



AP Environmental Science

2020 – 2021 Syllabus & Information Sheet

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This course meets both high school graduation and lab science admission requirements for Arizona Universities.

AP Environmental Science (APES) is a year-long course designed to advance students' knowledge of environmental science (relationship between the natural world and human activities). My goal is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required 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 or preventing them. This course is truly interdisciplinary, including a wide range of content areas: geosciences, biology, environmental studies, conservation biology, chemistry, economics, politics and ethics. This leads to APES being a course that transcends traditional high school science subjects and requires an interdisciplinary approach coupled with the most current research in the field. The ultimate goal of this class is to prepare students to succeed on the **AP exam on Friday May 14th, 2021 @ noon** thus earning them college credit.

Textbook: *Environmental Science 6th Edition* by Botkin & Keller – Classroom copies will be made available so students can keep their copy at home.

Necessary school supplies (for in-person learning):

- Folder (three ring binder or 2 pocket folder)
- Pencil & pen (some activities require one or the other)
- Scientific or Graphing Calculator
- Laboratory notebook (this will be provided to students)



Necessary school supplies (for on-line learning):

- Computer with a camera, microphone, and speakers
- A pen or pencil and paper on which to write quick notes
- A quiet place to work...students are expected to open the Zoom link posted in Google Classroom each day at the start of class.

What is Google Classroom? Google Classroom is an Internet program that we will be utilized throughout the school. It will be used for class announcements, assignments and much more. You can access our classroom page on a computer or via a smartphone with the Google Classroom app. I do recommend downloading the mobile app. When you login to Google using your school account (ID#@student.amphi.com), you will find you are already a member of all the classes on your schedule (no join codes necessary).

What is Zoom? Zoom is an application that allows us to meet virtually. Class will be started with a Zoom meeting each day for attendance. The length of the Zoom meeting will depend on the lesson planned for the day. The Zoom invitation will be posted on Google Classroom. [Link to Zoom protocols and standards](#)

What is AP Classroom? AP Classroom is a website hosted by College Board on which I will post assessments and reviews. Students will join my class much like they would join Google Classroom.
<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-environmental-science> Join code: **Z3KK97**

In order for you to enjoy class and be successful, there are **four basic rules** that you must follow.

- 1 – Follow the A-List** (ID badge, Electronics put away, head phones out, materials ready)
- 2 – Be in class on time** (be in seat or on Zoom when class starts)
- 3 – Be an active learner** (avoid distractions and give maximum effort in and out of the classroom)
- 4 – Be respectful** (use respectful language, talk only when appropriate, be a team player)

These expectations apply to in-person and online learning.

Plagiarism: ALL work submitted must be original (unless documentation is otherwise cited). Students are expected to write their unique and personal thoughts in their own words. Any work submitted that is not original will result in half credit for the assignment. If work is copied from another student, both students will be punished. **Know the difference between helping others and copying work.**



How will you be graded?

This class runs on a total points system. Keep in mind certain assignments will be worth far more points than others, such as labs, projects, and exams, so they have the potential to cause your grade to drastically rise or fall.

Grading Scale: I use a standard grading scale & updated grades are posted in the classroom each Friday

A	90 – 100%	C	70 – 79%	F	59% and below
B	80 – 89%	D	60 – 69%		

Tests: (approximately 40% of your grade) We will have 10 tests during the year that will model the AP format of half multiple-choice and half free-response questions. During online learning, these tests will be taken on AP Classroom or through Google Forms. Any test missed because of an absence must be made up immediately upon return. **Tests not made up within a week of original date will be scored as a zero.**

Quizzes: (approximately 5% of your grade) These will be given sporadically, with and without warning to assess understanding and make sure students are keeping up with reading.

Projects: (approximately 10% of your grade) These computer-based assignments will be part of online and in-person learning. You will be expected to present work for the class. These may take the form of Socratic seminars, debates, or presentations.

Homework & Online Discussions: (approximately 15% of your grade) You will be expected to do homework at least **two nights per week** and study for exams on your own time. If you generally do not do homework, then AP Environmental Science is not the class for you. Some of the homework that you do will require the use of Google Drive and Google Classroom, which should not be an issue since we are starting the school year online.

Notebook: (approximately 20% of your grade) This year your APES notebook will be digital. Many assignments, in addition to Bellwork and Classwork will be graded as “notebook assignments”. At the conclusion of each unit, you will be given a list of notebook items. Use this list to organize your digital notebook and turn it in when you take your unit exam. Daily participation and engagement will be reflected in a student’s digital notebook.



Labs: (approximately 10% of your grade) Lab work is part of the AP curriculum, and students are expected to maintain an organized lab notebook throughout the year. Lab work is a privilege; those who choose to mistreat equipment or act inappropriately during lab time will not get credit for the activity.

Late assignments: To accommodate for absences and technical difficulties, assignments will be accepted up to a week after their original due date.

Course Agenda - <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/> - Amphi APES join code: **Z3KK97**

Quarter One: Intro – Intro to Environmental Science, **Unit 1** – The Living World: Ecosystems, **Unit 2** – The Living World: Biodiversity
Quarter Two: **Unit 3** – Populations, **Unit 4** – Earth’s Systems & resources, **Unit 5** – Land and Water Use
Quarter Three: **Unit 6** – Energy Resource and Consumption, **Unit 7** – Atmospheric Pollution **Unit 8** – Aquatic and Terrestrial Pollution
Quarter Four: **Unit 9** – Global Change, APES Exam Review

AP exam - Friday May 14th, 2021 @ 12 noon

EVERY FRIDAY GRADES WILL BE UPDATED ON TYLER AND POSTED IN THE CLASSROOM!

