

EDWARD R. MURROW HIGH SCHOOL
SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
Allen Barge, Principal
Carlos Reyes, Assistant Principal

Course Syllabus
SLS22: Living Environment II
Spring 2024

1. Instructor Information

Mr. D. Sprague
Office: Room 403
Email: DSprague@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: (718) 258-9283 ext. 4032

Ms. P. Rivera
Office: Room 410
Email: PRivera13@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: (718) 258-9283 ext. 4101

Course Web Page: <http://www.spraguescience.com>

Click on the “Living Environment” menu tab at the top. We will use this page to post course information, assignments, rubrics, review sheets, studying techniques, practice exam questions, and relevant science news.

2. Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- (1) Describe and explain biological concepts, theories, structures, and processes.
- (2) Develop and use biological models.
- (3) Design experiments and conduct research using appropriate laboratory techniques and equipment.
- (4) Graph and analyze data to determine meaningful patterns.
- (5) Apply mathematics and statistics to solve biology problems.
- (6) Use evidence to support or refute biological claims.

3. Required Materials

You should bring to class everyday:

- Both pen (blue or black ink only) and pencil
- Three-ring binder with loose leaf paper
- Pocket folder
- Calculator (cell phones may not be used as calculators)

4. Grading Policy

Students will be evaluated multiple times on each of six biology skills (see section 2, Course Objectives) listed in this syllabus through written examinations, laboratory work, writing assignments, and class discussions. Students will receive a separate evaluation of each biology skill on assessments (i.e., you will not receive a single score on an exam; instead, you will receive a separate mark for each biology skill that the exam assesses). Students will be provided with a rubric describing the criteria for success on each skill.

The final score for each biology skill will be based on the most recent, consistent evaluations of the skill rather than a simple average of scores. Thus, students who struggle with a particular skill on assessments early in the semester will not be penalized if they can consistently demonstrate proficiency by the end of the semester.

5. Exams

Exams and quizzes will be given periodically throughout the semester with advanced notice. Make up opportunities for missed exams and quizzes will be provided when an absence is excused. Missed exams and quizzes must be made up within two class days of when the test was given.

6. Laboratory Work

New York State requires that students complete 1200 minutes of laboratory work and submit 28 satisfactory written lab reports to sit for the Living Environment Regents Exam; students should complete at least 14 satisfactory lab reports per semester. For this reason, students who miss a lab for any reason must arrange to attend a make up lab. Any lab that is not made up cannot receive credit. For safety reasons, students who arrive late to lab will not be permitted to enter the lab, and will be required to make up the lab. Inappropriate or dangerous behavior will result in removal from the lab.

7. Assignments

Each week, a set of practice problems will be assigned. Reflections should be turned in through Google Classroom by the due date.

8. Classroom Protocol

In-class assignments, attendance, punctuality, preparedness, participation, and productivity during class time are all valued in this course. It is expected that you will treat everyone in the classroom with respect, contribute to class discussions, and remain attentive. Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off and out of sight.

9. Attendance

Regular attendance is mandatory. Class begins five (5) minutes after the end of the previous band. Students who are not in the room at that time will be marked late without a pass. When you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to find out what class activities, assignments, or notes were missed and arrange to make up these activities and get the notes from a classmate. Students who are isolating after receiving a positive COVID-19 test are responsible for communicating with us over email and completing assignments on Google Classroom. Students in team-taught classes should include both teachers on all course-related emails.

10. Academic Honesty

All work that you turn in is expected to be your own. When you use someone else's ideas, you must give that person credit, even if you do not use his or her exact words. Anyone who is caught cheating, talking, or using a cell phone or other personal electronic device during an exam will be penalized. It is not acceptable to look at another student's written work or show another student your written work, nor is it acceptable to submit work generated by artificial intelligence programs without clear acknowledgement.

Edward R. Murrow High School

DESIGNATED A SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CARLOS REYES, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL SCIENCE ALLEN BARGE, PRINCIPAL

COURSE CONTRACT

SLS22

Living Environment II

Spring 2024

Mr. Sprague & Ms. Rivera

I have read and agree to all classroom rules, expectations, guidelines, and procedures outlined in the attached document entitled, "Course Syllabus: Living Environment II, Spring 2024".

A copy of the course policies will be posted to the course web page at <http://www.spraguescience.com>.

For questions, please feel free to email us at DSprague@schools.nyc.gov and PRivera13@schools.nyc.gov or call us at (718) 258-9283 ext. 4032 or ext. 4101.

Student Name (print)

Student Signature

Date

Parent Name (print)

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Daytime Phone Number
(between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m.)

Parent E-mail Address

Please provide any information that you would like me to know about your student (special talents or needs):