Aquatic Science Syllabus

Course: Aquatic Science
Instructor: Oscar Ray
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Conference Hour: 11:20-12:10

Objectives:
• By the end of the academic year, students should be able to:
• Name and understand the terms associated with aquatic habitats.
• Identify key features and characteristics of atmospheric, geological, hydrological, and biological systems as they relate to aquatic environments.
• Demonstrate basic principles of fluid dynamics, including hydrostatic pressure, density, salinity, and buoyancy.
• Identify the role of carbon, nitrogen, water, and nutrient cycles in an aquatic environment, including upwellings and turnovers.
• Compare and describe how adaptations allow an organism to exist within an aquatic environment.
• Identify how energy flows and matter cycles through both fresh water and salt water aquatic systems, including food webs, chains, and pyramids.
• Predict effects of chemical, organic, physical, and thermal changes from humans on the living and nonliving components of aquatic ecosystems.

CLASSROOM INFORMATION
1. You will be responsible for your behavior and your work.

2. All school rules will be observed. This means that gum will be removed before coming to class.
3. There is a hall pass for emergencies only.

4. The discipline policy is posted on the front bulletin board. For 3 Level 1 offenses, a referral is made. After 3 D-Hall assignments, ISS is assigned. After 3 ISS assignments, AEP is assigned.

5. Be on time to class. If you are late to class or have to get your shoes or class materials, you will be counted tardy. The first tardy will result in a verbal warning. The second tardy will result with a reflection form. The third tardy will result in a parent conference. 4\textsuperscript{th}, 5\textsuperscript{th} and 6\textsuperscript{th} tardies will result in office referrals. Restroom breaks will count as a tardy. You have plenty of time between classes to take care of personal business.

6. Wait to be called upon to answer. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized.

7. Class will be dismissed by the instructor when bell rings.

8. Come prepared with materials every day. All Aquatic Science classes will need: pen (black or blue; DO NOT USE OTHER INK COLORS), red pen, pencil, 1 lab notebook.

9. All work assignments are due on due date at the beginning of class. Work will be accepted 1 day late but the maximum grade you will receive will be 70. Late work will not be accepted more than 1 day late. It is your responsibility to place homework, etc., in the basket or submit via eBackpack.

10. Grading procedures are as follows:

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<tr>
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<th>20%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily average</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tests average</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab report average</td>
<td>30%</td>
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* There will be at least 5 major grades (2 major tests, 1 outside reading* grade which acts as a test, lab average, and daily average). Test average will count 50%, lab average will count 25% and daily average will count 25%. Daily work shall consist of homework, pop quizzes, and other exercises.
11. You will be responsible for getting work assignments made during your absence as well as for getting notes taken during that time.
   a. If you are ill or have an excused absence, you will have three days to make up your work.
   b. If you are absent for a school function, please get your assignment ahead of time. Homework is due when you return.
   c. If you are absent the day of a test, plan on making up the test in after school detention on the day you return.
   d. If you are absent for lab, arrangements must be made to make it up.
   e. If you have an unexcused absence, then the maximum grade you will receive is 70 on any assignment.

12. Cheating is inexcusable and will not be tolerated. It will be reported as an offense to the office and punished according to the discipline plan. It will also be reported to the NHS faculty council.

13. Retesting procedure: If you score less than 70 on a major test, then you may retake the test within a week if you wish. During that time, you must come for three days (30 minutes each) of tutoring. The tutoring must be scheduled in advance. The days can be before school, after school or at lunch. For each day that you come to tutoring, the teacher who tutors you must sign your retest sheet (obtain from your classroom teacher). The highest score that you can make on the retake is 70. The retest will be a new test in essay format.

14. You may use your own technology in my classroom when it is appropriate for the lesson. This includes laptop computers, tablet devices and smartphones. If you are using a phone it must be laying on your desk, if I cannot see the screen I will ask you to put it away. You may use your devices for internet research, as a calculator, timer, etc. You may NOT, repeat NOT, make phone calls, send text messages or use it to communicate with anyone else while the class is in session.

15. This class will perform several dissections in the spring months including mollusks, fish, crayfish, starfish and shark to compare the systems of various marine species and how they compare and contrast with one another.
16. This class will maintain and test the water of the cichlid aquarium inside the classroom. The class will test the water daily and record the results in a class log book. The class will also be responsible for cleaning the aquarium weekly. We will discuss the procedure for this in a separate handout. There will be a grade given for your part in the cleaning and testing process; failure or refusal to participate will result in a 0 for the grade.
I, ______________________, have read and agree to follow the terms of the syllabus. I understand that I am also responsible for following all student rules as guided by the student handbook. I understand that some items are subject to change (dates, order of information) and that I will be notified of any changes immediately in class.

_______________________________________________  
Student Signature                                Date

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Please review the syllabus with your child and let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Your signature below is acknowledging that you understand the classroom rules that will be enforced, in addition to rules laid out by the student code of conduct manual.

_______________________________________________  
Parent/Guardian Signature                       Date