

Marine Science Syllabus 2019-2020

Instructor: Mrs. Erin Ellis

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Office Hours: Mornings starting at 6:45 AM. Monday and Wednesday after school 2:00- 5:00pm. Other afternoons by appointment only. Green break as well.

*Email is the best way to communicate with me. I will always reply to your email. If I don't respond, you were most likely filtered by our system. In that case, please call and leave a message.

Text:

Marine Science. By Thomas F. Greene, 2017

*Students are responsible for keeping their textbook covered at all times. Students found without a book cover will be given 1 warning. If a book remains uncovered, the student will be required to spend their next break covering their book in the biology classroom.

Course Description:

This course will serve as an introduction to Oceanography and Marine Biology. Students will have the opportunity to explore the physical environments associated with the world's oceans, the aspects of climate and climate change as they relate to oceans, the diversity of life that exists in marine environments and the relationship between humans and the seas using both technology and inquiry- based laboratory investigations. First and second semester projects are included along with multiple dissection labs. This is a rigorous course where students are expected to show progress in acquiring a base knowledge of marine systems and also demonstrate the ability to research and incorporate learnings into projects, labs, presentations and class discussions.

Course Requirements:

- A notebook or 3-ring binder with paper for note-taking and folders for handouts.
- A marbled composition book for lab work.
- A pencil, eraser and blue or black pen.
- 1 pack colored pencils (10-12 count.)
- iPad – This should be brought to class **charged** every day.

Course Expectations:

Tests/ Quizzes:

Tests will be given at the end of every unit. All tests will be announced at least week in advance. Test retakes are not offered. Open-book test corrections will be allowed on 1 exam per term (student's choice.)

Quizzes will be given periodically throughout a unit. Quizzes are usually announced in advance, however, students should be prepared for pop quizzes over material already covered in class.

Lab work:

All lab reports/lab notebooks are due in hard copy (unless previously arranged) at the beginning of class. Labs are expected to follow the format outlined on the first lab day unless otherwise stated. Students are expected to hand in labs neatly written following standard laboratory notation in their lab books.

Safety in all labs is essential. Students who do not follow instructions or violate lab rules will be dismissed from the room. **Any student asked to leave the lab area will be given a zero for the lab assignment and his or her parent will be contacted to discuss the incident.**

Homework:

Students can expect homework with every class meeting. Absolutely **NO LATE HOMEWORK IS ACCEPTED** except in the case of an absence. Please note, all assignments are available online through google classroom the day they are assigned.

Make-Up Policy:

Students are expected to make every effort to complete missed work due to absence as soon as possible.

Missed homework, lab reports and projects are due the first day the student returns to school. Labs must be arranged to be made up after school and must be completed within one week of a student returning to school. Students should be prepared to take a missed test or quiz the during the next class period after returning to school unless prior arrangements have been made. **Failure to reschedule make-up appointments or keep these appointments will result in a zero.**

Late Work:

Only labs, projects and papers will be accepted with a penalty of 10% off per day late. None will be accepted after 3 days. Please note, weekends count as 1 day. If a student is marked as present in school, but absent from class (field trip, etc.) they are expected to turn in their assignments before the start of class.

Late to Class:

If a student is late to class three times a detention will be issued. Coming unprepared to class (no book, notebook, pen and pencil, or charged iPad) is equivalent to a tardy. Please ask before the bell rings if you find you have forgotten something.

Food in Room:

There will be no food allowed in the science rooms. Water may be carried into class, but during labs will need to be left at designated areas.

Grade Break down:

Tests: 70-100 points each

Labs/Projects: 30-150 points each

Quizzes: 20-70 points each

Homework and Class Participation: 5-25 points each

Classroom expectations:

All students are expected to:

- Come prepared to learn with both class supplies and a positive attitude.
- Be respectful of others – Embrace differences because they are what enrich our experiences.
- Be respectful of me and my time – I will meet all students more than halfway in order that they have a positive experience and learn what is required, however students need to take responsibility for their own learning by:
 - Completing all homework well (not quickly) and on time.
 - Studying efficiently and always give his or her best effort.
 - Being proactive in completing missed work and making appointments for making up work.
 - Coming in for extra help if needed and communicating questions.

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the start of the 2019-2020 school year at Nipmuc Regional High School. I am looking forward to working with your children this year in Marine Science class. As you may know, this is a project-based course that will require significant individual, pairs and group work both inside and outside of the classroom.

I have passed out a classroom syllabus that outlines the course description, classroom expectations and grading policy to each student. Please review this with your child and have them return this signed acknowledgement to me the next class period. This is your student's first homework assignment for the course.

Thank you,

Erin Ellis

Biology and Marine Science Teacher

eellis@mursd.org

Parent/Student Acknowledgement:

I have read and understand the course requirements, expectations and rules for this class. I agree to abide by them and understand the consequences if I choose not to follow the rules. I also understand that I am responsible for checking communications via Google classroom and email daily. I will contact Mrs. Ellis if there are any concerns.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian phone number _____

Parent Guardian preferred email _____

Comments or Questions?
