# Course Syllabus

| Franklin High School | 2020-2021 |
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DIRECTIONS: For each course, complete the syllabus and share with your evaluating/supervising administrator **as a pdf** ("File-download-PDF document"). Syllabi will be posted on the FHS website under your name for the public to view.

## Course Overview

NOTE: For core classes, all elements of this section (except for name and contact information) are the same.

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| Course Title: Marine Science | |
| Instructor Name:Megan Whisnand | Contact Info: mwhisnan@pps.net |
| Grade Level(s): 10th, 11th and 12th | |
| Credit Type: (i.e. "science", "elective") You may earn an elective credit or a science recovery credit | # of credits per semester: during distance learning 1 credit per semester or .5 credit a quarter |
| Prerequisites (if applicable): No prerequisites required | |

General Course Description:

This course that explores Marine Science can be defined as the process of discovering the facts, processes, and unifying principles that explain the nature of the oceans and their associated life forms.

The purpose of this course is to provide an advanced overview of the unique characteristics of the marine environment by exploring the physical and biological characteristics of seawater. Topics will include the ocean's present and potential resources, marine biology interactions with technology and society, ocean exploration, chemical processes, energy, properties of water, marine invertebrates, marine plants, and marine vertebrates and interrelationships between man and the ocean environment.

Prioritized National/State Standards:

https://www.coexploration.org/oceanliteracy/documents/OL_HS_Sept18_Print.pdf Link to NGSS high school standards that aling with marine science

***7 Essential Principals***

1. The Earth has one big ocean with many features.
2. The ocean and life in the ocean shape the features of the Earth.
3. The ocean is a major influence on weather and climate.
4. The ocean makes the Earth habitable.
5. The ocean supports a great diversity of life and ecosystems.
6. The ocean and humans are inextricably interconnected.
7. The ocean is largely unexplored.

## Course Details

*Learning Expectations*

Materials/Texts No class texts, Resources will be found on line and shared by the teachers as we use them

Course Content and Schedule:

The first part of the year or 3rd quarter we cover the physical properties of the ocean topics like ocean explorations, sea floor features, ocean water composition, salinity, density, temperature, ocean currents, tides, waves, ocean acidification, using the ocean for renewable energy, effects and solutions of climate change, relationships people and cultures have with the sea, and more.

Quarter 4 or the second half of the semester we cover Life of the Ocean We start with the smallest single celled organism and work our way up to the largest mammals on the planet. Some of the topics we will learn about, crusturations, sea anemones, octopus, cuttlefish, fish, sharks, sea turtles, dolphins, whales, and so many more. We explore underwater habitats, like coral reefs, deep hydrothermal vents, Polar seas, shallow seas, open oceans, mangroves and estuaries.

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Differentiation/accessibility strategies and supports (TAG, ELL, SpEd, other):

IEP, 504, ELL and TAG plans will be followed in order to best meet the needs of every student.

My goal is to make my classes accessible for students of all levels, from SPED to TAG and all levels in between. Many options and choices are available for each unit so students can pick a level that best suits them and their interests and curiosities. I am a very approachable teacher too and encourage students to have open conversations with me expressing what is working and what they need more help with, as well as me reaching out often too.

Safety issues and requirements (if applicable):

Classroom norms and expectations:

**Class Rules & Expectations:**

- BE RESPECTFUL, BE RESPONSIBLE, BE THOUGHTFUL, BE ENGAGED

- *We are scientists:* Be curious. Think critically about the material, and try and relate it to the world around you.
- If you don't understand, ASK QUESTIONS! You are probably not the only one who has questions.
- Other students can sometimes be the best teachers. Ask a friend for help if you don't understand, and (humbly) offer your help to others. Teaching is learning.
- Clear up misunderstandings IMMEDIATELY. I am available during office hours. Please email me or contact through remind we can set up a one on one meets. Topics build on one another, so it is important that you understand the first topic in order to understand the next.
- *We are professionals.*
- Come to class, prepared, on time, every day.
- Do your own work. Copying others' class work or homework will only hurt you on tests & exams.
- *We ask questions and WORK HARD EVERY DAY.*
- Take excellent notes, especially examples. These will be your best resources for studying for the tests & exams. Looking over notes is a great way to retain what you learned.

Do your best on all homework and in-class work. Practice is like a mental workout. The best workouts are the ones that require the most mental energy, so DON'T GIVE UP, even if it is tough.

*Evidence of Course Completion*

Assessment of Progress and Achievement:

There will be many opportunities for students to demonstrate their understanding of the marine science concepts we cover. Through class discussions, article and data analysis, presentations ,projects, tests, quizzes and more. Grades will be posted through Synergy. I'm happy to discuss the progress of individual students at any time.

Progress Reports/Report Cards (what a grade means):

Grades can be found through Synergy
Grades are based on classwork, homework, projects, current events, labs, group projects tests, quizzes . The break down is typical A 100-90% B 89-80% C 79-70% D 69-60% F 59% AND BELOW

- **Labs:** We will do labs as much as possible at home or by watching Mrs. Whisnand,
- **Notebook and Binder**: All notes will be written and kept in a notebook or digitally on line
- **Homework**: Homework is the time for practice. Therefore, THERE IS NO REASON TO COPY. An marine science related current event summary will be due a few times each quarter as well.
- **Classwork**: Our synchronous live classes with be interactive and great place and time to demonstrate your understanding and participation.

Career Related Learning Experience (CRLEs) and Essential Skills:

| Communication with Parent/Guardian |
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| What methods are used to communicate curriculum, successes, concerns, etc.?<br>The teacher can always be reached through email mwhisnan@pps.net. I'm happy to call you and have a phone conversation or set up a google meets or zoom one on one meeting. |
| **Personal Statement and other needed info** |
| I am here to help all students succeed and to spark their curiosity about the world around them and marine science. My goal is to make the class fun, engaging and connect to them and show them they can make a positive difference in the world. |