

## Environmental Science Syllabus

**Teacher:** Mr. Chris Morris

**Email:** [chris.morris@tcsedu.net](mailto:chris.morris@tcsedu.net)

**Twitter:** @Mr\_ChrisMorris

**Textbooks:** Holt Environmental Science & Environment: The Science Behind the Stories

**Room:** S514 in MTSU Hall

**Phone:** (931) 247-2620

### Supplies:

Pencils, 3-ring binder, 1 box of tissues, 1 box of nitrile gloves (any size)

**Lab Fee:** There is a \$20.00 lab fee for this course (assessed for all science classes).

These fees are essential to allow us to purchase the materials and equipment needed to provide you with a top-quality science education.

### Course Objectives:

- Explore the components of ecosystems and how the interactions and processes contribute to the functioning of the ecosystem as a whole
- Use scientific tools and processes to ask and answer questions about how nature works.
- Examine the role of humans in the biosphere, including actions that have positive and negative effects on ecosystem functions.
- Understand major environmental issues that impact the biosphere, and develop and express opinions about these issues that demonstrate a sound understanding of science.

Week	Topics	Chapter
1,2	Unit 1: Introduction to Science and Technology	1
2,3	Unit 2: Earth Systems: Matter, Energy, and Geology	2
4-5	Unit 3: Environmental Systems and Ecosystem Ecology	5
6-7	Unit 4: The Organization of Life, Evolution, Biodiversity	3, 4, 11
8-9	Unit 5: Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecosystems	4, 15, 16
***Cumulative Midterm Exam***		
***Spring Break***		

Week	Topics	Chapter
1-2	Unit 6: Ethics, Economics, and Sustainable Development	6,7
3,4	Unit 7: Human Population	8
5,6	Unit 8: Natural Resource Management	9,10,12, 23
7	Unit 9: Energy Resources	19, 20
8	Unit 10: The Atmosphere, Air Quality, & Pollution Control	17, 18
9	Unit 11: Sustainable Solutions	13, 24
***Cumulative Final Exam***		

**Classroom Expectations:**

- 1) To abide by school and classroom rules at all times
- 2) To treat yourself, others (including me), and school property with respect.
- 3) To be cooperative and not disruptive.
- 4) To come to class on time and ready to learn each day.
- 5) To try your best on everything you do.
- 6) To take responsibility for your learning.

**Cell Phones:**

- 1) Cell phones are to be **turned off** (THIS WILL SAVE YOUR BATTERY!) and placed in "The Holding Cell" before the tardy bell rings
- 2) You will not be able to access your cell phones until the end of class
- 3) Cell phones that are not placed in "The Holding Cell" will be confiscated and given to the office
- 4) Headphones will remain out of sight. **I will only ask once.**

**Discipline:** If you choose to disrupt class, the following sequence of interventions will occur:

- 1) First offense: A verbal warning
- 2) Second offense: A phone call home and teacher detention
- 3) Third offense: A written referral will be sent to the office.
- 4) Severe Disruptions: Student(s) will be sent immediately to the office.

**Chromebooks:**

- 1) Only to be used for classwork
- 2) No unnecessary tabs will be open
- 3) I can view your screens, take screenshots of your screens, close your tabs, pause your screens and message you from my desk.

**Grading:** Student nine-weeks' grades will be determined by the following scale:

35% = Class Participation (Attendance, tardiness, behavior, work ethic, being respectful)

10% = Homework

15% = Project/Lab/Research

15% = Quiz

25% = Exam

**Cheating/Plagiarism:** It is never okay to cheat or to represent someone else's work as your own. If you choose to cheat or plagiarize, or to allow someone else to cheat from you, you will receive a zero on the assignment. Repeat offenses will result in an office referral and serious disciplinary action.

**Collaboration:** On some assignments, you will be allowed, or even expected, to work with others. Collaboration means that all parties participate in discussing and formulating answers. Getting or giving answers does not constitute collaboration and will be considered cheating.

**Schoology:** You are expected to setup and use a Schoology account to post some homework and to gain access to handouts, announcements, and website links.

[www.tcsedu.schoology.com](http://www.tcsedu.schoology.com) . Your class access code is:

- **2nd Period:** CKKT2-B547T
- **3rd Period:** DFQ4Q-MVJ29
- **4th Period:** D3RHR-59WSR

**Late Work:** You are expected to complete every assignment and have it ready to hand in at the beginning of class. I will accept late work, but I will not make you another copy if you've lost the one you've already been given.

**Make-up Work:** Because this class involves many hands-on labs and activities, attendance is VERY important; Days missed are difficult to make up. Students should attend school every day possible to ensure their success. It is always the student's responsibility to find out what was missed and to ensure that it is turned in.

- Protocol for turning in late/missing work
  - Email Mr. Morris with a list of the days/assignments you are missing
  - Mr. Morris will email you with all of the assignments/activities you will need to make up
  - All late/missing work must be turned in within 5 days of your return to school

**Quizzes/Exams:**

- 1) Quizzes will be given at the end of every chapter.
- 2) Exams will be given at the end of every unit. All exams are cumulative. This will help you prepare for your final.
- 3) Quizzes and exams must be taken within 5 school days after your return to school.
- 4) Missing days of school is not an excuse to miss a quiz or an exam.

**Excused/Unexcused Absence:** Get daily assignments by checking the class assignments on Schoology. Most of the materials will be posted and downloadable; others you will need to get from your folder when you return. **This is your responsibility.** These are due within five days of your return. A written report may be assigned to make up for a missed hands-on activity. I will not be accepting late work during the last week of this semester.

**Classroom Photos/videos:** During certain assignments I will be taking photos/videos of the classroom activities and posting them on twitter for the community to see what we are doing at Tullahoma High School.

**Documentaries:** We will be watching multiple documentaries throughout this semester. Some of the documentaries contain small amounts of language that is representative of their feelings toward the topic being discussed. The documentaries will cover the following topics: Oil & Gas Industry, Agriculture, Evolution, Climate Change, and various other topics.

**Student:** I have read the class syllabus and understand my responsibilities as a student. My signature is my pledge to honor the class policy.

Signautre \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian:** I have read and discussed this syllabus with my child. I understand what I have read and support Mr. Morris implementing all of the rules, procedures, and activities listed above.

Signautre \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher:** I will be fair and consistent in administering these classroom procedures.

Signautre \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **PERMISSION TO USE THE GREENWAY**

During the course of this semester, the Ecology class will be using the Rock Creek Greenway (located behind the school) for various nature studies and labs. Because this area is off school grounds, permission is sought from parents for students to participate. Students are expected to remain with the class, under the teacher's supervision, and follow appropriate safety rules and instructions from the teacher. All school rules are in place during such outings.

My son or daughter, \_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in outdoor labs and activities on the Rock Creek Greenway with the Ecology Class. It is my understanding that all students participating in these activities will be under the rules and regulations of the school during these outings and will be subject to disciplinary measures for infraction of these rules. Also, it is my understanding that every precaution will be taken for the protection and the safety of the students. However, in the case of accident or mishap, the Board of Education and school officials will not be held liable. In the event of an emergency, my son or daughter has my permission to receive medical treatment from a doctor or hospital.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, please list any special health concerns of which the teacher may need to be aware of (e.g. bee sting allergy, asthma, etc.):

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