

**Welcome to Earth/Environmental Science
Green Hope High School
2014 - 2015**

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Course Description:

This course focuses on inquiry into the functions of the Earth's systems. Emphasis is placed in matter, energy, crustal dynamics, environmental awareness, plate tectonics, rock & mineral formation, natural resources, and the cycles that circulate energy and materials through the Earth's systems.

Materials:

3-ring Binder (1 ½ inch with dividers) with Notebook Paper
1 Thin Spiral Notebook (or be prepared to keep your binder organized)
Pencil or pen (blue or black ink only, please)
Textbook: *This class uses an online textbook through CK12.org. The link and instructions will be available in class and on CorbatScience (click the 'CK12 Online Textbook and Review' link under Helpful Pages).*

Notebooks should be kept organized so that materials needed are easier to find. It's a lot less frustrating if you know where things are.

Evaluation:

50% - **Tests**
32% - **Labs/Projects/Quizzes**
15% - **Classwork**
3% - **Participation** (Lunch Tutorials)

The Green Hope High School Grading Committee, based on the recommendation of the faculty and staff, endorses the belief that extra credit and bonus points will no longer be incorporated into our grading practices. Research has proven that extra credit and bonus points distort a student's record of achievement.

As evidence of our continued pursuit of excellence, Green Hope High School offers Additional Opportunities to Demonstrate Mastery (AODM). For each unit an alternate mastery assignment will be given. The assignments will be discussed in class, and will be made available on CorbatScience. Students may take advantage of this opportunity in any unit they wish. Mastery assignments will be part of the test category on HomeBase. Please note: Grades will count regardless of performance.

Communication:

Grades are posted online through HomeBase and will be updated weekly.

Since access to grades is readily available, hard copies of interims will not be printed unless specifically requested. If you have concerns about grades or progress, please email me at jcorbat@wcpss.net. If internet access is not available, please call 380-3700 and leave a message with a callback number. I will return your call as quickly as possible.

Detailed information about this class is on my website. Please check here often for daily updates, as well as useful materials for each topic we cover this semester.

Rules:

1. Respect yourself and others.
2. Food and drink are not allowed in the classroom, except for water.
3. Be on time and prepared with your notebook, paper, pen & pencil EVERY DAY.
4. All assignments to be turned in should always be written in pencil or pen (blue or black ink only) or typed.
5. Be an active learner.

Tardy Policy:

We will be following the Green Hope High School Tardy Policy. Please refer to your student handbook.

Absences:

It is the student's responsibility to complete and turn in any missed work (defined as assignments given during the absence, NOT before an absence). Refer to my website or our Google Calendar for all information needed (notes and assignments).

With the rapid pace of block scheduling, students should make up missed work quickly. Tests MUST be made up within two days of the missed test. If you are absent on the day of test, expect to make it up the first day you are back, unless other arrangements are made prior to your return.

If an assignment was assigned prior to the absence, it is due on the day of the student's return from the absence.

Due to time, equipment, and space constraints, lab activities can be difficult to make up. Lab activities will be available for make-up for only two tutorial sessions after the lab was done in class. After that time, the lab is put away because other make-up labs will have rotated in to take up the available space. Tutorials are Monday (2nd half of lunch) and Wednesday (1st half of lunch) each week. In some cases, labs can also be made up (by advance appointment only) before school or after school during that same time period.

For any make up work, students should schedule an appointment with me at least one day in advance to avoid scheduling conflicts. If you plan to be out due to an extended illness, surgery, etc., please contact Student Services at 380-3688 to request assignments.

Late Work:

Some assignments will be accepted late BUT will receive 70% of the original grade. Work from the first half of the quarter will only be collected up to the time of the interim reports. Work from the second half of the quarter will be collected at the end of the quarter. It is the student's responsibility to remember to request and submit any late work (or make up work) directly into my hands – not on my desk, a table, or any other location.

Daily Warm-Up / Journal:

At the beginning of each class there will be some type of warm-up or review question(s). As you enter the room, you should complete this assignment in your notebook. You will want to copy or paraphrase the question first and then give your answer. This collection of warm-ups will be a great tool to study for the midterm and final exams. I will periodically check your notebook, so it is important to copy down any warm-ups you may miss.

Notebook Checks:

Notebook checks will take place during one-on-one check-ins. These check-ins will be announced ahead of time, but it is important to keep your notebook organized at all times. Feedback from the check-ins will be shared with parents, and is meant to help you improve your organization, study, and content skills in science.

Review Sessions:

Science tutorials will be held during the first half of lunch on Tuesday and Friday. There will be a minimum attendance requirement and it will count toward your overall grade (see "evaluation" section above). I STRONGLY encourage students to attend more than just the minimum number of sessions.

Green Hope Honor Code:

It is expected that each student will follow the GHHS Honor Code as posted on the school's website, <http://greenhopehigh.wcpss.net/>. Students who break the GHHS Honor Code on an assignment, regardless of intent or the weight of the assignment, will be subject to the school's disciplinary system (see the school website).

Bring Your Own Device:

Science is a highly technology-driven subject. We will often use devices in class for various activities and assignments. On announced days, if you have a portable device (smartphone, tablet, or small laptop) you may bring it in to complete these activities. You must have permission from a parent/guardian to bring a device, and the student does so at his/her own risk. Students are always held to the WCPSS Student Code of Conduct and Student Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources policy. Note: Devices will be used only for designated activities and cannot be used for note taking and other similar tasks. If you do not have a device, it is not necessary to purchase one for this class; one will be provided to you.

I will ask you to complete an online form with the following information on _____.
Please take a moment to fill out all the information at home to ensure that you will be able to complete the form in class.

Student Information Sheet

Name: _____ Prefer to be called: _____ Period: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Street

City

ZIP

Phone Number: _____ **Email:** _____

How often do you use Email? _____

Do you have a connected device (Smartphone, iPod touch, tablet, etc.) that you will be bringing to class each day? YES or NO If so, what is it? _____

Mode of Transportation to school: (circle one)

BUS

CAR

WALK

Mode of Transportation from school: (circle one)

BUS

CAR

WALK

Parent/Guardian #1: _____

Parent/Guardian #2: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Occupation: _____

Occupation: _____

Questions that will help me help you:

Will you have a job during the school year? _____ If so, where? _____

Is there anything you think I need to know in order to help you be successful this year? _____

Where in the classroom should you sit in order to do your best? Explain. _____

Questions to answer about yourself:

In order to be successful in this class, I have to _____

The qualities I like most about myself are _____

The habit that most gets in the way of my success is _____

Parental Input:

Please take a minute and provide any information about how your child learns best. From a parental perspective what would you like for me to know about your child? Use the back of this paper for your response. Please do not hesitate to email me during the year at jcorbat@wcpss.net.

Classroom Expectations and Honor Code Agreement

I have read the Honor Code along with the classroom expectations and understand the procedures for Earth Science this year. I am also aware of the consequences if I do not follow this plan.

Student's signature and date

Parent's signature and date