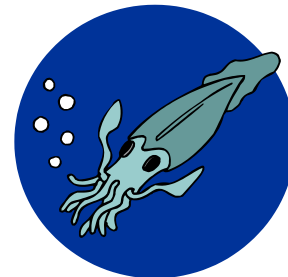


OCEANOGRAPHY

Syllabus



Kevin A. Knowles

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425-831-8124

Room 122 6th period

Planning Time: (4th) 11:10-12:10

This year is your opportunity to understand and experience the dynamic world around you in the realm of the ocean environment. We will be covering a range of topics with a variety of supporting assignments. In the 1st semester, Mr. Knowles will be teaching you the nature and processes of physical oceanography – the study of the physical, or abiotic(non-living) environment, and in 2nd semester, Mr. Ramseyer will complete the course examining the many wonders of marine biology - the study of the biotic(living)environment and its interaction with its surroundings. Now that you are in high school it will be essential for you to keep track of when things are due (your planner is an excellent tool for this). With that said, this should be an excellent and prosperous year and we look forward to being your teachers of these two unique focus areas of study in marine science.

There are three basic classroom expectations:

1. Respect Mr. Knowles, other classmates, the classroom environment and yourselves.
2. Act in a manner to support the learning process, & be a positive member of the classroom.
3. Fully complete tasks on time with 100% effort, while enjoying this unique science!



Late work: Work **MUST** be turned in on time, complete and show a solid effort. If you are absent it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and how to make up the credit as well a remembering to turn in assignments when you return.

1. CHECKED HOMEWORK. These are regular daily-work assignments such as reading responses, study questions, worksheets, etc. Work should always be turned in as complete as possible to the best of your ability. Checked homework is not accepted late, except for excused absences.
2. GRADED ASSIGNMENTS. Work such as lab write-ups and projects drop 10% for one day late, and 50% for more than 1 day late (for example a 10 point assignment that is 2 days late automatically losses 5 points.). Please note that some points are better than no points, but please turn work in complete & on time if possible, especially using this policy.



But what if I don't understand the assignment? I don't expect that every answer on a homework assignment is perfectly correct, just that you've made every good-faith effort to complete it. Ask for help if you have questions (you classmates area great resource), but **DO NOT** leave answers blank! (Guessing can't hurt your grade but make educated guesses – those require thought and your best explanation based on your understanding of the material!). *Also be sure to keep all of your work to study from and as verification of the score you received – have a 3 ring binder or envelope style binder to keep all work and notes in.*



Plagiarism & Cheating: Plagiarism is not allowed under any circumstance. This includes copying a classmate's work. **Be sure to appropriately cite all of your sources even if you paraphrase something** (your school planner has a terrific citation guide pgs.21-24). Pictures or images taken from any source other than one that you created must be cited as well. Plagiarism or cheating will result in the loss all credit on an assignment with no chance for make-up in addition to other appropriate consequences. All work is to be completed individually unless the teacher explicitly says otherwise.



Quizzes, Tests and retakes: I do not give retakes *for any reason*. You are expected to do your best work the first time on every assessment on the day the assessment is given. If you have an excused planned absence on a test day (or other major due date), it is your responsibility to let me know at least 1 week BEFORE the date of the absence.

Grading

Semester Project - 10%
Test and Quizzes - 30%
Labs - 30%
Daily work - 20%
Participation - 10%

Daily Participation: Students are graded on being on task, working diligently, and appropriately on the assignment material to a high standard the entire period every day, and coming prepared with any materials and prior work fully completed in a quality manner. It is important to be in class every day so you can learn. In addition to being in class, you must make all effort possible to **actively participate** in lectures and discussions, cooperative group and lab work.

Journals: You are required to keep a journal notebook with you to use on a daily basis as determined by Mr. Knowles. You will put down your thoughts

and ideas about oceanography in this journal. Each journal entry must be in the specified type of composition notebook **ONLY**, and will be graded primarily on the basis of successfully completing required entry with complete thought in a neat and thorough presentation.

Semester Projects: There will be a major project each semester. This is an opportunity for you to demonstrate your skills and understanding in a non-test based format, usually as a full research paper. Please stay on top of these long term projects, saving them till the last minute is never a good idea, and makes it difficult to do well overall.

Class Materials: All materials are required and expected to be present and in working order every day of class. 1" Notebook Binder with lined notebook paper. Mount Si Planner (for passes) & journal notebook (**must be a composition notebook ONLY!**)* A calculator that has 10+ places on the readout screen is **highly encouraged**.

Classroom Rules/Expectations: All Mount Si High School Rules (planner- pgs. 5-19) are strictly enforced!

Respect is the overarching guiding principle in this class and in life – Respect for everyone and everything!

- Come to class on time, prepared to learn, and have all necessary materials.
- Follow all class/lab safety rules without any reminders. Never jeopardize the safety or health of yourself or others, especially while conducting lab activities.
- Disruptive behavior that affects my ability to teach or affects other students' learning will not be tolerated - may result in your removal from the class.
- **All electronic devices (cell phones, IPODs, cameras, laser pens, etc.) must be turned off prior to class - securely stored away in backpack.**

Tardy Policy: you lose 1% of your overall grade per tardy (this is a school wide policy). If you are not **in the door and moving to your seat quickly when the bell rings** you are tardy. See Mr. Knowles to make these up quickly!

Food: Food and beverages (except water) are never allowed in class without prior explicit approval from Mr. Knowles. This is a science room safety issue. Gum is allowed but discrete gum chewing only to have this privilege.

Planners: It will be essential for you to have your planner every day in class to record your assignments. It is also required to leave class to use the restroom. Do not forget your planners, you will need them for hall passes for sure!

PLEASE feel free to contact me with concerns or questions via email: knowlesk@svsd410.org or Mr. Ramseyer in the 2nd semester at ramseyerd@svsd410.org. *If you need assistance I can be found in my room 122 or Mr. Ramseyer in room 119 by appointment. You're also welcome to drop by the classroom and see if I'm around if you need help as well (letting me know ahead of time is also a good idea if you have more than just a quick question).*

On a final note the grade you receive isn't as important as the knowledge you take away with you. Focus on your understanding. School is an opportunity for you to learn but only you can accept the challenge to become an educated and prosperous individual. Your learning is entirely dependent on your self-efficacy and effort.

Oceanography Content:

Physical Oceanography: Mr. Knowles

- Introduction to Oceanography– 4 studies of Oceanography/4 Principal Oceans
- Plate Tectonics and Ocean Floor
- Continental margins/ Ocean basins
- Marine Sediments- and their sources
- Air-Sea Interaction & Ocean Circulation
- Wave Dynamics and Wind Waves / Tsunami, Seiches and Tides
- The Oceans and Climate Change



Marine Biology: Mr. Ramseyer

- History of Oceanography
- Life in the Ocean
- Water and Seawater/ Ocean Structure (elements of ocean chemistry)
- Primary Producers
- Marine Animals
- Marine Communities
- Marine Resources
- Environmental Concerns
- History of Ocean Life

