed you to do so. However, if you are working in a group everyone needs to write down the information at the time you are finding it. Group work means there is a team effort where everyone shares, gives input, and writes down the answers, not simply copying down the answers after one person has decided to actually do the work. Do your own work and be proud of your work!

General Topic Outline

We rarely cover every chapter in the book. At times we may cover chapters out of order in the book as well. In general these are the basic topics that we will try to get through.

1. Introduction to Environmental Science
2. What makes up an Ecosystem?
3. What happens with in an Ecosystem?
4. Different kinds of Ecosystems
5. Biodiversity
6. Populations and how they grow
7. Water as a resources and water pollution
8. Air as a resources and air pollution
9. Energy use
10. Land use and natural resources