



Environmental Science 2020-2021



Mr. Ruben Carroll
rcarroll@aguafria.org
(623) 932-7500 ext. 3054

Ms. Rachel Stringham
rstringham@aguafria.org
(623) 932-7500 ext. 3046

Course Description:

Hello and welcome to Environmental Science! The goal of this course is to provide students with the scientific principles and concepts required to understand interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems, to evaluate relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine solutions for resolving or preventing them, with an emphasis on the impact of human populations on natural systems. Principles of responsible environmental stewardship are emphasized. Skills and concepts learned in Biology are assumed. The course topics include ecology, environmental types, natural resources, energy flow, human populations and human impact on environmental systems.

Course Goals

- To encourage all students involvement using scientific processes in order to understand the course content and make connections to real life and related areas of study.
- To give all students the opportunity to develop both the skills and content knowledge necessary to be scientifically literate members of the community.
- To become proficient in the Arizona State Science Standards.
- To understand the earth's systems and how different factors affect them.
- To understand human impact on the environment and begin to develop possible solutions to those problems.

Assignment Categories

- **ASSIGNMENTS:** This section includes a variety of tasks including homework, "in class" activities, and other tasks as assigned.
- **ASSESSMENTS:** This could include projects, quizzes, or other tasks as assigned. Most assessments can be retaken for a better score, contingent on the student demonstrating a commitment to improvement. This includes attending tutoring sessions after school, submitting all associated assignments, and additional practice. Students will be given a specified timeframe in which to complete retakes if desired.
- **CULMINATING ACTIVITY:** This activity will be a project that encompasses content from the entire grading period. This will be given once per semester, and will not be subject to retakes. Students will use this task to demonstrate mastery of content knowledge and application.

Required Materials

Bring these EVERY DAY!

- Science Notebook - spiral bound, college ruled, ≥100 pages
 - Writing utensil - pencil preferred
 - Colored writing utensil - pen or pencil of contrasting color
 - Chromebook and charger
 - Personal bottle of hand sanitizer
- Students may also want to bring colored pencils or markers, highlighters, scissors, or ruler.

Grade Scale

Assignments	40%
Assessments	50%
Culminating Activities	10%

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

Remember: You EARN your grades, I do not GIVE grades. How well you do in this class is completely up to you.

Classroom Expectations

Be Polite

Our classroom will be an environment safe for everyone to learn by being respectful of your peers, teachers, and materials. If your actions are disrespectful, disciplinary measures will be taken.

Be nice or neutral to everyone. Respect yourself, your classmates, your teacher, and your classroom. Use respectful language at all times.

Be Prepared

Come to class on time, with your notebook, pencil, and charged Chromebook. Keep phones and headphones put away at all times. Turn in assignments and projects on time.

Be Productive

Use your time to learn. Stay on task, follow directions the first time, and make wise decisions with your time. Don't be a distraction to others. Participate in class activities and discussions. Take advantage of tutoring opportunities.

ALL POLICIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO EVOLVING PUBLIC HEALTH CONDITIONS. Any changes will be communicated by instructor.

DIGITAL LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

Attendance Expectation: Attendance will be taken at the beginning and end of the first 55-minutes of class. Students NOT logged on for the entire 55-minutes of the required direct “live” instruction will be marked absent. Students who join class more than 15-minutes late will be marked absent. Students who acquire 10 absences in a class will lose credit for that course (AFUHS District Attendance policy). Students will then be required to complete the attendance appeal process to get approval for credit(s) loss.

Remote Learning Environment: During the first nine-weeks of school, students will attend their 1st hour, 2nd hour, 3rd hour and Advisory classes on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Regular classes will not be held on Wednesday, instead teachers will be available for additional student supports and interventions. Teachers will provide “live” direct instruction virtually each day for which your class is scheduled to meet. Students will not be expected to be online with their teacher for the whole period, but instead each class period will be split – the first 55-minutes of class will entail “live” direct instruction and the second half of class will be used for working on assignments, taking testing, and getting teacher assistance.

During the second nine-weeks of school, students will attend their 4th hour, 5th hour, 6th hour, and Advisory classes. Regular classes will not be held on Wednesday, instead teachers will be available for additional student supports and interventions.

At the end of each nine-week period, students will receive a Semester grade for each class. Students earning a passing grade will receive graduation credit for that course.

Hybrid Learning Environment: The hybrid learning environment allows for in-person instruction when students are permitted to return to campus. The bell schedule would remain the same and instruction would not deviate much from the remote model. Students would be split into 2 groups – Group A and Group B – to decrease class sizes which allows social distancing and the implementation of AZ/CDC guidelines. Student Group A would attend class in-person on Mon/Thurs while Student Group B would attend class remotely. On Tues/Fri, Student Group B would attend class in-person while Student Group A would attend class remotely. No students would be on-campus on Wednesday for deep cleaning.

Dysfunctional Technology: If your school-issued technology is malfunctioning, immediately communicate that to your teacher and Ms. Dailey ([use the DE Remote Learning Help Form.](#)) Most technology issued should be resolved within 24 hours, unless noted by DE tech staff. You will be responsible for making up the work missed.

DESERT EDGE TECHNOLOGY POLICY

1. Students will use the computers/technology as instructed to do so by the teacher. Students are permitted to use the device at home. **Students are responsible for bringing it to class every day, fully charged.**

2. Students will secure the device when it is out of their sight. The device should not be left in an unlocked locker, a desk, or other location where someone else might take it. Students will be responsible for the replacement cost of the device.

3. Students will treat the computers/technology with respect. Do not write or draw on the device or apply any stickers or labels. Handle the device carefully and ensure others do the same.. Students will keep the device out of places with extreme temperature or limited ventilation (e.g., in a car) for an extended period of time.

4. No Right to Privacy. The devices are District property; therefore, the District may examine the devices and search their contents at any time for any reason. Neither students nor parents/guardians have any right to privacy of any data saved on the device or in a cloud-based account to which the device connects.

5. Devices are actively monitored by GOGuardian for inappropriate websites, language, material, etc. Students can lose their technology privileges and receive disciplinary consequences if the District Technology Agreement is violated.

ASSIGNMENTS POLICY

Late Work: Late work will only be accepted during the unit in which it is assigned. Work submitted after the unit quiz/test will not be graded.

Absent Work: YOU are responsible for finding out what you missed if you are absent. See the bin on the materials table and check the calendar (on Google Classroom) to get your missed work.

- *Excused Absences:* An excused absence is any absence that is verified by the office (such as school business, doctors’ notes, etc.). You will have one extra day for every day that you were out to make up the work for full credit. If submitting digitally, students must leave a “comment” explaining the nature of the excused absence.

- *Unexcused Absence:* Work missed during an unexcused absence will be counted as late work.

- *Missing Projects / Presentations:* If you miss school on a presentation day, it does NOT excuse you from the presentation. You must make arrangements with your instructor to make it up within two days of the absence. Projects will be due on time whether you are present or not. You must make arrangements to get the assignment to your instructor when it is due.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

**All procedures here are subject to when class is held in-person.*

Daily Procedure: On your way into class, check the back table for any materials needed. When the bell rings, you should be in your assigned seat, with your Science Notebook out, working on the daily warmup.

Academic Overtime/Tutoring: Students are expected to take advantage of office hours on Wednesday to meet with the teacher virtually to ask questions, make up assignments, retake tests, etc. If school resumes in person, policies for Academic Overtime will be implemented at that time.

Cell Phone Policy: All cell phone use is prohibited unless given explicit permission by the teacher. This also applies during distance learning. Additionally, Desert Edge High School does NOT allow headphones in class at any time.

Food and Drink: Food, drinks, and gum are NOT allowed in classrooms under any circumstances. The only exception is water in a sealed container.

IN CLASS LABS

**All procedures here are subject to when class is held in-person.*

Labs are vital to learning the skills necessary for science. If a student misses a lab, they may or may not have a chance to make it up depending on the time and materials needed. However, an alternate assignment will be given if the lab is not practical to make up. All students are responsible for a safe environment in the class. It is the student's responsibility to report any accidents or dangerous actions to the teacher immediately. The instructor reserves the right to refuse anyone from completing a lab if she feels that person is not acting in a responsible, safe manner. A make-up assignment may be given.

DESERT EDGE EXPECTATIONS

1. No food and drink in classrooms.
2. No cell phones/personal electronic devices unless given permission by the teacher.
3. No earbuds.
4. No hats in the building.
5. Wear face coverings (including mouth and nose) on campus at all times, including inside classroom

MOVIE POLICY

Films and documentaries will be used as an important tool in class. Most films are rated PG or lower, none of them will be above PG13 and all will be used to reinforce the content being taught. Parental permission is requested for your child to watch parts or all of the following movies. If you have a concern, please contact the instructor. Films may include but are not limited to Planet in Peril, World in the Balance, Food Inc, and others.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Plagiarism is not acceptable on any level. Any students attempting to turn in work that is not 100% theirs will receive a zero on the assignment. This includes copying work from another student, cutting and pasting from the internet, and taking credit for work you did not complete. Students will NOT have the opportunity to make up that grade. Other consequences that may occur are outlined in the student handbook.

Refer to the Student Handbook for other school policies.

CONSEQUENCES

Consequences for misconduct may include, but are not limited to, verbal warning, student conference, detention, phone calls home, or referral, at the discretion of the instructor.

Information in this syllabus may change at any time at the discretion of the instructor. Any changes will be announced in class.

SCIENCE SAFETY RULES/PROCEDURES AGREEMENT

In order to ensure that science experiments are safe and positive learning experiences, students and their parents should read, discuss, and sign the science safety rules and procedures agreement. No student will be permitted to participate in laboratory work until the agreement is acknowledged by both parent and student and returned to the teacher.

- Act in a responsible manner at all times. Misconduct that endangers any student will not be tolerated.
- Never work without adult supervision. Do not handle any materials until instructed by the teacher to do so.
- Perform the experiments as directed. Do not do anything that is not part of an approved experimental procedure. Follow all instructions given by the teacher. Read the written procedures. If you don't understand a procedure or piece of equipment, ask the teacher.
- Eating, or drinking in the lab or experimental work area are forbidden.
- Wear appropriate protective equipment. A lab coat or apron and ANSI approved eye protection should be worn when necessary. Keep hands away from face, eyes, and mouth while using chemicals or preserved specimens.
- Never taste a chemical. Never pipette by mouth – always use a pipette bulb.
- Check odors only if instructed to do so by gently wafting some of the vapor toward your nose with your hand.
- Carry sharp objects with tip or sharp edge pointing downwards. Do not try to catch falling sharp objects.
- Use caution when heating materials in the lab. Keep hands and face away from the mouth of a test tube or beaker being heated. Turn off burner or hot plate when you are finished – never leave an active heat source unattended.
- Do not enter science prep rooms or storage areas unless under teacher supervision.
- Never take chemicals, supplies, or equipment out of the laboratory without the knowledge and consent of the science teacher.
- Clean your lab area; put away all equipment and reagents; wash your hands at the end of each work session. Report any damaged glassware or equipment to your teacher.
- All personal items, backpack, bags, etc... are to be placed in an area separate from the experimental area.
- If the lab activity is performed outside, all applicable rules are in effect.
- These rules may be amended at any time during the semester in order to keep the safety of all involved a priority.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CONTRACT

CONTRACT FOR SUCCESS: This is a contract stating the promises of the student, parent and teacher to follow in order for the student to be successful.

By signing below, you are acknowledging that you have read, understand and accept the terms for Environmental Science Class.

TEACHER

- I promise to be prepared each and every day with a lesson that is geared toward learning and academic success.
- I promise to respect individual differences among students and treat all of them fairly.
- I promise to communicate with students and parent to foster success.

Mr. Ruben Carroll

Ms. Rachel Stringham

STUDENTS

- I understand that good attendance is vital to my success and that being on time is a sign of maturity and shows that I value my education and myself.
- I promise to respect school property, the property of classmates and my teacher.
- I promise to behave in class, showing respect for myself by acting in a mature and responsible manner. I understand that my behavior reflects on my family, my community, my culture and myself.
- I promise to work to the best of my ability, always keeping in mind that the skills I learn are life long values.

Student Name (Print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN

- I will set high expectations for my student.
- I will help my student live up to the above contract.
- I am aware of the policies and procedures my student is expected to follow.
- I will work with the teacher and feel free to contact them if I have concerns about my students progress.

Parent Name (Print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please provide an email and/or a phone number where you can be reached to communicate about your student.

Best email:

Secondary email (optional):

Best phone number:

Secondary phone (optional)

(_____) _____ - _____

(_____) _____ - _____