



**Willard High School—Environmental Science I
Course Syllabus
2010-2011**

INSTRUCTOR: Mr. London
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CONFERENCE: 3rd hour/ room 162
742-3524 Ext. 3162

TEXT: Withgott, J. & Brennan, S. (2007). Environment: The science behind the stories (2nd ed.). New Jersey: Pearson.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Environmental Science is a one semester course intended for students who are pursuing a post-secondary education or vocational training and wish to have a better understanding of how humans impact the environment. The course will explore how humans directly and indirectly impact the quality of the environment through investigations into biological diversity, ecology, water quality analysis, waste production and disposal, and environmental health.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

After the successful completion of this class, students will be able to:

- 1) Relate the natural cycling of nutrients through the ecosystem to the forced cycling of nutrients through the ecosystem caused by humans.
- 2) Recognize that human decisions concerning the use of resources can alter the stability and biodiversity of ecosystems.
- 3) Understand and perform basic water quality sampling techniques and interpret the results.

TUTORING:

I will be available after school on most school days. There are exceptions with meetings, appointments, etc., so please check ahead of time.

Mondays:	3:00 - 4:00PM
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday:	2:30 - 4:00PM
Thursday:	2:30-4:15

I am usually at school by 7:00AM, but if needed, I can be here earlier by appointment.

Grading:

The student grades are based on test, quizzes, labs, projects, homework, and class participation. There will be weekly quizzes on the last day of the week based on the material presented during the week. There will be a midterm and a final exam. There will also be points derived from labs, activities, discussions, and homework

The following are only approximate percentages and your grade is based on the total points earned out of the total points possible for the semester.

Midterm Exam	10%	Projects	30%
Final Exam	10%	Other Assignments	20%
Weekly quizzes	30%		

Extra credit opportunities will be offered throughout the semester, *but the points earned will only be considered in determining the final semester grade.* The students' grades will be posted periodically throughout the semester and will not reflect any extra credit. Also, extra credit opportunities are only offered to the whole class, not individuals.

Class Policies

Welcome to the 2010-2011 school year. We have many challenges and opportunities ahead of us this year, and I am looking forward to getting to know each of you. My classroom policies are fairly simple: the WHS handbook will be followed in this class at all times. In addition to the rules in the handbook, I will expect the following:

1. Be prepared for class, both mentally and physically. You will always need to have your book and materials with you.
2. Show respect for your classmates.
3. Show respect for me, the substitute, or anyone else in charge.
4. Show respect for yourself. Give yourself the opportunity to succeed.

MATERIALS: You will need the following materials for my class:

- a binder
- a calculator: minimum, one that can do square roots, basic scientific calculator preferred
- paper
- #2 (HB) lead pencils
- colored pencils

TEXTBOOK:

You are expected to bring the textbook that was issued to you to every class. It is also your responsibility to take care of this textbook. Do not assume that if you leave your textbook in my classroom, it will be there the next day. Somebody will "borrow" it. Not only will you not have

a book, but you may be buying a new textbook. The replacement cost of the textbook is \$85.00. Once the textbook has been issued to you, it becomes YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to take care of it.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late assignments will be accepted at the teacher's discretion. The teacher reserves the right to refuse assignments or deduct additional points from the assignment. All late assignments will have minimum of 20% deducted.

ABSENCES:

You are responsible for making arrangements with the teacher for any material missed during your absences within the rules explained in the WHS handbook. All test and quizzes will be made up before or after school. Labs can be made up at the teacher's discretion after school. *No additional time will be given for tests, quizzes, and assignments missed because of school related absences (fieldtrips, competitions, activities, etc.). **The material is due the day you return to class, unless other arrangements are made before the absences.***

TARDIES:

Refer to your student handbook for disciplinary action. You will be considered tardy if you are not in the classroom and moving towards your desk in an orderly manner by the time the tardy bell rings.

DRINKS/FOOD

Absolutely no food in the classroom. Students may have water bottles, unless instructed otherwise due to safety concerns. Having water bottles in my class is a privilege and can be revoked. This classroom is also a laboratory.

DISCIPLINE:

You and only you are responsible for your actions. The WHS assertive discipline program will be followed in this classroom:

- 1) Student receives verbal warning in class.
- 2) Student meets with teacher and a discipline form is started.
- 3) Student receives a formal warning and a discipline assignment.
- 4) Contact with student's parent(s).
- 5) Student is referred to administration.

Any student committing a serious disruption to class (fighting, disrespect of authority, damaging property, inappropriate language, etc.); will be sent immediately to the principal.