

# BERKS CATHOLIC

Christ Centered Academic Excellence

**COURSE TITLE:** Meteorology & Environmental Science

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mrs. Mary Ann Buchanan

**ACADEMIC YEAR:** 2014 - 2015

**COURSE TEXTBOOK:** Environmental Science & The Atmosphere

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Meteorology**

This class introduces student to different dynamics of weather and defines many of the common terms of meteorology. Students learn to read different types of weather maps and they will learn how the weather plays an important role in our society and our environment. The students will be responsible for collecting continuous data and logging information in a daily journal. There will also be a required class project.

**Environmental Science**

Environmental Science provides the student with the background to understand today's multi-faceted environmental problems and then choose a lifestyle that has a positive impact on the environment. Students will discuss scientific issues of personal relevance and current topics in the news.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE**

The students will study basic principles of the atmosphere and ecology. Students should be able to: recognize weather patters, see the relationship between atmospheric conditions and life on earth, identify environmental problems and understand strategies to maintain sustainability.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

Meteorology:

- Structure of the Atmosphere
- Components of Weather
- Station Models, Air Masses, Fronts and Weather Forecasting
- Severe Weather

Environmental Science

- Ecosystems and How They Work
- Finding Balance Among Population, Soil, Water, and Agriculture
- Pollution
- Resources

**METHOD OF GRADING**

A. Quarter:

1. Homework - 10%
2. Lab work - 10%
3. Tests & Quizzes - 41%
4. Projects - 39 %

Quarter grading is done on a point system. The percents listed above represent the percentage of total points given to each category. (Example: homework = 66 points out of a total of 660 points in the quarter).

A. Semester:

1. First and second quarter grades - 80%
2. Exam - 20%

B. Final Grade:

- Average of first and second semester grades

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Homework:

- A. Projects - 2 per chapter
- B. Homework - at least one assignment per week (may be lab report)
- C. Tests - at least one per chapter (announced at least two days in advance)
- D. Quizzes - always announced
- E. Exams - Midterm and Final

#### **CLASS POLICIES**

1. Tests and assignments are usually returned within two to three days. Because of this, it is not a general policy to tolerate late assignments. The student will be required to sign a contract, which outlines the late policy. It is also expected that tests be made up within two days of return to school following an absence. It is the responsibility of the student to arrange to make up missed work.
2. Assignments are to be handed in on theme/loose-leaf paper. Points will be deducted from work handed in on other paper.
3. Laboratory safety rules should be followed at all times as listed in the guidelines. Failure to do so may result in suspension of laboratory privileges.
4. Students must bring proper materials for class. Materials include books, note book, pen or pencil and worksheets.

Please understand that these are general policies. There are times when it is necessary to examine individual circumstances. (For example, if a student experienced a prolonged illness, they would not be expected to take tests missed within the prescribed two days).

#### **PARENT/TEACHER COMMUNICATION**

Please feel free to communicate with me at any time throughout the year by using the email address available on Berks Catholic web site.