

The Living Environment Syllabus and Course Outline

I. Supplies:

- Your Agenda book that you will receive from the school. All assignments should be recorded here.
- A three-ring binder (1 ½ - 2 inches) with loose leaf paper. The contents of this binder should be organized in chronological (date) order with all of your notes, handouts, homework, tests and quizzes. There will be quarterly notebook checks that will count as a QUIZ GRADE.
- Pens, pencils and a highlighter
- A folder with pockets to put your lab reports into (new or old, this will remain in your teacher's possession).
- Textbook: Prentice Hall Biology will be handed out at the beginning of the year. You can keep this at home.

II. Grading Policy:

A. Quarterly grades will be determined using the following data:

1. Tests: **55%**
2. Quizzes: **15%**
3. Labs: **15%**
4. Homework: **15%**
5. A cumulative **midterm** will be given and count as **20%** of your second quarter grade
6. The **Regents exam** will count as **20%** of your fourth quarter grade.

III. Tests and quizzes:

These will consist of a variety of question types, including multiple choice, short answer, graphing and reading comprehension that reflect the format of the NYS Living Environment Regents Exam

IV. Laboratory work:

All written lab reports will be collected TWO DAYS after completion in class. New York State requires evidence of 30 lab hours in order to be eligible to sit for the Regents Exam in June. After those two days, 10 points will be taken off of the grade for up to five class days. After five class days late the highest grade a lab may receive is a 60.

- Labs must receive a passing grade (65 or higher) to count toward your lab time.
- All labs missed from a legal or other excused absence must be made up within ONE WEEK from when they are completed.
- A set of pre-lab questions and vocabulary may also be required for some labs. This will count toward your final grade on that particular lab.

V Homework:

Homework will generally be given every night and may include the following: worksheets, Castle Learning, review for tests/quizzes, reading/writing assignments and research projects. Some assignments will be graded and some checked for completion. Usually you will not be given homework on Friday nights, unless you do not finish an in-class assignment.

- All homework assignments will be posted in the classroom at the beginning of class and on the class webpage calendar.
- You should answer all homework in complete sentences unless otherwise stated.
- If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the homework assignment that you missed. These are three phone numbers or e-mail addresses of my friends that I can contact from this class to get the assignment:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

*Again, you are responsible to make up missed work. Call/email a reliable classmate

VI. Extra Help:

Extra help will be held in Room 232 on Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays from 2:40 – 3:10

VII. Classroom Procedures:

Students are expected to:

Arrive to class on time, be seated and ready to work at the bell (remember 3 lates count as an unexcused absence.

- Come prepared to class with the items listed in supplies section
- Raise your hand when you would like to be part of the discussion
- Respect your fellow students, teacher and classroom
 - No talking when someone else is talking
 - Keep hands, feet and supplies to yourself
 - Absolutely NO food or drinks in the classroom (bottled water allowed)
- Do not work on other subject material in class
- The use of cell phones and other electronic devices are NOT permitted in class. Cell phones will be placed in the numbered pockets in the front of the classroom at the beginning of each period. You will each have an assigned numbered pocket that will remain the same through the entire school year. When appropriate, iPads may be used in some lessons, however they will remain off and away at any other time they are not required.

Now that you have read through all of the technical stuff, welcome to the Regents Living Environment course! I am looking forward to a great year with all of you!

I have read and I understand the above mentioned policies and procedures.

Student's Name (print)

Student's Signature and Date

Parent/Guardian's Name (print)

Parent/Guardian's Signature and Date