



New Canaan High School
11 Farm Road
New Canaan, CT 06840

Special Education Department
Co-teacher Biology

Nikki Pivovar

(203)594-4650
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Special Education

Term: Semester 1 and 2, 2018-19

Office Hours: M, T, W, Th - 2:15 - 3:00

Course Description: Environmental Science is a year-long course designed to show connections between a variety of science disciplines including earth science, biology, and chemistry. This course provides students a realistic picture of how interconnected we are to the environment. The aim of this course is to increase student's knowledge of the environmental challenges of today, while developing scientific critical thinking skills.

Course Objective: Students will. . .

- Investigate the flow of energy and cycling of matter within an ecosystem and relate these events to human society
- Demonstrate an understanding that the Earth is one interconnected system
- Demonstrate stability and changes in ecosystems
- Understand and describe availability, allocation and conservation of energy and other resources
- Recognize that human beings are part of the global ecosystem and will evaluate the effects of human activities and technology on ecosystems

Assessment Overview: This course uses a variety of classroom methods including lectures, class discussions, group work, individual work, labs, student projects (written and oral) and active student participation. Students are expected to participate in and complete all aspects of required work to the best of their ability. Tests and quizzes will be announced and major assessments can be retaken if needed (lower than 75% and grades will be averaged or additional points would be added). All/most assignments will be posted on the google classroom. Students can submit work there as well. Students will practice using google classroom and should be able to access site independently. In the past I've created student projects instead of mid-term and final exams, but I may decide to do a more traditional option. I think I'm going to give the students a choice. TBA Technology is integrated into my class, so it is very important that you bring a charged device to class.

Assignment Expectations: Grades are posted weekly in school portal. The scores will turn colored if there is a comment. There will be symbols for missing or late work.

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**(late, makeup,
etc.)**

Grades are based on total number of points. Homework is usually work 10 points, I will deduct points if late, unless the student/parent emails me why not completed. I'm reasonable and understand that things happen from time to time. It is the student's responsibility to complete assignments if they are absent from class. Hw is posted on classroom. There will NOT be homework on Fridays or before long weekend or breaks. I believe that time is for families and for students to unwind. Homework is given nightly and is a review of what I taught in class. This is practice work and should be easy for you to complete. Homework should take 15-20 minutes a night. If it is taking you longer please let me know.

**Classroom
Expectations:
(behavior, if
needed)**

Cell phones need to be put away during class. No food, but you may bring water. Students must maintain respect for themselves, other students and teachers at all times. If a student can not follow classroom rules, they would be asked to leave and discuss behavior or problem with an administrator or case monitor. Parent meeting maybe requested if behavior persists.

**Text,
Resources: (if
applicable)**

Environmental Science Pearson/AGS Globe

Other:

I am very interested in the success of every student. If you are struggling please let me know. I am after school daily until 2:50 or during one of my free periods 2, 5, and 8. Please let me know when you are coming so I won't schedule a meeting.

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