

Aquatic Sciences



Course Syllabus
Teacher: Ms. Caraballo
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Aquatic Science
Room: 102

I. Overview

In Aquatic Science, students study the interactions of biotic and abiotic components in aquatic environments, including impacts on aquatic systems. Investigations and field work in this course may emphasize fresh water or marine aspects of aquatic science depending primarily upon the natural resources available for study near the school. Students who successfully complete Aquatic Science will acquire knowledge about a variety of aquatic systems, conduct investigations and observations of aquatic environments, work collaboratively with peers, and develop critical-thinking and problem-solving skills.

Topic
Properties of Water
Freshwater Ecosystems
Saltwater Ecosystems
Aquatic Ecology
Classification
Water Pollution

II. Grading Policies

Test	30%
Daily Work	20%
Quizzes	15%
Laboratory (Report, Participation)	25%
Homework	10%
Total	100%

Assignments: Labs and daily work is very important. If a student comes to class regularly and honestly attempts to complete and turn in all assigned work, he/she will not fail this class. If work is not completed in class, it is their responsibility to take it for homework and turn it in the following day at the beginning of class.

Notes, activity sheets, labs, quizzes, tests, and all papers that are given should be kept in their Folders.

Quizzes will be given periodically with an advanced notice.

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Attendance/Tardies: It is crucial that the student reports to class on a daily basis. If you are constantly unexcused absent or tardy, your grade will suffer. Show respect and be on time to class, if you are tardy you must sign in at the beginning of the class period by the door.

Extra Credit: The opportunities to receive extra credit will be available only once every nine weeks as instructed by the teacher.

Make-up Work: If you are absent you will have 2 school days to collect and turn in the assignment. It is the student's responsibility to ask and collect any/all assignments you missed. You may make-up the work or labs during lunch or after school, please make arrangements with me accordingly. (Excused absences only)

Late Work: If work is not turned in on time, students will have only 2 school days to turn in the work. The highest grade you can receive on a late assignment is a 70. Re-Doing Assignments you can redo an assignment that was turned in on time to bring the grade up to an 80. However, you must come in to tutoring and complete it during that time in order to receive credit.

Tutoring: I am always available for tutoring. Please ask me at least one day in advance so that we can make arrangements.

III.

Expectations:

1. **Everyone deserves respect.** Respect each other and the teacher. Respect yours and each other's space and the materials of your peers.
2. **Be prepared for class.** When the bell rings, be in your assigned seat ready to work with your materials out.
3. **Follow all safety rules.** Students must read and have a safety contract signed by both them and their parents. No food or drinks allowed in the classroom. This is a lab and you can never be sure what chemicals have been spilled on your tables.
4. **Follow usual classroom decorum.** You should raise your hand to be recognized, do not talk during lecture, absolutely no swearing, rude gestures, teasing or putdowns. Remain in your seats until I dismiss you, not the bell.
5. **Clean up after yourselves.** Once you have completed an experiment/activity, please clean up and place all equipment in their proper places. I will make sure your area is clean before you are dismissed. Any mess left will result in a 10-point deduction from the lab's grade.

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6. **No electronic devices.** All electronic devices should be turned off, or on silent, and out of sight during school hours. If I see them, they will be taken away.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

- Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Academic dishonesty is defined as an intentional act of deception in one of the following areas:
 - Cheating – use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information or study aids
 - Assisting – helping another commit an act of academic dishonesty
 - Tampering – altering or interfering with evaluation instruments and documents
 - Plagiarism - representing the words or ideas of another person as one’s own.
- Academic dishonesty of any kind, **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!** If caught, the student will automatically receive a failing grade for the given assignment, quiz, or test.

Safety/Lab Conduct:

You will be required to follow all class rules and all laboratory safety rules. Violation of lab rules will result in point deductions from the Lab assignments. Always wear proper safety attire there are no exceptions.

Consequences: Failure to follow rules will result in the following:

- 1st offense:** verbal correction / warning
- 2nd offense:** student / teacher conference- detention
- 3rd offense:** student / teacher conference - phone call to parents- detention
- 4th offense:** referral

Parent/Guardians note: Parents/Guardians, these rules/guidelines have been placed to ensure your child’s success in my classroom. They will be strictly enforced. If you have any questions, concerns, or want to schedule a conference, please feel free to email me or send a note with your son/daughter.

We have read, understood, and agreed to the course guidelines for Ms. Caraballo Aquatic Science class.

Student’s name (printed)	Student’s signature	Date
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Parent’s/Guardian’s name (printed)	Parent’s/Guardian’s signature	Date
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