

# Dripping Springs High School

## Aquatic Science Syllabus

### 2018-19

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#### **Course Description – Aquatic Science**

This is a lab-oriented course with special emphasis on the various environmental units on many Texas aquatic ecosystems. Thorough studies are made of the physical, chemical, geological, and biological aspects of freshwater and marine habitats. Topics include components of the aquatic ecosystem, cycles within the aquatic environment, and adaptations of aquatic organisms. Topics also include statewide and local water systems as well as an in depth look into the oceans around the world.

#### **Preferred Prerequisites:**

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

#### **Course Goals**

Students will gain an overall understanding of aquatic ecosystems, including but not limited to freshwater and marine and the flora and fauna found within those. They will also learn about how the physical world impacts aquatic systems. Students will acquire the necessary skills, responsibilities, and knowledge to maintain freshwater and marine aquarium ecosystems in the classroom and be good stewards to the earth.

#### **Textbook – Aquatic Science**

\*All books are kept in the classroom

- **Marine Science**– *Marine Biology and Oceanography, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.* Thomas F. Greene AMSCO 2004
- **Guide to Freshwater Ecology**
- **Fluid Earth**
- **Living Ocean**

#### **Required Supplies:**

\*All supplies will be due by the third day of class

- Two folders **with brads** (40 pts) \*\*one small three ring binders will also work
- Safety Contract (40 points)
- 1-roll paper towel (20 pts) Paper towels are kept in classroom and needed all year.
- High Speed Internet access – if not available at home there are other options available through DSISD. Please communicate this to me

#### **Preferred Materials:** (not required)

- *Kleenex*
- *Non-latex rubber gloves (for dissection purposes)*

#### **Recommended Materials:**

- Black or blue pen and a #2 pencil
- Red or green grading pen
- Electronic device

### **Class Expectation:**

- Do not keep yourself from learning
- Do not keep others from learning
- Do not keep the teacher from teaching

### **Class/Field Trips**

All students must obtain a 70% or higher (accumulative, and current grading period) to be eligible for class/field trips. Any discipline issue may disqualify a student from class trips/field trips.

### **Grading Standards**

All assignments have a value appropriate to the individual assignment.

Overall averages will be calculated on the basis of the following weighted categories:

Summative: 70% (written exams and some lab activities and projects).

Formative: 30% (some labs, daily performance assessments (homework, daily work, activities, etc.)

### **Late Work Guidelines for Projects and Daily/Homework Assignments**

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date.

Current events are due **before the start of class** on the assigned due date.

Students who fail to complete assignments on time have an opportunity to complete the assignment for a maximum grade of 70% with a deadline for late work no later than 4:15pm (the end of the school day) on the day following the due date. If the student missed the 70% deadline (one day late) they have an opportunity to turn in their work for a maximum grade of 50% with a deadline for late work no later than 4:15pm (the end of the school day) two days after the original assigned due date. Students who fail to meet the deadline shall receive a zero for the work. No late work will be accepted after the deadline without prior approval from the teacher.

### **Technology**

1. Students will be given permission to use devices regularly
2. Verbal warning will be given if permission has not been granted or student is abusing technology privileges (abuse of technology privilege is determined by the teacher). After verbal warning, cell phone will be taken.

### **Disciplinary procedures**

- Verbal Warning
- Teacher-student conference after class
- Parent-teacher conference (email or phone call)
- Administrative action (Alert AP's)

### **Make-up Work Due to Absences**

- The student is solely responsible for completing all assignments on time, entirely responsible for getting missed assignments due to absences, and responsible for being prepared for quizzes and tests on the day(s) scheduled. **Absences on the day before a test do not exempt the student from the regularly scheduled test.**
- Students must make up all assignments and tests missed because of excused absences. The student will have the same number of days to make up work as days that they were absent.
- A student who will miss school due to a school-sponsored event shall turn in all assignments prior to leaving for the event.
- Make-up tests may be different from the originally scheduled test format and scheduled for a tutorial period.

### **Tutorials:**

- Before school from 8:20-8:55 am.
- By appointment only during lunch or after school

### **Cheating--Plagiarism--Academic Dishonesty (Student Handbook)**

Academic dishonesty includes cheating or copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty will be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee, taking into consideration written materials, observation, or information from students. A student found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary penalties per the SCC [two days], as well as, academic penalties. Teachers who have reason to believe a student has engaged in cheating or academic dishonesty will assign a zero for the work in question.

**Plagiarism** is a form of academic dishonesty in which *you use other people's words or ideas* (pictures, art, charts, graphs, computations, scientific data, music, etc.) *as your own by failing to credit the others at all or by improperly crediting them*. If you use someone else's exact words, you must put quotation marks around them and give the person credit by revealing the source in a citation. Even if you revise, rearrange, or paraphrase the words of others or just use their ideas, you still must give them credit instead of pretending the words or ideas are your own. Your teachers will instruct you how to properly credit your sources.

While some plagiarism is obviously intentional and some might be considered unintentional (missing or improper citation due to carelessness, often because of hurrying to do an assignment at the last minute), both types are still subject to the same penalties.

If in doubt, ask your teacher before you turn in your assignment!

#### **IMPORTANT!**

Unless your teacher specifically tells you that you may work with other students on an assignment, ***you are expected to work on all assignments by yourself, using only your own thoughts, ideas, and reasoning.***

*Dripping Springs Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability in its employment, practices, activities and programs.*

*El distrito independiente de la Dripping Springs no discrimina en base de la raza, del color, del origen nacional, de la edad, del sexo, o de la inhabilidad en su empleo, practicas, actividades y programas.*

# Student and Parent/Guardian Syllabus Agreement

By signing below, you agree that you have fully read and understood the policies and expectations for Dripping Springs High School Aquatic Science class. If I choose not to meet these expectations, I am willing to accept consequences.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student's Printed Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian Printed Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/ Guardian Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**Required Supplies:** (to be purchased and turned in by *the Monday of the first full week of school Aug. 28th* )

- Two folders **with brads** (40 pts) \*\*one small three ring binders will also work
- Safety Contract (40 points)
- 1-roll paper towel (20 pts) Paper towels are kept in the aquarium and needed all year.

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## FLINN Scientific Student Safety Contract:

56. Do you wear contact lenses? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

57. Are you color blind? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

58. Do you have allergies? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

If so, list specific allergies \_\_\_\_\_

### AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name) have read and agree to follow all of the safety rules set forth in this contract. I realize that I must obey these rules to ensure my own safety, and that of my fellow students and instructors. I will cooperate to the fullest extent with my instructor and fellow students to maintain a safe lab environment. I will also closely follow the oral and written instructions provided by the instructor. I am aware that any violation of this safety contract that results in unsafe conduct in the laboratory or misbehavior on my part, may result in being removed from the laboratory, detention, receiving a failing grade, and/or dismissal from the course.

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We feel that you should be informed regarding the school's effort to create and maintain a safe science classroom/ laboratory environment. With the cooperation of the instructors, parents, and students, a safety instruction program can eliminate, prevent, and correct possible hazards.

You should be aware of the safety instructions your son/daughter will receive before engaging in any laboratory work. Please read the list of safety rules above. No student will be permitted to perform laboratory activities unless this contract is signed by both the student and parent/guardian and is on file with the teacher. Your signature on this contract indicates that you have read this Student Safety Contract, are aware of the measures taken to ensure the safety of your son/daughter in the science laboratory, and will instruct your son/ daughter to uphold his/her agreement to follow these rules and procedures in the laboratory.

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_