

Mr. Kohl/Mrs. Weber  
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Global Science

**Classroom guidelines and expectations**

**Mission:** The mission of Dubuque Senior High School is to provide a climate of mutual respect and support where all may develop their intellectual, creative, social, and physical potential.

**Textbook:** **Environmental Science:**  
**Karen Arms**  
**Holt, Rinehart, and Winston**

**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. This class will introduce students to project-based learning

**Content**

The goal is to engage students in scientific method, investigation and experimentation. These will be integrated within topical content including: the geosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere, and atmosphere. Sub-topics include ecology, water, natural resources, how ecosystems work, energy flow, population dynamics, biodiversity and sustainability.

**Materials:**

**You are responsible** for bringing the following list of items to each class

1. Assignment notebook (agenda)
2. Notebook (paper)
3. Writing utensil (pencil for tests)
4. Correcting pen or marker
5. Textbook
6. Previous classwork or assignments
7. Folder/Binder
8. Colored pencils/calculator optional

**How to get the best grade possible:**

**Assessment Grading:** Everything entered into the grade book will be broken into formative assessments and summative assessments. Formative assessments will include lab activities, quizzes, and daily classroom activities. Summative assessments will come in the form of tests, projects, research, and writing assignments. In this class, I will give students the opportunity to complete a lot of work within the class period. There will be occasions where students will have to complete work at home if not finished in class. I assign homework as an opportunity to learn and obtain a better understanding of the content for the projects and tests. I strongly encourage students to complete the homework that is given if they wish to receive high exam scores. Remember, PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT!

A point system will be used to determine your grade. There are several ways to accumulate points, such as tests, quizzes, and labs/activities.

The largest portion of points will be from daily assignments. The total points will then be converted to a percentage, which will determine your grade.

93% and above	A	73-77%	C
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
83-87%	B	63-67%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
77-79%	C+	Below 60%	F

### **Classroom Expectations:**

Classroom expectations will be discussed throughout the first week of classes. You will be given a separate sheet labeled "Classroom expectation contract" it will have a list of my expectations and we will also discuss what you expect from me. This contract will include everything from attendance policy to appropriate classroom conduct.

### **Quality of Work:**

Assignments and/or labs are expected to be neat and legible on notebook paper. Points will be subtracted from assignments with no name.

\*\* Sharing assignments for answers is not tolerated. If caught 'Sharing assignments', both students will **receive zeros and parents may be contacted.** This also applies to any student caught cheating at any time. \*\*

### **District Standards met through this class:**

Learning Area: Science

- #1: **The Nature and Process of Science:** Students will illustrate the science is ongoing and inventive, that science models the real world and is based on verifiable evidence, and that scientific knowledge has historically changed as new evidence is found.
- #2: **Life and Environmental Sciences:** Students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the characteristics, structures, and functions of living things, the processes of life, and how living things interact with each other in their environment.
- #3: **Earth and Space Sciences:** Students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the features and processes of the Earth, the composition and structure of the universe, and their interactions.
- #4: **Science, Technology, and Science Connections:** Students will use technology to study and investigate interrelationships among science, technology, and human activity and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how scientific study, using technology, impacts life.

### **Communication:**

Communication is key in our classroom. We are very easy people to talk to. If at any time you are having difficulties do not hesitate to let us know. We will always be willing to do what we can to assist you in any way. If you need extra assistance, we will be available to meet with you before school or by arrangement. You can also contact us using the information listed above.

We will do our best to get everything loaded onto powerschool as promptly as possible so you can check your updated grades at your convenience.

We are currently working on a classroom website that will contain pictures, updates, and schedules for each of our classes. We figured it would be a nice asset for parents to see what we are up to in the classroom. If you would not like your picture to be seen on the website, please let Mrs. Weber or myself know and we will respect your choices.

### **Instructional Strategies**

The course will contain a variety of different learning opportunities for students. Students will be challenged to participate in the creation of their own experiments, lab activities, research, critical and abstract thinking activities, and group activities.

**Curriculum schedule**

- Due to the always unpredictable weather and school schedule changes I have kept the schedule pretty flexible but the planned chapters that we will get through are listed below.

**Planned Chapters to Cover First Semester**

Chapters 1 through 6 (including NGSS standards)

**Planned Chapters to Cover Second Semester**

Chapters 7 through 11 (including NGSS standards)

**Parents/Guardians:**

My name is Mr. Keith Kohl, I will be your students Global Science teacher throughout the year. I want you to know that if you have any questions feel more than free to contact me at anytime using the information above. I will do my best to keep you all updated if I have any concerns and I would appreciate you doing the same. I look forward to meeting you soon.

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(Parent Signature)