**Ms. Rinaldo’s Environmental Science Course Syllabus**

School Phone: (845) 855-4620

Email: [Rinaldog@pcsdny.org](mailto:Rinaldog@pcsdny.org)

Website: [www.rinaldog.com](http://www.rinaldog.com)

Free Periods: 1, 9

Course Description

Welcome to Environmental Science!Students study the interaction of living and non-living factors that create the environment. Study includes recycling of matter and flow of energy through ecosystems, human factors affecting the environment, ecologic considerations, and individual research of an environmental science topic of interest.

Student Responsibilities

* Students should attend class everyday (Physically/Virtually)
* Students are expected to be on time, attentive and participate in class
* Students are responsible for reading assigned chapters whether they are discussed in class or not
* Students are expected to do all assignments, whether they are discussed in class or not (Assignments will be posted in Google Classroom Daily)

\*Successful students are self-learners, independent, and responsible\*

In our class, we will adhere to the following guidelines to promote integrity:

* Study and work in an honest and respectable manner.
* You must complete and submit your own work.
* You are encouraged to work with others only under prescribed circumstances.
* Do not copy someone else's answers in or out of the classroom.
* Do not seek unauthorized help from those outside the classroom.
* Cite all sources.
* Quizzes and tests are to be completed without assistance from any outside source.
* Keep your eyes on your own paper/computer during quizzes and exams.
* Protect your answers.
* Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be used for educational purposes ONLY

If a violation of the honor code is suspected the student(s) will be invited to meet privately with the instructor, the behavior discussed and necessary paperwork will be submitted.

Please understand that YOU, much more than I, will determine your success in this course. The course goes at a rapid pace for the whole year and nothing less than your full attention will be needed to keep your head above water. I expect that the required course materials will be brought to class daily. Please keep the textbook that was checked out to you at home in a safe location. You should be ready to discuss the information read in any assigned chapters. The digital version

***Attendance & Make-up Work-***

It is your responsibility to be in class. If you are unable to attend it is **YOUR** **OWN** responsibility to complete your make-up work. It is your responsibility to acquire and make-up any class work, homework and notes from any absence. Most, but not all, assignments are available on Google Classroom. You will have the number of days that you were absent to complete make-up work. After the allotted number of days, if the work is not completed the grade is a **ZERO**! If a student is absent the day of a previously scheduled exam or project, the student will be prepared to take the test or turn in the assignment on the first day of return.

***Classroom Rules & Expectations-***

1. Be on time (Physically/Virtually) and in your seat when the bell rings with all required supplies.
2. Chromebook must be CHARGED and will be used DAILY.
3. Keep all personal items in your backpack. This includes: hats, cell phones, iPods, electronics, cosmetics, etc.
4. Be actively involved in your learning by taking responsibility for your actions, effort and participation.
5. Be respectful to your teachers, peers and all Pawling High School staff members.

***Plagiarism & Cheating-***

If you are caught copying from the internet or any other source without citation, you will receive a zero for that assignment. If you are caught copying off somebody else’s work and/or you are letting a person copy from your work, you will be given a zero for that assignment. I will be using a plagiarism checking software to assess originality.

***Teacher Obligations-***

I am here to teach students the topics included in the Environmental Science curriculum.  Students can monitor their own progress via the Parent Portal and Google Classroom.  I am available during free periods listed by appointment and after school virtually by appointment ONLY, to offer additional help and assist in finding other ways to help students. I will treat all students fairly and do all in my power to ensure the success of our students.  I will update grades at least once per week to keep students and parents aware of progress throughout the course.

***Extra Help-***

Extra Help is available only virtually after school, by appointment ONLY, every day from 2:25 pm to 3:05 pm. Other appointments for extra help can made in addition to these hours if needed. Additionally, I am available via email. This is a privilege that will not be extended to you if you owe homework, talk excessively during class and note-taking, or have any referrals for inappropriate behavior during the current unit.

***Supplies-***

1. 3 Ring Binder with dividers (TO BE LEFT AT HOME-Used for storing note guides when completed)
2. 2 Pocket Folder (TO BROUGHT TO SCHOOL-Used to store current note guides and labs)
3. Pens, Pencils and Highlighters
4. Scientific or graphing calculator (Please use the calculator provided by the Math Department at PHS)
5. *Textbook* - You will be given a textbook to keep at home. You will need your textbook to complete assignments, such as reading, research, vocabulary, and chapter questions. Students are responsible for returning the book at the end of the school year or are required to pay to replace the textbook.
6. Homework Log –to write down homework assignments (Physical or Digital Homework Log)

### \*You will be expected to have all these supplies with you by Monday 9/21. If you have any problem obtaining these supplies, please see me.’

***Grading Policy-***

Your grade will be calculated based on the following topics:

Class work/Homework- 30%

Projects- 20%

Tests/Quizzes- 40%

Class Participation-10%

***Suggestions for Student Success-***

You will find this course quite challenging. You will also grow and learn strategies for dealing with challenges. Different strategies work for different people. There are no magic formulas. Here are some suggestions for success:

1. Read the chapter section that we are going over BEFORE the class.
2. Reread the chapter and notes from class. For some, rewriting/organizing notes is an effective use of time.
3. Ask questions.
4. Some chapters are better digested in smaller chunks.
5. Use the vocabulary lists, text headings, and questions to help you focus on important points in each chapter. Try different study strategies and learn which works best for you.
6. Stay up to date on your assignments, lab activities and projects.
7. Use the text to prepare assignments but do NOT copy from the book or any other resource. Be sure to paraphrase and/or write in your own words.
8. Proof read all written assignments before submitting them. Hand in assignments that are neat, legible show attention to detail and demonstrate pride in your work. PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS!
9. Start test review/preparation AT LEAST 3 days before the test.
10. Utilize online study tools such as Quizlet to review.
11. Find and work with a study partner and/a study group frequently.
12. Pay attention during lecture and help to maintain a distraction-free learning environment. This means that you do not talk to anyone unless it is in direct relation to an assigned activity.
13. Participate intelligently in class discussions often.

You may check your own/child’s status/grades online at Pawling High School’s Parent Portal.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email or telephone listed above.

Looking forward to a fantastic and successful year!

Sincerely,

Gillian Rinaldo

Science Teacher

Pawling High School

[Rinaldog@pcsdny.org](mailto:Rinaldog@pcsdny.org)

[www.Rinaldog.com](http://www.Rinaldog.com)

Dear Parents,

Please review the course syllabus with your child, then complete and sign in the space below. Return ***ONLY this*** page to Ms. Rinaldo. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [Rinaldog@pcsdny.org](mailto:Rinaldog@pcsdny.org).

In order to be kept advised and updated on homework, projects, test dates etc., please visit our class website often (Google Classroom and/or [www.Rinaldog.com](http://www.Rinaldog.com)). In addition, Parent Portal is available to check your own/child’s status/grades online. Your involvement will help to ensure a successful year for your child.

**STUDENT NAME (print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**PARENT NAME/S (print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

I have read and understand all of the above requirements.

Student Signature

Parent Signature