



Environmental Syllabus 2025-2026

Teacher: Mrs. Haley Bowen
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Course Description

The Environmental Science Georgia Standards of Excellence are designed to continue the student investigations that began in grades K-8. These standards integrate the study of many components of our environment, including the human impact on our planet. Students investigate the flow of energy and cycling of matter within ecosystems, and evaluate types, availability, allocation, and sustainability of energy resources. Instructions will focus on student data collection and analysis from field and laboratory experiences. Some concepts are global; in those cases, interpretation of global data sets from scientific sources is strongly recommended. Chemistry, physics, mathematics, and technological concepts will be integrated throughout the course.

Course Outline – Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE):

SEV1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to investigate the flow of energy and cycling of matter within an ecosystem.

SEV2. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to construct explanations of stability and change in Earth's ecosystems.

SEV3. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to evaluate types, availability, allocation, and sustainability of energy resources.

SEV4. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to analyze human impact on natural resources.

SEV5. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the effects of human population growth on global ecosystems.

Required Materials

- 2-inch 3 ring binder
- Notebook paper
- Pencils/pens
- Binder Dividers
- Colored pencils/markers

Textbook

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (2013) Environmental. Orlando, FL: Holt McDougal

Grading

Grades will be updated weekly and available to parents and students via Infinite Campus. **Students and parents should check grades regularly.** There will be a semester cumulative project at the end of each semester. There will be no extra credit given during the course. The *semester average* will be determined as follows:

Major Assessments	45%
Minor Assessments	20%
Daily Work	15%
Final Assessment	20%

Late Work Policy

Students are expected to communicate with the teacher if work is not turned in by a given due date. Late work will be accepted through the end of the unit; it will not be accepted once the unit is completed unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Tutoring

Tutoring times will be Monday and Tuesday mornings, 7:15- 7:45 a.m., except for days there are scheduled meetings. Additional tutoring times can be arranged before school by communicating with the teacher.

Canvas

Canvas will be used for a classroom instructional application in place of Google Classroom. Modules will be uploaded for each unit and be available to all students to see instructional pieces, notes, discussion posts, deadlines, assessments and more. Students should be familiar with how to navigate the online platform, communicate with their teacher, and submit assignments on time. If there are technological limitations, please notify the teacher.

Student Chromebooks

All students are issued a district-provided Chromebook for instructional purposes, student engagement, and student learning. Chromebook use is at the direction and discretion of the classroom teacher.

Honor Code

The academic integrity of courses at VHS is of the utmost importance; as such, cheating or academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. If a student cheats or plagiarizes on any assessment, the result is a zero as a placeholder until the student has had the opportunity to demonstrate learning on an alternate assignment; the teacher must make parent contact. If cheating or plagiarism occurs on a major assessment, the student should be referred to an administrator for review. Cheating or plagiarism on a major assessment will also result in alternative discipline or in-school suspension. The ISS assignment will be progressively graduated if it is a repeated offense.

VHS Retesting Policy

Students may re-take two major assessments per semester, after completing test corrections and/or tutoring/remediation, except for county math requirements. No re-testing is allowed in AP courses. Additionally, a re-test cannot replace a zero for a task never initially completed.

Teacher Procedures and Expectations

Students are expected to always adhere to the VHS Student Code of Conduct.

- Arrive ready for class; be seated and ready to begin when the bell rings.
- Treat everyone with respect; be polite toward the teacher and peers.
- Food and drink other than water are not permitted in the classroom/lab.
- Take pride in our classroom and lab by keeping it clean; do not write on textbooks and/or desks.
- Personal devices of any kind are not allowed during class.

Attendance

- Students should make every effort to be in class each day. If absent, please communicate with the teacher as soon as possible. Additional copies of worksheets will always be available in the classroom.
- If a test is missed, it is the student's responsibility to schedule a day to make up the test within 5 school days. If a lab is missed, it will be the teacher's discretion if an alternate assignment or a make-up lab is provided.
- Students have 5 minutes to get from class to class; please use this time wisely. **If you are not in the classroom when the bell rings, you will be marked tardy.**

Consequences

- Minor disruptions/infractions will receive warnings, conferences, and/or parent communication.
- Repeated minor offenses will result in office referrals.

- An office referral will occur for major disruptions/infractions, failure to serve assigned detention, or after repeated detention assignments.

Minor disruptions/infractions progressive discipline system:

1st offense – Verbal warning and conference with student

2nd offense – Written warning sent home for parent/guardian signature

3rd offense – Office Referral

*** Major disruptions/infractions will result in an immediate office referral. No warnings given. ***

Please return this page to Mrs. Bowen no later than Friday, August 8, 2025

Student Name Printed

Class Period

Lab Safety Contract

General Lab Safety Rules

- Follow all written & verbal instructions as provided
- Always wear proper eye/clothing protection.
- Conduct yourself in a responsible & safe manner in the laboratory environment.
- Be knowledgeable of equipment, safety symbols & techniques required for each lab.
- Know where/how to get help in an emergency, including the location of the first aid, eye wash, fire extinguisher, and fire blanket.

Students must pass a lab safety quiz with an 80 or higher to be permitted to participate in lab activities.

I have read, understand, and agree to follow the lab safety rules outlines above, located in the lab safety materials, and any others provided in the future. I will always conduct myself safely & appropriately in the lab environment. I understand that failure to do so may result in not receiving credit for the lab and/or an office referral.

Student Signature

Date

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Parent Acknowledgement

I have read the information provided in the course syllabus and understand the policies, procedures, and expectations. I will support my teacher's efforts to ensure my student is successful in this class. I acknowledge that my student must abide by the lab safety rules as outlined above and any others provided by the teacher. I have contact information to communicate with the teacher if needed:

Email: haley.bowen@hcbe.net

Phone (478) 218-7537

Parent Name Printed

Parent Phone Number

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Email