

Environmental Science

Fall Syllabus 2019-2020

Teacher Mr. M. Gordon Rm. 345
Phone (510) 618-4600 x2345
Email mgordon@slusd.us (school email); gordonmarc22@gmail.com (alternate email)
{Email is the **BEST** way to contact teacher ... expect response w/in 48hrs}
Office Hours 10 min. before school, 10 min. after school; Wednesdays 2:34 - 3:15
Text "Environmental Science"- Karen Arms – Holt **Bring textbook to class Daily**
Notebook You will need to bring a thin **3-Ring Binder** or Folder w/three fasteners that can open/close
News It is recommended that you have regular access to current print media (internet news sites)

Description

This **STEM** course satisfies two semesters of **Physical Science** requirement for **High School** graduation AND also **1 Year of "g" college prep elective requirement** for UC/CSU admission (CSU will also accept as **1 Year of "d" lab science**). Successful completion of the of this course will result in **5 Credits** per Semester Fall/Spring.
(10 Credits of Physical Science + 10 Credits Life Science is required for H.S. Graduation).

Expectations

"The classroom is a special place for the enlightenment of Homo sapiens." (M. Gordon)
Your teacher takes the classroom learning environment *very serious* and so should you!
The sooner you respect this the faster you will be on the track to success in this class and likely others. *Serious classroom behavior* is expected. **Bring your materials** and expect to **participate** daily in class activities. The classroom is a *safe space* for all to learn.

Attendance

Regular daily attendance is required to receive a passing grade *based on achievement*.
Make-up work policy allows for work to be turned in one day late per absence. It is the **student's responsibility to take initiative** to find out what was missed. Write **"absent"** on late work due to absence. *Expect* to have to get **make up** assignments **outside of class time**.

Late Work

Late work will be accepted initially at a **reduction** of -10% per day late. After **5 days** assignments may be accepted for 50% credit. Still it is better to turn in late work at 50% credit to replace zeros, than to have zeros for assignments.

Grades

Grades reflect a student's degree of **mastery of the content objectives** for this course also assignment **completion** and **study habits**. Often students need to focus on *specific areas* in order to improve grade. Grades may **communicate mastery** but are **NOT judgments**. **Intellectual growth** and **increased performance** are *expected* throughout the course.

All individual assignments will be evaluated using an American Standard grading scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
59%-below	F

Assignments will contribute toward your total **final grade** as follows:

15%	Classwork Participation
10%	Binder
15%	Homework/Labs
15%	Term Paper/Project
30%	Quiz/Test
15%	Term Exam

- Homework** Homework is typically given 2-3x a week, each assignment usually due 1-2 days after being assigned i.e. Outline, Vocabulary, Section Review, Assigned Reading Review, Computer Lab Problem Sets, Current Events Essay, Lab Report, Field Project, etc.
- Vocabulary** Vocabulary [a) write word 3x, b) define, c) give 2 examples or use logically in a sentence, d) illustration]
*There are lots of new vocabulary terms to learn in this course that are absolutely essential to understanding the content objectives of this course.
- Re-Takes** Students must do their diligence to pay *close* attention in class, complete assignments, and *study* at home for **mastery** re: content/topics covered in class in order to do well on assessments. '**Test Corrections**' may be allowed or required for low scores on some assessments i.e. Quizzes {1. Copy Question, 2. State Correct Answer, 3. Justify/Explain}
- AERIES** The **Aeries** grade book will be used to report assignments and is *typically* updated **weekly**. A posting of "NA" usually means the assignment was turned in but not yet scored and in the meantime will not count negatively toward the overall grade total percentage. "NA" generally counts as a high grade mark and will sometimes remain for an assignment that is just checked as '**turned in**' by not graded.
- Cheating** Cheating of any kind is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. Violators may face punishment including article confiscation, detention, referral, parent conference and/or suspension from school. Examples of cheating include *copying work of another student, permitting another student to copy your work, doing someone else's assignment, using unauthorized sources of information during quiz or test, and plagiarism*. **East student must originally do his/her own work to receive credit for that particular assignment.**
- Rules** Students are expected to follow **all school rules** i.e. no cussing; **no use of electronic devices** (i.e. cell phone, music player, video games) **EXCEPT** for before school, lunch, after school;
Specific Classroom Rules
1. Follow directions the 1st time they are given
2. Be silent while teacher is talking to class
3. Ask permission to leave seat
4. Participate in classwork each day
5. Be respectful to others (i.e. words, body language)
- Procedures** There will be several procedures students must learn for the classroom to be a clean, orderly and safe environment. Here are a few of them:
Beginning of Class Period
1. Enter class quietly
2. Immediately go to your assigned seat
3. Get out your materials for Classwork
4. Begin Warm Up
5. Copy daily objective and agenda
End of Class Period
1. Put away materials and clean areas
2. Remain **seated** and quietly wait for teacher inspection and dismissal
Class Quiet
1. Countdown "3, 2, 1" (quiet)
- Consequences...** for breaking rules or not following procedures will result in the following actions
(Often a warning is given in advance of potentially further punishment ... please be sure to take notice of these warnings and **correct your own behavior**)
- Step 1 Behavioral **Assignment** (i.e. write lines) or **Name** on Board (Firm Warning);
>**Check** after name = Classroom Detention Given, 25min per check
- Step 2 Teacher/Student/Parent **Conference** and/or **School Detention/Referral**
- Step 2 **Referral** to Administrator
*Teacher Suspension-Mandatory Parent Class Visit & Conference w/Principal
- Detention is 25min. – 50min. **after school** and must be served with teacher *same day or the day after* assigned. If it is missed then student will receive referral to Assistant Principal. Embrace the processes of growth and maturity! Best it is for you to **develop self-discipline!**

