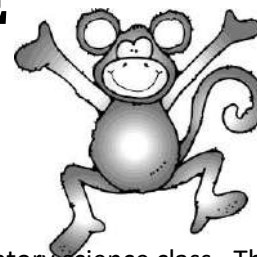


AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Class Expectations & Responsibilities

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Course Profile

This is a one-year College Prep course, which satisfies the university requirements for a laboratory science class. The course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement Environmental Science exam in the spring. The topics covered include the following:

1. **The Living World: Ecosystems** (*Food webs, water cycle, carbon cycle, nitrogen cycle, biomes*)
2. **The Living World: Biodiversity** (*Biodiversity, disruptions to ecosystems*)
3. **Populations** (*Survivorship of species, human population dynamics*)
4. **Earth Systems and Resources** (*Soil, atmosphere, watersheds, El Nino, seasons*)
5. **Land and Water Use** (*Forestry, mining, agriculture, fishing*)
6. **Energy Resources and Consumption** (*Fossil fuels, solar, nuclear, hydroelectric, wind, hydrogen, ethanol*)
7. **Atmospheric Pollution** (*Outdoor and indoor air pollution, acid rain*)
8. **Aquatic and Terrestrial Pollution** (*Toxins and human health, landfills, wastewater treatment, diseases*)
9. **Global Change** (*Ozone thinning, greenhouse gasses, ocean warming, climate change, endangered species, invasive species*)

These topics are spiraled around the **Big Ideas**:

Big Idea 1: *Energy Transfer*

Big Idea 2: *Interactions between Earth Systems*

Big Idea 3: *Interactions between Different Species and the Environment*

Big Idea 4: *Sustainability*

Science Practices

In addition, to topics, we place heavy emphasis on Science Practices. These skills are more difficult than memorizing information. This method has proven to boost AP exam scores and grades in the class. The science practices are:

Practice 1: **Concept Explanation**-Explain environmental concepts, processes and models presented in written format.

Practice 2: **Visual Representation**-Analyze visual representations of environmental concepts and processes.

Practice 3: **Text Analysis**-Analyze sources of information about environmental issues.

Practice 4: **Scientific Experiments**-Analyze research studies that test environmental principles.

Practice 5: **Data Analysis**-Analyze and interpret quantitative data represented in tables, charts and graphs.

Practice 6: **Mathematical Routines**-Apply quantitative methods to address environmental concepts.

Practice 7: **Environmental Solutions**-Propose and justify solutions to environmental problems.

Goals and Expectations for AP Environmental Science

Student Goals:

1. Understand scientific connections in the ecological world along with human interactions.
2. Communicate at a collegiate level: Back up statements with details and specifics. Use data and examples.
3. Develop hypotheses and conduct well-designed experiments including gathering data and using mathematical calculations.
4. Personally, apply what is learned (where appropriate and feasible) to make healthier humans and better citizens.
5. Develop competence in the curriculum in order to perform well on the AP Exam in May.

Student Expectations:

1. Read the assigned pages in your book on time and with diligence. This is a college level course. Students need to develop the skill of reading and learning material without the teacher checking up on them. Assigned readings will be on exams even if the teacher does not cover in class or quiz on the subject. Exam points are worth vastly more than homework points. **Students who do not carefully read and re-read the chapter to study cannot expect to perform well on an exam.**
2. Engage in class with notetaking, observation, and discussion.
3. Participate with lab groups with input, discussion, and equal participation.
4. Apply maximum effort in preparing for exams, lab reports and the AP Exam.
5. Plan for time to use computers and the internet and complete assignments on time

Student Reflection on Expectations: What are your personal strategies for meeting these expectations? Which will be easier? Which will be harder? What are your strategies to meet all the expectations?

Course Prerequisites

Any Junior or Senior student who has earned a grade of B or better in Biology (CP, H, or AP) and Chemistry (CP or H).

Suggested Class Materials

- Text: Botkin and Keller 6th Edition *Environmental Science: Earth as a Living Planet*. (Leave at home)
- 1" binder
- Pencils
- Pens – blue or black ink
- Sticky Notes – NO pink or neon colors
- Colored pencils and pens for drawing and coloring
- Scientific Calculator

Education Code Section 49011 (a) states: 'A pupil enrolled in a public school shall not be required to pay a pupil fee for participation in an educational activity.'

AP Environmental Science Exam: Monday, May 11, 2020 12pm Fee: \$106.00

It is expected that you will take this exam. Exam registration will take this Fall. PLEASE plan accordingly.

Homework and Classwork Policy

Homework and class work assignments are a part of the class. These assignments will emphasize and reinforce material covered in class. If you are absent due to school sports or activities, assignments are due ON or BEFORE the day of your event or activity. Late work will be accepted after the due date with 20% – 50%-point penalty. Oops and HW Passes on Renaissance Cards are accepted to waive late points for one day. Late work will not be accepted after graded/recorded work is returned.

Tests

Tests must be made up the day of your return from an absence. Your tests will be structured in AP format, with multiple choice and FRQ portions. Academic Honesty is a priority, as such, any student caught cheating before, during or after an exam will receive an F on the exam, a referral and parent contact. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, talking during or after the exam, having your cell phone visible or on your person, using hidden notes on paper or otherwise, or looking at someone else's answers. **All students will take a Fall Midterm as well as Fall and Spring Finals.**

Absences

Remember that if you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed. Tests, labs, class work, etc. can be made up if your absence is excused. NO work will be accepted for unexcused absences or truanancies.

Labs

Labs are an essential part of this class given that it is a lab science class. Some colleges and universities require proof that labs were completed in an AP class to grant college credit for the class. Therefore, you ought to keep all your graded labs ensuring that you have evidence of your lab experiences. Keep in mind that not all lab activities that we do will require you to write a formal lab report. I will inform when I want you to write up a lab formally. All lab reports must be hand – written in your lab notebook in blue or black ink. I do not accept typed lab reports. I will be giving you a Lab Report Format sheet in a few days.

Grading – This course is a weighted grade and will be calculated as follows:

<u>Assessments</u>	<u>70%</u>	<u>Classwork & Homework</u>	<u>30%</u>
Quizzes, Tests, Midterms & Final Exams		Labs & Projects	15%
		Sticky Notes & Binder Checks	10%
		Homework and Classwork	5%

A percentage will be determined for each student, and grades will be assigned based on the guidelines listed below.

>98%—A+	88-89%—B+	77-79%—C+	68-69%—D+	
-96%—A	83-86%—B	73-76%—C	63-66%—D	
90-92%—A-	80-82%—B-	70-72%—C-	60-62%—D-	<60%—F

Classroom Rules

1. Be Respectful and don't talk while the teacher is talking.
2. Be respectful of your fellow students.
3. Bring all needed materials to class.
4. Arrive on-time.
5. No personal grooming during class time.
6. Follow directions the first time they are given.
7. No use of profanity or cursing.
8. Unless needed for class work or research, with Teacher approval, cell phones are to be turned **OFF and put away** during class time.
9. No talking while the teacher is talking.
10. Ethical Academic Behavior and Honesty is an ABSOLUTE. If violated, appropriate consequences will occur.

Mrs. Rivas's Promises

1. I will treat you with respect.
2. I will listen to you.
3. I will guide you through the curriculum in an appropriate pace.
4. I have expertise in the subject of Environmental science and the AP Exam.
5. I will assess (grade) student work in a timely matter with appropriate feedback.
6. I will develop and guide self-learning skills in students.
7. I will provide resources to prepare for AP Exam.
8. I will provide opportunities and strategies for school use of computers as needed by students.
9. I will consistently hold high standards for all students and myself.
10. I will work with you and support you as you learn about environmental science, life, and yourself.

2019 – 2020 AP Environmental Science Student Survey and Goals.

Please answer the following:

1. What do you most enjoy doing in a classroom? I most enjoy _____
_____ in a classroom.
2. What do you least enjoy doing in a classroom? I least enjoy _____
_____ in a classroom.
3. What do you think is your best or favorite subject? _____
4. What do you think is your worst or least favorite subject? _____
5. What letter grade is your goal for AP ES this year? _____ What grade would your
parents/guardians be happy with? _____ What do you plan to do differently this year than
last year to help reach your goal? I plan on _____.
6. What is your next step after high school? After high school I plan on _____
_____.

I have read, understand, and agree to follow to the best of my ability the AP Environmental Science Class Expectations and Responsibilities for the 2019- 2020 school year.

Student Name (print)

Period

Student Signature

Date

Teacher Initials _____

Student Name (print)

Period

I/We have read, understand, and agree to the AP Environmental Science Class Expectations and Responsibilities for the 2019 - 2020 school year.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Please provide me with a name, phone number, and email address that I may use for contact purposes between the hours of 7 am and 4 pm.

Contact Name (print)

Contact phone number

Contact Email Address: _____
(please print)