**WELCOME TO ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE!**

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**Environmental Science** covers four broad areas:  EarthCycles,Environmental Quality, Human Effect on the Environment, and Energy Production Issues (0.5 credit—meets alternate days for one semester)

This course is required of all LHS students and must be passed in order to meet graduation requirements. It also contains content and skills that will be tested on the CAPT, given to all sophomores.

### MATERIALS

* Textbook:*Environmental Science* Author: Karen Arms, publisher: HRW
* Online version of the text can be found at [*http://my.hrw.com*](http://my.hrw.com) .
* A 3-ringed notebook for notes/handouts is recommended.



### GRADING

 Grades are determined by tests, quizzes, lab reports, and homework.

 % of grade

 Tests 30%

 Quizzes 35%

 Lab reports 25%

 Homework 10%

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**Lateness/ Absence policy:** If you miss a class or lab for any reason it is **your** responsibility to see me the **first** day you return to check on missed material. I expect you to do this even if our class period does not meet the day you return. Catch me early in the morning or in between periods briefly.

\*3 tardies to class earns you a teacher detention. Be on time and ready to learn!

\***TESTS and quizzes** are to be made up within the same number of days that you were absent.

**\*Homework** *–* homework will be assigned almost daily. Homework is designed to provide practice or concept reinforcement and is graded based on effort. A blank paper with “I really tried, but did not understand any of it!” will not be accepted. Lab write-ups and other projects will be graded based on a rubric.

\***Cheating/Plagiarism** will result in a grade of zero for the assignment and other disciplinary consequences from the administration. For details on Cheating/Plagiarism, see the Parent/Student Handbook. Labs are often done in groups, but **every student must do his/her own individual lab write-up(s) in his/her own words.**

\*The [**lab safety**](http://my.hrw.com/tabnav/controller.jsp?isbn=0030931096) regulations listed in the textbook on pages 600-603 will be followed in our labs. Students who are behaving inappropriately may be removed from lab and will receive a zero for the lab grade.

### EXTRA HELP

I am available after school most days except Thursdays. Please don't hesitate to ask for extra help!!!

A few minutes can make a world of difference! I am here to help you be successful in this class.

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### SYLLABUS

The following chapters of the textbook will be covered. The order is subject to change according to lab materials available at the time. Some chapters will be covered more extensively than others, based on the curriculum.

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| Chapter 1 | Science and the Environment |
| Chapter 3  | The Dynamic Earth |
| Chapter 5 | How Ecosystems Work |
| Chapter 8 | Understanding Populations |
| Chapter 9 | The Human Population |
| Chapter 11 | Water |
| Chapter 12  | Air |
| Chapter 13 | Atmosphere and Climate Change |
| Chapter 17  | Nonrenewable Energy |
| Chapter 18  | Renewable Energy |
| https://encrypted-tbn1.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcR5au-Kiqp5J1XnblHFlSL_R9cQRATDF948yuQCFMnQFebm3T84yAChapter 19  | Waste |

Environmentalism is becoming more and more relevant in today's world. In media and popular culture, there is a strong effort to promote eco-friendly lifestyles. Director David Guggenheim's An Inconvenient Truth, a 2006 documentary about Al Gore's campaign to increase awareness about global warming, helped to start the current push to go green. The Cove, a 2009 documentary about unsustainable fishing practices in Japan, won an Academy Award and brought attention to the cruel treatment of aquatic animals in the entertainment and food industries. In business and technology, we see many companies trying to be more environmentally safe with their products. Major corporations like Nike, Intel, and General Mills are adapting more sustainable business practices. And, in politics, there is also a push to go green. *World leaders recently met for the third time since 1997 to address concerns of global warming. The Paris Climate Agreement set forth goals for many of the countires in the world regarding energy use*. What this all comes down to is that environmentalism is clearly becoming more and more significant in our society.

By taking an environmental science class, students gain a better understanding of the major earth systems and how humans impact them. Students will find that they make decisions every day that can help or hurt ecosystems, such as the choice to pick up litter, buy a notebook made of recycled paper, or simply turn off the lights when leaving a room. And maybe, students will even be inspired by seeing how small changes in their routine can help the environment and how small groups are making big statements about environmental issues.

I hope that other students will take advantage of the opportunity to learn about the current environmental conflicts in the world and what they can do to find a solution.

*Excerpted from a blog by Alexis Jane Torre, a 21-year-old college junior.*