Teacher name: Arlen Foster  Term: 2019-2020

Course Name: Environmental Science

Textbook Used: Environmental Science

Other Materials needed: a 1-2” 3-ring binder, ample notebook paper, #2 pencils, a black or dark blue ink pen, colored pencils, a hi-liter, 5 poster boards (22”x28”) and a positive attitude.

Course Objectives: Environmental Science is an introductory course designed to explore the physical world with an empirical approach. In this class there will be an emphasis on hands-on activities and laboratory exercises that will promote problem solving, refine laboratory procedure, and reinforce reading, writing and math skills. In this course students will be involved in outdoor field studies and will be encouraged and rewarded for the exploration of personal avenues of interest in science.

Major Units/Topics/Themes:

UNIT I: Intro and Earth’s Systems
UNIT II: Community Ecology
UNIT III: Biodiversity
UNIT IV: Biomes and Aquatic Ecosystems
UNIT V: Population Demographics
UNIT VI: Human Population
UNIT VII: Toxicology
UNIT VIII: Atmosphere and Climate Change
UNIT IX: Water Resources
UNIT X: Waste Management
UNIT XI: Land Management
UNIT XII: Renewable and Nonrenewable Resources
UNIT XIII: Macromolecules (Bridge to Biology)
Major Projects: There will be several major projects throughout the school year. These projects may require students to use poster boards, tri fold displays, or present a power point presentation.

Methods of Assessment: Daily Assignments which must be completed in class, Unit tests, Projects, Labs, Class, Mid-term and Final Exams.

Tutoring: I am available for tutoring by appointment.

Breakdown of Grades: Students grades are entered into Focus (gradebook) several times a week. There are three categories in Gradebook. These are diagnostic, formal assessments, and Summative assessments. A diagnostic tool is something like a pretest. Formal assessments are things like bell ringers, assignments, labs, etc. Summative assessments are major tests or anything that encompasses several benchmarks/topics.

GRADING POLICIES AND CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

GRADING POLICY:

Volusia County Grading Scale

% Letter Value

90 - 100 = A
80 - 89 = B
70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D
0 - 59 = F

EXTRA CREDIT: Students can choose to do a Poster on a topic pertinent to their class. This poster can be worth up to 25 (Formative) points. This can only be done once a year per student. Additional extra credit may be implemented throughout the year, but it is not guaranteed.

TURNING IN AND GETTING PAPERS BACK: Most work will be kept in the interactive science notebook. We will have a notebook check periodically to ensure that you are keeping up with it. All other work/assignments are turned in to the baskets at the front of the room when completed.

CLASSWORK/HOMEWORK: Any homework or class assignments not in the notebook will be turned into the baskets at the front of the room.

MAKE-UP WORK: Make-up work will be given in accordance with the procedures in the Curriculum Guide.

TARDIES: Tardies will follow the schoolwide policy.

TESTS: There are 13 units for this class. Each unit is approximately 3 weeks. Each unit has its own summative exam. Students will typically have 3 tests per nine weeks.

TEST MAKE-UP: After the initial test date, test make up and corrections will be available by appointment at lunch.
**TEXTBOOKS:** Students will have access to a digital copy of the textbook through VPortal. They may also check out their own personal textbook at the Media Center. There will be assigned reading throughout the entirety of the course so please be sure to access the digital copy or have a personal copy checked out. There will also be a class set of textbooks in the classroom which the students will have access to while at school.

**ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** There will be many times in which electronic devices will be used in class. Some of this will be personal devices like phones or tablets, other times we will be using school laptops.

**COMPUTER USAGE:** All my students will be required to use computers for my class. It is imperative that the student has a computer permission form on file with the Media Center so they will be allowed to do Internet research. Any inappropriate use or abuse of the computers in the Media Center will result in the student losing computer privileges on the DeLand High School Campus. The student is still responsible for the assignments.

**CLASSROOM PROCEDURES:**

**Classroom behavior:**

1. Be in your seat when the tardy bell rings.
2. Be respectful to others (language and actions).
3. Follow directions the first time given.
4. Know and follow all school rules.
5. Raising your hand will be the default way of being recognized
Dear Parents,

There is a lot of information in this packet. It is my hope that if we all start out with a clear understanding of grading policies and classroom procedures then it will be easy for us to work together for the successful completion of this school year. If you have any questions about my policies and procedures please do not hesitate to email me at adfoster@volusia.k12.fl.us. The most effective way to check your child’s grade is to make sure you are registered on Focus through Vportal. I keep it up to date and every Friday all grades for the week are typically entered. Please sign and date the bottom of this page if you have read and understand the policies and procedures for Mr. Foster’s science class for the 2019-2020 school year. If you could please email me at the above email address that you have read the syllabus that would be appreciated. Your child should return this page to me tomorrow with your signature and theirs. The signature page will be kept on file. I look forward to meeting you at open house.

Sincerely,

Arlen Foster

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(Student Name-Please print)                                    (Parent/Guardian Name-Please print)  

______________________________________________________________  

(Student Signature)                                             (Parent/Guardian Signature)  

______________________________________________________________  

(Date)                                                         (Date)  

______________________________________________________________  

(ALPHA ID)                                                      (Parent Phone Number)  

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Parent Email: __________________________________________________