**Stanberry High School**

**Environmental Science**

**Instructor Information: Justin Leon**

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Office Hours: I am available to meet before school starting at 7:50am and on Monday, Thursday, and Friday after school until 3:30pm.

**Course Description:** This course is a curriculum that is designed to introduce students to major ecological concepts, Missouri animals and plants, and environmental problems that affect the world in which we live.

**Prerequisites:** Biology

**General Objective:** In the lecture portion of this course, students should gain an awareness and understanding of the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify various animal species, analyze environmental problems, evaluate risks, and examine possible solutions.

In the laboratory portion of the course, students should gain a working knowledge of the scientific method, experimentation, and good laboratory practices.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Understand the role, place, and interactions of components of the environment.
2. Identify the various biomes that make up the Earth.
3. Describe current environmental issues.
4. Identify various reptile, amphibian, fish, bird, and mammal species in Missouri.
5. Develop strong problem solving skills.
6. Use mathematical equations to predict the outcome of experiments.
7. Have good laboratory practices.

**Learning Activities/Major Topics Studied:**

Everyone learns differently. This being said, the course regularly incorporate numerous ways to engage students and promote learning throughout the year. A combination of lecture, classroom discussion, reading and writing, hands-on laboratory practices, individual and group projects will be used to facilitate the student’s learning of the required material.

**Method of Evaluation:**

Students will be evaluated numerous ways including daily quick-writes, participation in lab, assignments, quizzes, tests, projects, and logging a scientific notebook. At the completion of each unit, there will be a test. At the end of each quarter, students will turn in their science notebooks to be graded. Periodically, short quizzes will be given. The students should meet the requirements of these tests by attending and participating in scheduled class sessions, which will allow for greater concentration in the areas of importance and assist the students in their learning process.

**Attendance and Participation:**

Attendance and class participation are very important. A portion of the student’s grade will be based on lab participation. Students are expected to be on-time for class. If a student should be absent, it is the student’s responsibility to make-up the work they missed. The Stanberry Student Handbook outlines the make-up policy. Students are strongly encouraged to establish lines of communication with the instructor in order to discuss assignments, late work, and missed classes.

**Phone and Electronic Usage:**

Phones and other electronic (smart watches, headphones, iPads, etc.) devices will not be out or used by students unless specifically specified by the teacher. Failure to follow this policy will result in a loss of phone.

**Plagiarism and Cheating:**

The policies concerning cheating and plagiarism are posted in the Stanberry Student Handbook and will be enforced in this course.

For this class, instructor imposed grade reduction for each occurrence will be a grade of zero (0) for each assignment or test involved with no possibility for additional attempts at this/these requirement(s) and the incident(s) will be reported to the principal for further disciplinary action at their discretion.

**Late Work:**

Students are expected to turn in assignments, projects, etc. on time. Turing in late homework on same day as due date (i.e. after class) will result in a 5% grade deduction. Turning in late homework the next day(s) will result in a 30% grade deduction. Meaning the most you could get turning it in two days late would be a 70%. Work that is more than three days late will result in a zero.

Students are expected to take the quizzes and tests on or before the specified dates unless they have an excused absence. Early completion of quizzes and exams may be arranged without penalty as long as they are discussed and planned ahead of time with the teacher.

**Extra-credit:**

There will be one extra-credit opportunity at the end of every semester.

**Grading:**

The final grade that a student will receive is based on the accumulative number of points that the student achieved during the semester being divided by the points possible. Students and parents will be able to check their grade throughout the year using Lumens.

Determination of Grade

Percent Grade

100-96% A

95-90% A-

89-87% B+

86-84% B

83-80% B-

79-77% C+

76-73% C

72-70% C-

69-67% D+

66-63% D

62-60% D-

59% or lower F

**Special Accommodations:**

Accommodations and modifications can be made through the Special Education teacher if a student has a disability or learning disability.

**Course Outline:**

* Introduction to Science Processes
* Earth Systems and Resources
* The Living World
* Population Dynamics
* Land and Water Use
* Energy Resources and Consumption
* Pollution
* Global Change
* Endangered Species