ITINERARY
EMERGING SCHOLARS FIELD TRIP
PORT FOURCHON PRESENTATION, TOUR, & LUNCH

- 11:00 a.m. – Group arrives at Fourchon Operations Center for presentation on Port Fourchon and lunch
- Group of approximately 10-14 people from Tulane, with 2+ Harvey Gulf reps attending presentation & lunch as well
- 12:15 p.m. - Tour of Port Fourchon on port bus
- 1:00 p.m. - Port tour concludes at Harvey Gulf facility for a vessel tour
- Davy LeBlanc is the Harvey Gulf contact person for this portion of the day
- Prior to boarding, Harvey Gulf personnel will give a 10-minute presentation and have attendees complete agreements
- 2:00 p.m. - Depart from Harvey Gulf; return group to their vans at Fourchon Ops Center

Topics for Discussion:
- Importance of industry and business to the community, region, state, and nation
- Industry and environment are not mutually exclusive: how Port Fourchon supports both industry and fisheries in the same location (aka It CAN be done!)
- Elected Port Commissioners, who are community members with a wide range of occupations and backgrounds, keep port progress focused, approving projects and leases that will be the best fit for our port and environment
- Experience is the best teacher: how the Gulf environment provides both benefits and challenges (i.e. location on the central Gulf Coast vs. storms and coastal erosion)
- Vessels’ importance to Port Fourchon, the oil & gas service industry, and proactive construction/environmental efforts (i.e. Harvey Gulf’s green initiative)
- Fourchon has some of the best employment statistics in the nation, with jobs in a variety of fields (students will see a multitude of companies on their tour, and they can review some of the companies listed on our port map)
- Port Commission as environmental steward: coastal restoration projects, marsh creation, environmental considerations in port projects and permits, and mitigation
- Fisheries/Recreation in Fourchon: free public recreational boat launch and bath house, commercial fisherman’s marina, South Lafourche storm harbor marina, and support of other local initiatives like the Leeville boat launch
Emerging Scholars EHS Academy  
Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine  
Global Environmental Health Sciences

Weekly Topics:
Week #1: Asking questions and defining problems.
Week #6: Constructing explanations and designing solutions.
Week #7: Engaging in argument and designing solutions.

Field Trip: Greater Lafourche Port Commission  
Port Fourchon  
Ship Tour – Harvey Gulf Marine International

Date: Friday, June 24, 2016
Time: 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Overview:
Coastal erosion and wetland deterioration are serious and widespread problems affecting Louisiana’s coastal zone. With coastal wetland losses of 16,000 to 20,000 acres per year, the long term social, environmental, and economic consequences will deprive not only Louisiana but also the Gulf of Mexico Region and the nation as a whole of vitally important fish, wildlife, and other wetland-related economic and environmental benefits. While Port Fourchon actively pursues its purpose of stimulating commercial development, it accepts as part of its mission the responsibility of acknowledging the environmental value of the setting in which Port Fourchon is located.

The Port Commission works diligently to restore and protect the coastal landscape and habitats that surround the port. Below are just a few examples of how Port Fourchon works in conjunction with environmental organizations to protect our deteriorating coastal landscapes. The Port undertakes many worthy restoration projects every year, in conjunction with its valuable Environmental Partners, in an effort to protect, preserve, and rebuild the fragile environment that surrounds its thriving industrial development.

Field Trip Objective:
1) Students gain knowledge of the Port’s impact on environmental health issues in their community through the observation and investigation into Port operations, services, and facilities.
2) Students learn the vessels’ importance to Port Fourchon, the oil & gas service industry, and proactive construction/environmental efforts (i.e. Harvey Gulf’s green initiative)
3) Port Commission as an environmental steward: coastal restoration projects, marsh creation, environmental considerations in port projects and permits, and mitigation

Environmental Science: Environmental Awareness and Protection
#19 - Determine the interrelationships of clean water, land, and air to the success of organisms in a given population (SE-H-C1).
#20 - Relate environmental quality to quality of life (SE-H-C2).
#21 - Analyze the effect of common social, economic, technological, and political considerations on environmental policy and issues (SE-H-C3).
#26 - Determine local actions that can affect the global environment (SE-H-D4)
Next Generation Science Standard:
LS2.C: Ecosystem Dynamics, Functioning, and Resilience
Students determine anthropogenic changes (induced by human activity) in the environment—including habitat destruction, pollution, introduction of invasive species, overexploitation, and climate change which can disrupt an ecosystem and threaten the survival of some species. (HS-LS2-7)

ESS3.B: Natural Hazards
All forms of energy production and other resource extraction have associated economic, social, environmental, and geopolitical costs and risks as well as benefits. New technologies and social regulations can change the balance of these factors (HS-ESS3-2).

ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems
The sustainability of human societies and the biodiversity that supports them require responsible management of natural resources (HS-ESS3-3).