

About Environmental Science

Mr. Carman

<http://www.kentschools.net/ccarman/>

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About Environmental Science

Environmental Science is a course designed by Roosevelt students to introduce the science of the world around us and the challenges we face. In this class, we will use laboratory activities, guest speakers, advanced technology and field work to develop scientific understandings that will allow us to appreciate what's happening in our environment. It is my sincere hope that each one of you has a positive experience in Environmental Science!



Assignments

Posting

- Class activities will be posted daily on the dry erase board in the classroom, on my blog at: <http://www.kentschools.net/ccarman/>, and on Twitter @RHSEnviroSci.
- All assignments are posted on my blog along with directions, grading rubrics and if necessary, examples and helpful resources.

Grading

- Each quarter has three units; each unit has a theme and takes three weeks to complete.
- Each unit will have seven assignments, from very simple to very complex.
- The grade you earn for a unit depends on the number of assignments you complete:
 - A = complete all 7 assignments
 - B = complete 6 out of 7 assignments
 - C = complete 5 out of 7 assignments
 - D = complete 4 out of 7 assignments
 - F = complete less than 4 out of 7 assignments
- You must actively participate in lab or field activities in order to receive any credit for them.
- This class has been designed so that it is possible for every student who works hard enough to earn an 'A'.
- **If you have any questions about grades, please see me after school or contact me.**

Turning Assignments In

- **Most assignments will be turned in through Google Apps.** You can access your Google Apps account by going to my blog and clicking on the "Google Apps" link.
- **Assignments must be turned in within the 3-week unit in order to be considered "on time".**
- **Assignments turned in past the end of a unit will only be worth half their original value.**
- **Assignments turned in after the quarter is over will not be accepted.** This is done out of fairness to those of you who complete your assignments on time. Please make an attempt to complete and turn in every assignment.

Journaling

In order to help you relate your scientific experiences to real life, you will be required to write, or "journal", about your experiences at the end of each three-week unit. Journal entries will involve writing your thoughts and ideas in response to open-ended questions, so even though they are not graded based on your grammar or your opinions, they are graded based on your effort. You must complete the journal for a three-week unit before moving on to the next unit.

Extra Credit

Extra credit will not be given in Environmental Science – it isn't necessary!

Google Apps

Google Apps is collection of online tools that allow people to easily create and share documents such as word files, presentations, and spreadsheets. Many colleges, universities and businesses use similar tools for collaboration, but Google Apps is one of the most popular. Each teacher at RHS has the ability to use Google Apps for their own class.

How do I log in to Google Apps?

- Go to <https://www.google.com/a/kent.k12.oh.us/> in your web browser.
- Your username and password will be the same that you use to log in to the computers at RHS. This means **your username will be your student ID** and **your password will be your lunchroom PIN**. If you can't log in to access Google Apps for some reason, please see me as soon as possible – you will not receive extra time due to technical issues!

How do I turn in an assignment so that it can be graded?

To share an assignment with Mr. Carman so that it can be graded:

1. Open your document in Google Docs.
2. In the upper-right hand corner, click on the “Share” button.
3. At the bottom of the pop-up box, under “Add people”, enter: **ke_ccarman@kent.k12.oh.us**
4. Click the “Share & Save” button.

Tips for using Google Apps

- Whenever possible, use the Firefox web browser instead of Internet Explorer. Google generally plays better with Firefox.
- Get your assignments done early in case you have technical difficulties and you need some help.

Field Work

Throughout the year, we will regularly go outside to collect data on the environment surrounding Roosevelt High School. Weather permitting, we will go outside on a regular basis in the fall and spring. Please come to class prepared to walk out the door, whether it's hot, cold, raining, or snowing.

Independent Community Interaction (I.C.I.)

It would be impossible for us to learn about all of the environmental issues we face as a society by just staying in the classroom! Therefore, sometime during second semester, you will complete an independent investigation outside of class into how people in Kent and Northeast Ohio are confronting and resolving challenges in our environment (or not!). Some events you may choose to attend include: a meeting of an environmental group or a related government agency; an environmental film festival; a community clean-up; or something else not on the list! After you have attended the event, you will prepare an informal presentation for your classmates on your experiences that will be given sometime in mid-May. A list of events will be available in Google Calendar.

Quarter Projects

At the end of each quarter, we will investigate a topic related to Environmental Science as a quarter project. The 1st and 3rd quarter projects will be done individually and will be shared with the rest of the class; the 2nd and 4th quarter projects will be done in small groups. These projects are intended to give you the ability to look much more deeply into the topics we learn about in class, as well as to give you a chance to express yourself creatively.

How to Contact Me

Please feel free to ask me for help – that's why I'm here! Here's how contact me:

- In person:** 1st, 4th or 7th periods in Room 210 and after school in Room 210, 207 or 205
- Web:** <http://www.kentschools.net/ccarman/>
- Email:** ke_ccarman@kentschools.net (← preferable)
- Text:** 330-474-9395 (please let me know who you are first)
- Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/chris.carman/>
- Twitter:** @RHSEnviroSci (text **follow RHSEnviroSci** to **40404** to receive reminders via SMS!)

Finally...

Thanks for being here! I'm very excited to have you in class, and I'm looking forward to a great year of exploring our environment together. I hope I can help make your experience in Environmental Science extremely positive.