**Warren County School District**

**PLANNED INSTRUCTION**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**Course Title:** Introduction to Environmental Science

**Course Number:** 00308

**Course Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:**

This coursefocuses on the principles of ecology and the interdependence of natural and human systems. Students will develop skills in making informed decisions and taking constructive actions. Relevant lab activities will be incorporated throughout, utilizing scientific inquiry and appropriate technology. This course will involve writing, detailed content and lab analysis.

**Suggested Grade Level:** Ninth Grade

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Length of Course:** | One Semester | Two Semesters | Other |

**Units of Credit:** 1.0

**PDE *Certification and Staffing Policies and Guidelines* (CSPG) Required Teacher Certifications**:

CSPG 32 Biology 34 Chemistry 43 Environmental Education 46 General Science 56 Physics 30 Agriculture 40 Earth and Space 54 Middle Level Science

**Certification verified by WCSD Human Resources Department**:  Yes  No

**TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS**

**Continue using Board approved textbook?** Yes  No

**Board Approved Textbooks, Software, Supplemental Materials:**

**Title: Environmental Science Your World Your Turn**

**Publisher: Pearson**

**ISBN #: 978 – 0 – 13 – 372475 - 2**

**Copyright Date: 2011**

**Date of WCSD Board Approval: May 14, 2018**

**BOARD APPROVAL:**

**Date Written:** 2/28/18

**Date Approved:** May 14, 2018 (November 5, 2018)

**Implementation Date:** 2018-2019

**SPECIAL EDUCATION AND GIFTED REQUIREMENTS**

The teacher shall make appropriate modification to instruction and assessment based on a student’s Individual Education Plan (IEP) or Gifted Individual Education Plan (GIEP).

**COURSE OVERVIEW**

**PA Standards:**

3.1.10: Biological Sciences

3.3.10: Earth and Space Sciences

4.1.10: Ecology

4.2.10: Watersheds and Wetlands

4.3.10: Natural Resources

4.4.10: Agriculture and Society

4.5.10: Humans and the Environment

**Common Core Standards:**

CC.3.5.9-10 Reading Informational Text

CC.3.6.9-10 Writing

**Content:**

1. Introduction to Environmental Science
   * 1. Focus of Environmental Science
        1. Environmental Science vs Environmentalism
        2. Humans and the environment
     2. Scientific Method and Community
     3. Environmental Systems
        1. Feedback loops
        2. Earth’s spheres
     4. Biogeochemical Systems
        1. Carbon / Oxygen
        2. Phosphorous
        3. Nitrogen
        4. Water
2. Ecology
   * 1. Levels of Organization
     2. Population Ecology and Growth
     3. Community Ecology
        1. Evolution
        2. Interactions
        3. Energy Flow
        4. Succession
     4. Biomes
     5. Aquatic Ecosystems
3. Humans and the Environment
   1. Biodiversity and Conservation
      1. Components and Benefits of Biodiversity
      2. Extinctions and Biodiversity Loss
      3. Conservation Practices
   2. Human Population
      1. Population Growth
      2. Impacts of Population Growth
   3. Environmental Health
      1. Types of Hazards
      2. Chemical Hazards
      3. Natural Disasters
   4. Urbanization
      1. Land Use
      2. Sprawl
      3. Sustainability
4. Earth’s Resources
   * 1. Resource Use
     2. Conservation and Sustainability
        1. Land and Soil
        2. Agriculture and Forestry
        3. Minerals
        4. Water
        5. Atmosphere

V. Future of the Environment

A. Climate Change

1. Causes

2. Effects

3. Responses

B. Energy

1. Non-Renewable
2. Renewable
   * 1. Waste Management
        1. Municipal vs Industrial
        2. Ways to Minimize
        3. Hazardous Waste

**ASSESSMENT**

**Portfolio Assessment:** Yes  No

**District-Wide Common Final Examination Required:** Yes  No

**Course Challenge Assessment:** Students must score a minimum of an 80% on the final exam.

**WRITING TEAM:** Warren County School District Teachers

**WCSD STUDENT DATA SYSTEM INFORMATION**

1. Is there a required final examination?  Yes  No

***\*Warren County School District Policy 9741 and9744 state, “All classes in grades 9-12 shall have a final exam.”***

1. Does this course issue a mark/grade for the report card?  Yes  No
2. Does this course issue a Pass/Fail mark?  Yes  No
3. Is the course mark/grade part of the GPA calculation?  Yes  No
4. Is the course eligible for Honor Roll calculation?  Yes  No
5. What is the academic weight of the course?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| No weight/Non credit | Standard weight | Enhanced weight |
|  |  |  |