

The WORLD is WARMING.
HUMANS ARE RESPONSIBLE.
WE'RE CERTAIN.

I'm so excited to teach environmental science. This is actually more difficult than most other science classes because this class covers: **biology, biogeochemistry, chemistry, physics, environmental justice, meteorology, geology, oceanography, marine biology, forestry, law, government, energy, energy policy, pollution, planetary science, astronomy, climate change, climate change solutions, and citizen science** (that means YOU). I do not assign homework, however *students often give themselves homework* by not finishing the work that is assigned during class. I work very hard to make sure the work I assign can be finished in the time provided in class. Please read on for further information on how the class is run.

Syllabus: Environmental Science
Godinez Fundamental High School
2023-2024
Ms. Ann Maclean Room 2-115

My grade book has the following categories and percentages assigned to each as shown:

Color Plates / Notes	25
Projects	40
Work for Substitute Teachers	15
Final and Exams	20

Show up everyday with your charged Chromebook, Chromebook charger, pencils, pens, notebook paper, colored pencils, and as much energy as you can give!

Grades are assigned to students based on the following scale:

100-87% = A

86.99-78% = B

77.99-64% = C

63.99% and below = F (There is no "D" category)

All work is expected to be done to the best of one's ability. If I cannot read your work, I will not grade your work. If your work is returned because it is unreadable, you have 48 hours (2 school days) to redo it and bring it in before school for a grade. **I do expect that if you have a cell phone then you are also able to bring a pencil, pen, and notebook paper to class every single day.** **If you do not have money for paper, please advise me.** It is more efficient to take the time to do the work well once than have to do it twice and waste time.

Course Objectives: By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize and be Able to Avoid Committing Intellectual Fallacies.
2. Demonstrate Literacy in Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Digitally
3. Communicate in Standard English; this means that you begin your sentences with capital letters, and end your sentences with periods, exclamation marks or question marks. When the word "I" or any conjugation of "I" appears in any sentence, it is ALWAYS capitalized. Look up correct spelling on your devices.
4. Put Your First and Last Name on All of Your Work
5. Age of the Earth and How We Know
6. Planetary Science, Meteorology, and Astronomy; Why Do We Have Seasons?
7. Meteorology The Seas- Moving Water Around the Globe; Currents
8. Environmental Science and the Nature of Science
9. Biogeochemical Cycles of Carbon, Nitrogen, Water, and Phosphorus

10. **Eco/Evo- Ecology and Evolution Relationships and how Populations Can Change Over Time**
11. **Biodiversity and Biomes; Speciation and Invasive Species**
12. **March Mammal Madness!!!!**
13. **Political and Environmental Economics and Policy**
14. **Population Growth and Patterns in Living Things**
15. **Agricultural Services and Fisheries: Students will be able to explain the methods and problems created by raising and catching food.**
16. **Energy: Students will be able to explain traditional, non-traditional, sustainable, and biologically based energy sources and how electricity is generated.**
17. **What is the Difference Between Weather and Climate?**
18. **Climate Change; History of the Concentration of Carbon Dioxide and the Relationship With Global Temperatures.**
19. **Climate Change Solutions.**
20. **Air and Water Pollution: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the sources and consequences of pollution.**
21. **Environmental Justice: Students will demonstrate how to organize, research, and take action on issues related to environmental justice.**
22. **Citizen Science: Students will be expected to find and participate in a citizen science project of their choice.**
23. **Interpreting and Accurately Reporting on Graphs, Figures, Data Tables, and Infographics.**
24. **Summer reading project. What is energy, where does electricity come from; how electricity is generated whether it is, hydroelectric, natural gas, coal, nuclear, wind, solar, or hydrogen? What is the difference between electricity in Romania and the United States, and what do you lose when power goes out?**

About exams; I have no interest in hiding information from students. Regardless whether the test is a unit exam, final exam, or chapter test, **students are always allowed to use all of their notes, classwork, project work, and any other non-electronic resources they would like during a test.** Vocabulary for quizzes must be sight recognized.

Cell phones: I know you love and are possibly (probably?) addicted to your cell phone. I understand, and I feel your pain. However, there is no competition against cell phones that I can win. **Therefore, when you enter class you must drop off your phone in the container provided.** There is no charging of cell phones permitted in this class. You may charge your cell phone in any other class or before or after school. You have 23 hours of the day or night to charge your phone outside of this class. If you finish and turn in well finished and completed work, you may pick up your cell phone early. It's kind of like getting a paycheck after you do your work.

Makeup. **You're beautiful just the way you are; you don't need makeup.** However, you may apply makeup anytime before or after class. Makeup application is not permitted in class. Also- brushing your hair should probably be done in a bathroom where any loose hair can be swept into a trash can.

Absences are sometimes unavoidable. I suggest every student get the phone numbers of at least two other students in any one of my EnSci classes. **Usually classwork is difficult to make up because the direct instruction has been missed.** However, all students are responsible for making up missed work. I am here every morning by 7:00 a.m. for help before school. I am not available for after school tutoring so please make sure you have plans to make it to school early for any help you need directly from me.

For students who have a grade below a C, Saturday School attendance is mandatory. I will notify the student, parent, counselor, and administrator whoever is assigned to Saturday School. Almost every student who attends Saturday School gets the help they need to finish work they did not understand in class.

Late work is not accepted unless the student has a legally binding contract through special education due to learning disabilities that specifies the student is permitted to turn in work past the due date. Absent work will only be accepted before school and no more than one month past the date of absence. **I do not accept absent make-up work during class.**

One more comment about absences; if a student misses class while they have been assigned to a group, **the student may be removed from the group and asked to complete the missed project or lab on their own before school.** It is unfair to the group for a student who was missing to get the same credit as the students who were present and actually did the work/lab.

Extra Credit Policy: **Extra credit is available and obtainable on every single assignment I give.** If a student's work exceeds my (rather high) expectations, they will earn extra credit on that assignment. I also have an in-class policy whereby students can receive bears or owls they can exchange for extra points on the day of the final. Bears and owls can be earned by helping others, asking great questions in class, correcting a mistake I make, or demonstrating any of the Godinez ESLRs. It is not fair to people who can't afford it to make attendance at plays or concerts extra credit. I also don't give extra credit to parents showing up for back to school night or open house since this decision is usually not in the hands of the student.

Substitute Teachers: When there is a substitute teacher, work will be assigned which can be completed without additional help from me. I will be absent from time to time either as a planned medical appointment or an unforeseen circumstance. Sometimes the substitute teacher will be a Godinez teacher and sometimes it will be a teacher from the district pool of substitute teachers. I take substitute teachers and how my students treat them very seriously. **No matter what work is assigned when there is a substitute, it will count as 15% of your grade.** That is substantial. Also- make up work for substitute teacher work is NOT permitted. I consider courtesy and manners as the utmost priority every day and especially when we have guests in class. If there is any question of behavior that is inconsistent with my expectations of polite, cooperative, and friendly behavior, it will not only change your grade, you will be assigned a Saturday School. **It's not important whether you like the substitute teacher or whether the substitute teacher likes you.** It is actually completely irrelevant. It's only important that you treat them like an invited guest.

Here is my classroom policy regarding the Pledge of Allegiance:

“In a 6-to-3 decision, the Court overruled its decision in *Minersville School District v. Gobotis* and held that compelling public schoolchildren to salute the flag was unconstitutional. In an opinion written by Robert Houghwout Jackson, the Court found that the First Amendment cannot enforce a unanimity of opinion on any topic, and national symbols like the flag should not receive a level of deference that trumps constitutional protections. He argued that curtailing or eliminating dissent was an improper and ineffective way of generating unity.”

[West Virginia vs. Barnette Oyez.Org](#)

If you don't understand what this means, please see me for clarification.

Finally, my policies and classroom rules support the Godinez Fundamental High School Student's Handbook expectations for student conduct and ESLRs.

If you would like to contact me, please use my email address:

ann.priess@saUSD.us

Please include the name of your student in the subject line. I will return your email within 24 hours.

Thank You,

**Ann Priess Fiedler Maclean
Life Sciences Godinez Fundamental High School**

Note: Sexual Harassment in the State of California:

Standard for a Hostile Environment in California:

Unlike most states, California has established a different standard regarding what constitutes a hostile environment.

Under California law, conduct need not be “severe and pervasive” to constitute harassment. In California, misconduct that “so alter[s] working conditions as to make it more difficult to do the job” is sufficient if the conduct also meets the other conditions of harassment. *This means that even one minor incident can constitute harassment so long as the targeted person can show that they had a more difficult time working in the environment following the incident.*

I personally have filed two sexual harassment complaints against students in the past. *I do not tolerate any amount of inappropriate conduct that can be construed by a reasonable person as conduct of a sexual nature.* This usually means I see something on a screen of a sexual nature. Be prepared to have me file harassment charges against anyone who, during class, displays any images, drawings, websites, or social media posts that contain sexual content. This is solely to protect my students which is my ultimate job.

I have read, had all my questions answered, and I understand I or my student must abide by the rules of this class.

Student Name: Ann Priess Maclean

Student Signature: *Ann P. Maclean*

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____