

Syllabus for Marine Science I

Mrs. Katharine Edwards

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Class Information:

Text: Marine Science by Castro and Huber (\$123.50 new)

Science Lab Fee: \$10.00 cash, check, or MySchoolBucks.com

Course objective: This is an elective science course that uses a project-based learning approach to address current ocean-related issues to understand the complexity of the world's ocean and life within it. Physical, geological, chemical, and biological principles will be incorporated throughout the course to address each of the issues and increase student understanding. Issues will include energy sources, pollution (including CO2, plastics, and chemicals), climate change, invasive species, and fishing practices and concerns.

Required Supplies:

All students are asked to have a three ring binder, and loose paper. You need to keep up with all of your work for the entire semester. Students will be required to bring writing tools, paper, and binder to every class period.

Classroom Expectations

These expectations or rules are for both students and teacher. They are in place to create a positive classroom environment, where we can all learn, achieve, and be ourselves. They are based around all of us acting with integrity and respect. All school rules will be upheld.

Classroom Expectations

1. Be Prepared.
2. Be Positive.
3. Be Kind.
4. Be Respectful.
5. Clean up after Yourself.

Consequences for not following expectations:

1. Verbal warning.
2. Call home.
3. Referral

Grading Scale:

I use SUMMATION - each assignment/test/lab has a point value. Values are added and divided by the total point value, giving you your percentage grade. Below is an APPROXIMATION of the weight of categories.

Grading	Grade Scale
Homework / Class work= 10%	90 – 100 = A
Lab / Quizzes=30%	80 – 89= B
Tests / Projects=60%	70 – 79= C
	60 – 69 = D
	0 – 59 = F

Each semester grade for Marine Science grade is calculated as follows: 40% of each nine weeks grade and 20% of the semester exam grade. No end of course exam is given for Marine Science.

Cell Phones

Please abide by the school's cell phone policy. In class it is to be stored in a bag/out of sight unless specifically required/allowed for the day's work. Students ARE allowed to use it in the hallways, with the exception of photos, video and audio recordings.

Lab

The students will participate in lab activities involving living organisms and dissections with preserved specimen. Due to the nature of these activities, some students may have difficulty with or oppose these educational labs. Students are not required to touch the specimen or participate in the hands on part of the lab but are required to participate in the lab in some way. Non-participation or horse play will result in a ZERO for the laboratory.

Field Trips

Field trips will be taken throughout the year. Students will have ongoing citizen science projects that they will be expected to collect data from the field, analyze and present to the class. Students must have a signed permission slip on file. Bus transportation will be provided. Participation during these trips is required and non-participation will result in a zero for the day. All school rules apply while on these trips and all students are expected to exhibit appropriate bus behavior. *I reserve the right to decide who attends field trips based on overall class grade and discipline issues.* Any student not allowed to attend will sit in another teacher's classroom and receive other work on which their participation will be graded.

Assignments:

All homework assignments will be due at the beginning of the period and are to be placed in the appropriate location upon entering the classroom. All class work will be due when called for or at the end of the period. If you are absent, your homework or a missed test is due upon your return. Any classwork, homework or test assigned and missed while you were absent is due within three days of your return. Make up work is entirely the **student's** responsibility. You are to check assignment binder which has copies of work/notes on the day that you return to class. I DO not accept late work.

Availability outside of class: I will be available to help students and provide make-up work during activity period at least 2-3 times per week and after school most days until 3:30. Although I am in my classroom after school almost every day, students should ask me in advance if they can meet with me on a specific day. Assignments cannot be made up during class, or during another scheduled class. Please do not hesitate to ask for help at any time. That is what I am here for!

Communication with families: I will use REMIND for upcoming and graded assignments. An assignment with a question mark (?) or blank means it has not yet been graded. A "0" means it was graded and the student either did not submit it or earned a zero. A "Z" means student was absent and is able to turn in within the 3 day grace period.

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Thank you for taking the time to review your student's **Marine Science** syllabus for the year. I look forward to helping your student succeed and enjoy learning this year. **Please sign and return this page to indicate that you and your student both have reviewed and understand my classroom guidelines with the \$10.00 lab fee as soon as possible.** Feel free to contact me via email with questions. Remember you can access your student's progress through the grade line portal.

Please encourage your student to abide by the school's cell phone policy. In class is it to be stored in a bag/out of sight unless specifically required/allowed for the day's work. They ARE now allowed to use it in the hallways, with the exception of photos, video and audio recordings.

I love parent involvement. I am looking for guest speakers if you or anyone you know works in the environmental field. I will always accept any extra classroom supplies like fish food, wet wipes, hand soap, and paper towels.

I'm looking forward to a great and engaging year!

Sincerely,
Katharine Edwards

Video Release:

Given the nature of our science content the video clips we work with are often considered PG13. Sign below to give student permission to view PG13 content. If you have any concerns please feel free to contact me.

Student Name: _____ Class Period _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

STUDENT & PARENT/GUARDIAN

I have read and reviewed Mrs. Edwards' classroom rules/procedures, lab safety and syllabus. I will follow these guidelines in order to have the best classroom experience I can.

Student Signature: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____

Contact Information (phone # or email) _____