

Course Name: AP Environmental Science (Lab and Algebra-Based Science Elective)

Duration: 1 Semester Full Year

Grade Level: 9th 10th 11th 12th (check all that apply)

Are there any prerequisites for the course?

Successful completion of Biology. Chemistry is strongly encouraged.

WHAT this course is about:

Advanced Placement (AP) Environmental Science is approved and certified by the College Board. It is intended to be the equivalent of a college level environmental science course. AP Environmental Science follows the program syllabus outlined by the College Board, in which students use scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/ or preventing them.

WHY take this course:

This course provides a foundational knowledge of science, society, and the environment at a college level. It is the equivalent of one-semester, introductory college environmental science. This class is an excellent choice for everyone, both science and non-science focused students.

WHAT you'll learn:

The following themes provide a foundation for the structure of the AP Environmental Science course: 1. Science is a process. 2. Energy conversions underlie all ecological processes. 3. The Earth itself is one interconnected system. 4. Humans alter natural systems. 5. Environmental problems have a cultural and social context. 6. Human survival depends on developing practices that will achieve sustainable systems.

WHAT you'll do:

- Explaining environmental concepts and processes
- Analyzing data, visual representations, and writings
- Applying quantitative methods in solving problems
- Proposing a solution for an environmental problem and supporting your idea with evidence
- Analyzing a research study to identify a hypothesis

WHERE this could take you:

AP Environmental Science can be a gateway into a variety of science and non-science career paths. The course focuses on the interdependent nature of our local, regional, and global ecosystems with a connection to human endeavors and impacts.

OPTIONAL Course Outline (“scope and sequence”, sequence chart, etc.)

AP Environmental Science Units of Study

- Unit 1: The Living World: Ecosystems
- Unit 2: The Living World: Biodiversity
- Unit 3: Populations
- Unit 4: Earth Systems and Resources
- Unit 5: Land and Water Use
- Unit 6: Energy Resources and Consumption
- Unit 7: Atmospheric Pollution
- Unit 8: Aquatic and Terrestrial Pollution
- Unit 9: Global Change