Quarantine Procedures and Grading for Lukas' classes

It is with the utmost sadness that I am teaching under these circumstances.

I was having a fantastic year in the classroom and I loved the energy that all of you brought to my classes, as well as to the school in general. I truly miss not seeing all of you every week, and I am incredibly frustrated that the year must conclude in this way. But, such is the way of things, and we will try to make the best of these unprecedented circumstances together. I look forward to still working with all of you in some capacity over the next several weeks, and I am excited for the prospects of starting fresh in the Fall. In the meantime, I will make sure to facilitate your continued learning in the classes you have with me as best I can.

Contacting me:

Your feedback and self-advocacy is essential in order to make this work, so please do not hesitate to send an email to me at science@skyislands.org if you are experiencing difficulty with any material or readings, assignments, quizzes, or have any other questions.

Although I have designated ‘office hours’ on Fridays from 12-2 pm where I will be focused solely on answering student email queries (or perhaps we can set up a google hangout during that time block if there is interest), I am almost always able to respond within a fairly short time frame, so if you have a burning question or need help, please don’t wait!

Procedures:

Your weekly readings, assignments, and other materials that are not picked up at the school on Monday, 3/30 will be posted on my blogs. Rather than the daily posting that you may be used to, I am shifting to posting all of the required materials, readings, and assignments for the week. Please make a habit of checking the blogs at the beginning of each week to see what you need to do!

- Assigned reading will always be posted for the week. The books that you will have for each class (which will be handed off in a bag during the pickup on Monday, 3/30) are:
  - Earth Science: “Reading the Rocks: The Autobiography of the Earth” by Marcia Bjornerud
  - Ecobiology: “Sonoran Desert Summer” by John Alcock
  - Astrobiology: “The Fabric of the Cosmos” by Brian Greene

- Online quizzes based on the readings will be emailed to all of you via an invitation from google forms each week using the email addresses you provided in the survey that was sent home to parents. Please let me know right away if you are not receiving these invitations or if the address you are receiving them at is not your preferred address.

  Online quizzes must be completed each week by Friday at 5pm- NO exceptions!

  In addition, you are only allowed to take each quiz once- if you take it again, I will only score your first attempt. Please also note that quizzes are not timed, so please take your time and use your books!

  Please do not use the internet/ google to answer your quiz questions- I will find out and your scores will be voided.
• Any additional assigned homework questions or other assignments for the week will be posted directly on the blog with a due date and time, and can either be emailed to me as an attached document or through an invitation to read via google docs.
• Your weekly contribution grades will be based on your participation in online discussions through the Discussion Blogs, which will appear as a dropdown option over the name of the class you are in on my regular blog website. However, you may also access them here:
  US/AZ History Discussion Blog
  Earth Science 2 Discussion Blog
  Ecobiology 2 Discussion Blog
  Astrobiology 2 Discussion Blog

Each week, you must leave one primary post/comment on the discussion blogs based on the assigned reading for the week, as well as respond to two other peoples' comments. Your contribution grade will be based on the depth, relevance, and thoughtfulness of your primary and response posts.

Your primary and response posts are due each week by **Friday at 5pm**.

**Grading:**

Your grades for the duration of the quarantine, which will continue from the percentages and letters that you had at the end of the third quarter, will be based off of the following criteria:

- Assignments/Quizzes (your score/points compared to the total number of points per assignment)
- Contribution (at 5 points/week), based on the following criteria:
  - Quality, depth, and relevancy of your initial post
  - Quality, depth, and relevancy of your response posts
  - Whether or not you satisfy the minimum requirement of one primary and at least two response posts
  - Spelling
  - Grammar and writing mechanics

I will send home answer keys for assignments posted on the blog following their due dates for review, and upon scoring your online quizzes, you will receive a score report at the email you used to access them.

I will also keep your grade reports updated regularly, so if you wish to receive an electronic copy, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Thank you, and best of luck, good health, and good spirits for the duration of this period!

-Lukas