**Environmental Science**

**302 Syllabus for 2015-2016** UDHS

**Teacher:** Lisa Fantini, Director of Robbins Park

Ema**il:** lfantini@udsd.org **Phone:** 215-643-8900, 215-641-0921 RP

**Class Website:** [**http://fantinisfantastic.wikispaces.com**](http://loch-envisci.wikispaces.com)

**COURSE SUMMARY**

Environmental Science is a student-centered, inquiry course in which the classroom is a learning laboratory. Important concepts studied include the study of agriculture, water use and quality, solid waste, energy and resources, ecology, population dynamics and human interactions with the environment. The course incorporates applications in biology, chemistry, and physics while studying the natural world and human connections. Students will learn through a variety of experiences including laboratory investigations, project learning, problem-based learning, independent research, field trips, classroom discussions and real world application.

**Textbook:** Person, J. (2008). *Environmental Science*. J.M. LeBel Publishers, Inc: Dallas. **(Please keep this book covered at all times.)**

**Materials** *(You are responsible for bringing the following supplies to class on a daily basis.)*:

* + Lab notebook (bound composition notebook) and Chromebook
  + Pocket folder, Blue/black pen or pencil, Agenda
  + Other recommended materials: calculator, flash drive?

**CLASS EXPECTATIONS**

Show **RESPECT** to yourself, others, and the classroom environment by…

* **Arriving on time** \***Being prepared** \***Acting as a responsible and positive participant**
* **Thinking outside the box and communicating**

**Attendance and Tardiness:**

Attendance and punctuality are critical to your success in school, work and other endeavors. Assisting students in establishing lifelong habits of reliability and promptness are additional objectives of this course. Your success in this course will be adversely affected by repeated tardiness or absences. I follow all attendance policies as outlined in the student handbook.

***Absences* -** If you are absent, **it is your responsibility** to find out what work was missed. It is expected that you check the wikispace for missed assignments/announcements and talk with classmates before approaching me for missed work. The best time to talk with me about this is before or after school. If you have an excused absence, work assigned during your absence is expected to be submitted in accordance with the timeline in the student handbook. Assignments given prior to your absence are due on the day you return to class. If you require special arrangements regarding late work, please see me at least one day prior to the original due date.

***Tardies* -** In order to avoid being considered tardy you need to be **in the room** when the bell rings. Every third unexcused class tardy, per quarter, will be submitted for a 1 hour detention, as outlined in the student handbook.

***If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and when assignments are due****.*

(Assignments will be posted on the calendar through the class website.)

**Participation and Preparedness:**

It is important that you come to class ready to learn and participate. This includes **bringing your lab notebook/ chromebook to class everyday** and keeping track of your assignments. What you put into the class is what you will get out. A group learning approach is often used in this class with groups changing periodically. How well you participate as a member of a group will impact your grade. Working on a team to complete a task is a critical applied learning skill, necessary in the classroom, and in the real world.

**Technology Expectations:**

1. Electronic devices, cell phones, mp3 players, and non-district issued tablets are not to be taken out during class unless directed by the teacher. If personal electronic devices are used without permission, students will be referred to the administration office.
2. When working on the computers, only the programs being used in class should be open.

**EVALUATION AND GRADING**

Grades are based on a point system. The total points earned divided by the total points possible becomes a percentage to quantify your achievement. You can check your grade by accessing “eschool plus” at <http://www.udsd.org>.

***Assessments*** - You will be provided with many different opportunities to demonstrate what you have learned. Some assessments are individual; others are done in groups. Be prepared for the use of a variety of assessment tools including but not limited to, quizzes /tests, papers, lab analyses and reports, presentations, and projects. You will be evaluated on your content knowledge and level of participation in various activities. The variety in assessments will allow all students to fully demonstrate their knowledge.

***Homework***

Students should expect homework on a nightly basis, which may include the following:

completion of labs/activities reading from the text along with questions work on long-term projects

studying for quizzes/tests preparation for class discussion or activity internet research

wiki discussions or entries chapter vocabulary class discussion preperation

***Late Work*** - All work is due on the assigned date at the beginning of class (unless otherwise stated). Daily work that is turned in late, such as homework, will receive a maximum of half credit. Projects turned in late will be reduced one full grade (10%) for each day late. Once a unit is completed, late work from that unit cannot be made up.

***Academic Honesty*** – All students are expected to do their **own** work, in your own words. This is paramount to student success in the class and therefore I do not tolerate any form of cheating. Students who engage in such behavior will be given a zero for that assignment or test. Copying homework/lab reports/classwork and/or plagiarism is considered cheating and will be dealt with as such. You are encouraged to work with your peers on assignments, however collaboration is very different from copying. Though you may discuss questions and concepts, all of your work should be your **own** thoughts and words. Please see me if you are unsure of the difference between collaboration and cheating. Plagiarism is not tolerated and should be revisited in the student handbook.

**THE ROAD TO SUCCESS**

Most importantly, I am here to help you be successful in this course and your future! The single most important thing you can do to be successful is to ask for help. I encourage you to let me know if there is anything I can do to help us work together effectively. Students are expected to take personal responsibility for their success in this class. Likewise, if I observe that you are having difficulty working effectively in class, I will consult with you and/or your parent/guardian so that we may help you achieve personal success. **Your success is my paramount goal and I will do whatever I can to help you.**

**CONTACTING ME**

If you need help, **any help**, please speak up and let me know. I am available for help before school or by appointment. You can always email me at lfantini@udsd.org or our chrome classroom.

***I look forward to getting to know you and working together to have a great year in Environmental Science!***

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**Upper Dublin High School**

Please sign and return this page to Ms. Fantini to be kept on file.

**We have read, discussed and understand the Syllabus for Environmental Science and plagarism policy of UDSD:**

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Student Name (printed) Student Signature

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Student Email Address

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Parent or Guardian Name (printed) Parent or Guardian Signature

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Parent or Guardian Email Address

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Daytime Phone Nighttime Phone

Best time to be reached: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Preferred method of contact (phone/email): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**\*\****There may be pictures taken of your student involved in classroom related activity.  In order to put these pictures on the school or class website or in Upper Dublin publications, we need parent permission.  Please know that even with permission, your student’s full name will not be published, only first names may be used if appropriate.****If you do NOT give your permission, please initial here: \_\_\_\_\_\_****Otherwise, your signature on the syllabus indicates consent to publish any photos of your student.\*\**

**In the space below please write any questions or comments, including any additional information you would like me to know about your child. Thank you.**  **Please Return to Ms. Fantini**