

Boston Collegiate Charter School

Environmental Studies

Jim White

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Best Time to Call: before 8:00 AM, after 4:00 PM

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Textbook:

Wright, Richard T., Environmental Science. 9th ed. New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 2005.

Tutoring Hours:

Tuesdays and Wednesdays (3:00 PM to 4:00 PM)

Late/Missed Work: Standard 12th grade policy (2 days to make up assessments missed from absence, 3 days to make up assignments missed from absence); see handbook for details

Course Overview:

Environmental studies takes the form of an introductory college course. Students have four lecture-style classes per week with the whole class, plus one discussion section per week with a smaller group. The course has three main aspects:

- * develop a foundation for environmental studies in terms of economics and public policy
- * study current environmental issues and events
- * develop and present long-term projects

Syllabus:

Quarter 1

Ecosystems

Field Study

Human Populations

Species Presentation

Quarter 2

Natural Resources

Real Costs of Development

Energy

Quarter 3

Pollution

Public Issues Debate

Quarter 4

Public Policy

Public Service Announcements

Grading Breakdown:

- Tests 35% (1 or 2 tests per quarter)
- Homework 10% (textbook assignments, article searches)
- Projects 15% (long-term projects, presentations)
- Discussion 15% (active participation in discussion sections)
- Quizzes 25% (1 per week)

In addition, the midterm is worth 7% of the overall grade in this course, and the final is worth 13% (standard for 12th grade).

Student Expectations:

Lectures: Students are expected to come to lecture having read the appropriate material ahead of time, with appropriate pre-lecture notes. Students must take notes during lecture, and are responsible for all material presented during that time. During lecture, students should be noting questions and comments to bring up during discussion section.

Discussions: Students are required to take an active role in discussion sections. During each discussion, a student must participate at least twice, by asking questions, answering questions, or offering on-topic commentary.

Tests: Tests in this course are usually written, open response style questions, featuring readings to analyze and hypothetical problems.

Homework: Most homework assignments take the form of reading comprehension quests from the Wright text.

Projects: Each quarter features one major project with a presentation component.

Quizzes: Weekly quizzes are in multiple-choice format, checking for knowledge and understand of terms and concepts.

Supplies:

- binder or notebook for this course
- folder for organizing handouts
- pens/pencils
- recommended: USB drive (“thumb drive”, “flash drive”, or “jump drive”)