# Westchester Secondary Charter School, 2014-2015

## Course: Environmental Science

**Teacher:** Ms. Klose

**Email:** mklose@westchestercharter.com
**Course Website:** msklose.weebly.com/envi-sci

**Office Hours:** Students may see me during lunch or my free periods, by appointment only.

## Purpose of Course

This class will give a brief introduction to Environmental Science issues, and teach students how to view the world in three components: Ecology, Economy, and Equity. With these three “E’s” in mind, students will create their own Action Research Teams (ARTs) to plan a project that will be implemented on campus. This project will be backed up by data collected by students.

## The Learning Environment

**Required Text:**

Botkin, Daniel B., and Edward A. Keller. *Environmental Science: Earth as a Living Planet*. 8th ed. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2011. Print.

**Required Materials:**

* 1 single-subject spiral notebook or composition notebook
* Pens & pencils
* Graphing paper

**Recommended Materials**:

* Glue/glue stick/tape
* Scissors
* Ruler

## How Learning will be Assessed

1. **Grading system: \*\*\**Please note that these percentages are approximations.\*\*\****

Class work (25%): Students will be graded on notes and in-class assignments on a regular basis. Students should prepare for notebook checks where teacher will check for completion of all assignments.

Labs (15%): Throughout the course, there will be many labs and demonstrations. Students will be graded on lab work, which includes a neat run-through of the entire lab assignment. Rubrics will be used to grade labs.

Homework & Presentations (10%): Homework will be assigned regularly and will consist of vocabulary, reading, and extra practice problems. Students will turn in their homework at the beginning of the class, and should not be done during class time.

Participation (5%): Students are required to show up for class everyday on time, and should be prepared for class every day.

Quizzes & Checkpoints (10%): These assessments will cover the material since the last assessment (i.e. they are NOT cumulative). Your lowest quiz score will be dropped at the end of class. This means that if you miss a day that a quiz is administered, that will be your dropped quiz score.

Tests & Unit Exams (15%): A cumulative test will be given every other chapter, and an exam will be given at the end of each unit, and will be cumulative. There is no cumulative final or midterm examination.

Research Component (30%)**:** In this course, students are required to create an initiate to create a more sustainable campus.

1. **Grading Scale and method**

A = 90% and above

B= 80% and above

C= 70 % and above

F = 69 % or lower

1. **Missed assignments**

See student handbook for missed assignment policy.

## Technical, Classroom and School Policy Information

Food & Beverages
Because of the possibility of becoming poisoned due to the chemicals used in the classroom, it is dangerous to eat, drink or chew anything in the lab or classroom environment. A sealed water bottle will be allowed in the classroom on days when no lab is taking place.

For all other rules and regulations, please refer to the school-wide policy and discipline.

Student Expectations & ResponsibilitiesThe student shall:

* Come to class everyday and be on time
* Respect their self, others, and the class and laboratory environment
* Help to create a positive classroom learning environment
* Come prepared to class and participate to the best of their ability
* Follow and respect the teacher’s requests
* Obey all Westchester Secondary Charter School Rules
* Work hard, try, and request help when they need it
* Keep an organized notebook of all classroom materials

## Chapters & Units:

**Content Unit:**

* Grading Period 1: Pertaining to Chapters 1-5
	+ Chapter 1: Scientific Method
	+ Chapter 2: What is Environmental Science & Sustainability?
	+ Chapter 3: Population & Environmental Impact
	+ Chapter 4: Ecology
	+ Chapter 5: Food
* Grading Period 2:
	+ Action Planning
	+ Creating Action Research Teams
	+ Collecting & Analyzing Data
	+ Creating Solutions
	+ Implementing Project on campus
* Grading Period 3:
	+ Chapter 6: Water
	+ Chapter 7: Pollution
	+ Chapter 8: Waste
	+ Chapter 9: Energy
* Grading Period 4:
	+ Action Planning Pertaining to Chapters 6-9
	+ Creating Action Research Teams
	+ Collecting & Analyzing Data
	+ Creating Solutions
	+ Implementing Project on campus

Please sign and return to Ms. Klose by Friday 8/29.

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I have read Ms. Klose’s Chemistry syllabus and understand the rules and regulations of this classroom. I agree to the terms as outlined above and understand the requirements of the classroom. I will respect the classroom, maintain a safe learning environment, and will follow Ms. Klose’s requirements for her classroom for the 2014-2015 school year.

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Student Name (Printed)

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Student Signature Date

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date