**WILLIAMSBURG HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN**

Course: Living Environment

Teacher: Ms. Taylor

Email: [taylor@whsad.org](mailto:RT3267@yahoo.com)

Room: 216

**Course Description:**

**Living Environment** is a Regents biology course with a 1200-minute laboratory requirement. As we learn about our living world, we will be doing many hands on and creative activities. The course is designed to prepare students directly for a state regents examination, and successful passing is a requirement for graduation.

**Materials:** **POCKET FOLDER**, writing utensil

**Grading Policy:**

Exams- 30%

Classwork- 30%

Participation- 20%

Quizzes- 10%

Homework- 10%

**Exams:**

Approximately 4 comprehensive exams will be given each marking period (1 exam every 2 weeks). Students will be asked a variety of questions including multiple choice, fill in the blank, labeling, and short answer. Exams will cover content from both the lecture and the laboratories and will be designed to prepare students for the Living Environment Regents. *Students will be able to retake exams (in alternative form) as many times as they like to receive full credit*. The important thing is mastery of content, and if a student is willing to put in the effort to improve their test score, they will be credited.

**Labs**

Living Environment is a Regents biology course with a 1200- minute laboratory requirement. *A student will not be eligible for the Regents if 1200 minutes of laboratory work have not been completed and turned in for satisfactory grading, or if any of the 4 required state labs are missing!* We will be doing approximately 30 labs this year. Lab papers should never leave school unless instructed by Ms. Taylor! Completed work must be stored and documented by Ms. Taylor.

**Quizzes, homework, in-class work**

**Quizzes** may or may not be announced in advanced, and will cover anything from a single topic to an entire chapter.

**Homework** is to be taken out at the beginning of class and will be either be given credit as complete/incomplete, or, will be collected and graded accordingly.

**Classwork:** Each class will begin with a DO NOW. You are expected to start your work as soon as you arrive. It is best to arrive early to ensure that you will complete your DO NOW. Each class will end with summary questions. You are expected to keep an accurate record of the classwork that you have completed!!! **A POCKET FOLDER IS MANDATORY FOR LIVING ENVIRONMENT TO KEEP TRACK OF CLASSWORK PAPERS.** Ms. Taylor will conduct *random* folder checks, and you will be graded according to completion.

**Classroom Expectations:** Everyday that you walk into Living Environment class, YOU ARE a scientist. Be prepared to think creatively and learn actively. Scientific thinking applies to all aspects of life, and you will be expected to work hard in Ms. Taylor’s class. Although we will be having fun on a daily basis, the fact that you LEARN is a serious matter. You are expected to be respectful towards Ms. Taylor, your classmates, and the classroom. This includes but is not limited to: Not talking out of turn, being kind and cooperative with classmates, and cleaning up after yourselves. You are certainly expected to abide by all WHSAD established rules and Ms. Taylor will enforce them accordingly.

**Lateness to Class:**  Students should have plenty of passing time in between periods to arrive to class on time. If a student is late to class without a pass from a teacher or the office, they will be marked late and will be subject to loss of “Do Now” classwork credit for that day.

**Course Outline:**

**Unit 1**- The Nature of Science

**Unit 2**- Cell Biology

**Unit 3**- The Human Body

**Unit 4**- Genetics

**Unit 5**- Evolution

**Unit 6**- Ecology

**Unit 7**- Regents Review

**Regents Exam- June 15, 2016**