

ARC Environmental Science Syllabus

2024 - 2025

Mr. Shawn Fisher Room 607

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The **Environmental Science Georgia Standards of Excellence** are designed to continue the student investigations that began in grades K-8. These standards integrate the study of many components of our environment, including the human impact on our planet. Students investigate the flow of energy and cycling of matter within ecosystems, and evaluate types, availability, allocation, and sustainability of energy resources. Instruction should focus on student data collection and analysis from field and laboratory experiences. Some concepts are global; in those cases, interpretation of global data sets from scientific sources is strongly recommended. Chemistry, physics, mathematical, and technological concepts should be integrated throughout the course. Whenever possible, careers related to environmental science should be emphasized.

**Fall Semester**

Unit 1: Introduction

Unit 2: Ecological Systems

Unit 3: Biogeochemical Cycles

Unit 4: Biomes

Unit 5: Succession & Biodiversity

Unit 6: Climate

**Spring Semester**

Unit 7: Natural Resources

Unit 8: Energy

Unit 9: Human Impact and Pollution

Unit 10: Human Population

Unit 11: Demographics

Unit 12: Sustainability

**Grading Procedures** – You will be assessed on the Georgia Standards of Excellence for Environmental Science

Each student will be given course quarter grades according to the following weighted categories within those criteria:

Major Grades: 40% (These would be end of unit tests/projects)

Minor Grades: 60% (These would be all other graded assignments)

**Late Work Policy:** Students are expected to complete all assignments in a timely manner, by or before the due date. After the due date, a late penalty of 5 points per day will be assessed upon the grade. After the 5th school day past the due date, late work will no longer be accepted, in accordance with Richmond Board of Education grading policy. After the 5th day, the test grade associated with that assignment will be used for any missing work. To encourage students to complete the assignments, and to help keep them informed of what is missing, a **Missing** will be entered into Infinite Campus for any missing work. This is counted as a “0” until the assignment is completed.

**ATTENTION**

**At the end of the semester students will take a Final Exam to demonstrate their knowledge of Environmental Science. This exam will account for 10% of the total grade. Students who meet the Final Exam Exemption policy set forth by ARC may be exempt from the Final Exam.**

Please note that we are no longer on the Quarter schedule. What this means is students will no longer be able to do Grade Recovery for a quarter to bring their Semester grade up. All grades earned during the Semester will be factored into the final grade for the Semester. It is imperative that all assigned work is completed and turned in in a timely manner.

**Science Fair:** As mandated by the Richmond County Board of Education, every student enrolled in a science class must participate in a Science Fair project. This will be an individual or group project that is to be completed by the Thanksgiving break and is worth 1 Major grade. Designated deadlines will be built into the grading procedures for the duration of the project and will count in the Minor grade category. Further information will be provided in class.

**Classroom Supplies:**

3 ring binder for class (can be used for multiple classes, not just ES)

1 Bound composition book for science fair log book

Pen/Pencil

**School-Wide Behavior Expectations**

All students are expected to

Classroom Consequences:

1. Verbal reminder/warning

2. Individual conference with student

3. Parent contact

4. Infinite Campus Behavior Referral

·         Keep the school and learning environment

clean

·         Use business language

·         Dress appropriately for the setting

·         Follow staff directions

·         Be on time

·         Bring all necessary materials

**Cell Phone Policy:**

Current district policy is that cell phones, tablets, and other forms of electronic communication devices are not allowed in the classroom. Students are expected to bring their school issued laptop to school, fully charged, every day. School policies stipulate escalating punishments for repeated violations of this policy.