**Animals & Their Environment**

Course Syllabus

**General Information:**

Course Length: One semester

Instructor: Kristen North,

Contact: [knorth@mchs.net](mailto:knorth@mchs.net)

Location: South Campus room 141 (1A, 1B, 2B)

South Campus room 140 (3A, 4A)

Central Campus room 484 (4B)

Webpage: <http://kristennorth.weebly.com/>

**Course Description**

The introductory course for our animal science program focuses on animals and their impact on the environment. Students will study animals in their various habitats and environments throughout the world including rainforests, deserts, grasslands, wetlands, oceans, polar regions, and urban environments. Students will also learn of the many career opportunities available in the field of animal science.

**Course Objectives:**

* Define what an animal is
* Understand and use the binomial classification of animals
* Explain and differeniate between a biome, a habitat, and an environment
* Explain the difference between predators, prey, and scavengers
* Create complex food webs
* Explain the difference between herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores
* Understand how animals adapt to different environments
* Explain how climate affects a biome
* Identify human activities that threaten biomes
* Create a plan to protect or conserve biomes
* Explain the differences between tropical and temperate biomes
* Explain what a rainforest is
* Identify the different ocean zones
* Describe a grassland biome
* Define alpine and tundra biomes

**Topics Covered (Including projects)**

Animals & Their Environment Topics

1. Introduction to Agriculture
   1. What is agriculture?
   2. What does agriculture encompass?
   3. How does agriculture affect you?
2. Animal and Environments
   1. What is an animal?
   2. How are animals classified
   3. What is an environment? What is your environment? Adaptations and changes
   4. Habitats and habitat loss
3. Biomes of the World – each biome will cover:
   1. Locations
   2. Structures
   3. Types
   4. Specific animals that live in that environment and how they survive
   5. Conservation and protection

Biomes Covered:

1. Rainforests and Jungles
2. Deserts
3. Oceans and Shallow Seas
4. Savannahs and Grasslands
5. Ice Worlds
6. Freshwater
7. Caves
8. Seasonal Forests
9. Mountains

**Materials Required:**

All text and reference materials will be provided in class or online. Students are required to have a pencil or pen, and a flash drive/thumb drive.

# Grading Policy

Projects 80%

Online activities & other assignments 20%

**Course Requirements, Policies and Expectations**

Projects make up 80% of your grade. They will vary in type and intensity. You must turn in all required work to get a grade on a project. Partially completed projects will **NOT** be accepted.

The remaining 20% of your grade is based on a variety of online activities, quizzes, and worksheets.

Due dates will be posted for all course work. Please refer to the school absence policy that is outlined in the student handbook. If you need extended time to complete something, you must request it prior to the due date. If you fail to request extended time, your work will be considered late and 10% will be deducted for each day late. This applies to all course work.

Online Activities & Other Assignments:

1. VIDEOS: You are expected to watch videos that cover various lecture materials for the class on a regular basis. Questions are embedded into the video for you to respond to. ALL videos must be viewed by a specified date. Failure to complete the videos will delay your ability to work on projects. You will be advised for the online blog what the expectations are for each one.
2. QUIZZES: Quizzes are taken via Edmodo. Due dates will be specified in class. Retakes are permitted as long as you have taken the quiz by the due date.
3. WORKSHEETS: There are occasionally other worksheets to complete during class. These must be turned in by the due date to continue work on projects.

**All rules in the Student Handbook are in effect at all times in this class.**

Come to class prepared. You will need to have a writing utensil. You do not need to have a spiral or notebook.

Everyone is responsible for cleaning up his or her personal work area.

Passes: you **must** use your planner if you need to go to the nurse, office, restroom or locker. Passes will **NOT** be issued during the first ten minutes of class so use passing time wisely. When you leave the classroom, you must sign out in the Pass Log Book and sign back in upon returning.

Talking: please respect everyone in the class. If someone is talking, you should not be talking.

Personal Electronic Devices are to be off and out of sight at ALL times during class.

No book bags, backpacks, or coats allowed.

Computer use is limited to classroom related activities. Failure to follow this policy may result in loss of computer privileges.

These are simply guidelines to help make class an enjoyable experience. Everyone has a right to fair treatment so please abide by these simple guidelines.