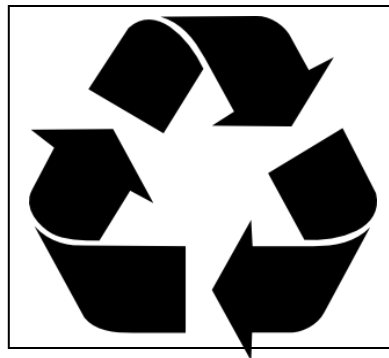


Instructor: Hilary E. Daly
Email : hdaly@ta.edu
Phone: (301) 434-4700 x 736



AP Environmental Science Syllabus

- Course Overview
- Course Requirements
- Lesson Topics
- Grading Procedures

Course Overview

Textbook & Resources

Textbook: ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE: A Global Concern, 11th Edition; Cunningham & Cunningham, McGraw-Hill, New York, 2010.

Resources: Binder paper, graph sheets, coloring pencils, markers, ruler, calculator.

Prerequisites

AP Environmental Science is open to Juniors who have taken attained an A or B grade in either Physical Science, and Biology. Students must have completed an Algebra 1 course with an A or B grade and be prepared for a rigorous curriculum.

About AP Environmental Science

The AP Environmental Science course is an introductory yearlong, college-prep course. Unlike most other introductory science courses, environmental science emphasizes a variety of topics both in class and lab. Instruction will occur via lectures, discussions, simulations, case studies, demonstrations and other in class assignments; additional written assignments will occur via research projects/homework. The AP Environmental Science course has been developed to be a rigorous science course that stresses scientific principles and analysis that includes a laboratory component. As such, it is intended to enable students to undertake a more advanced study of topics in environmental science. In breadth and level of detail, the content of the course reflects what is found in many introductory college courses in environmental science.

The goal of the course 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, to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them, and to develop and focus their own political perspective.

Course Objectives

As per the College Board for AP Environmental Science and the Maryland State curriculum, upon completion students will be able to recognize and identify that:

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 cultural and social impact.
6. Human survival depends on developing practices that achieve sustainable systems.

Environmental Topics & Chapters

This course covers chapter topics in six units aligned with the table of contents for the textbook. Here is a brief overview of the units and chapters associated with the Biology I course load:

UNIT	GENERAL TOPIC AREA	CHAPTERS
1 st Quarter		
Unit 1	Intro to the Environment	1 – 2
Unit 2	Matter & Energy	3
Unit 3	Evolution & Ecosystems & Biomes	4 – 5
Unit 4	Populations & Humans	6 – 7
2 nd Quarter		
Unit 5	Pesticides	8
Unit 6	Food, Farming & Soil	9 + 10
Unit 7	Biodiversity	11 - 13
3 rd Quarter		
Unit 8	Geology	14
Unit 9	Weather & Climate	15
Unit 10	Air Pollution	16
Unit 11	Water Pollution	17 - 18
4 th Quarter		
Unit 12	Renewable & Non-Renewable Energy	19 – 20
Unit 13	Toxicology & Hazardous Waste	21
Unit 14	Animal Diversity, & Urbanization	22
Unit 15	Economics, Politics & Ethics	23 – 24
Unit End Unit:	Misc Review for AP Exam	
	Final Project	

Please Note

Topics may be studied & tested over a week to two weeks (a minimum of five and a maximum of 8 class periods).

Course Requirements

Course material follows the textbook construct, but is reviewed utilizing various mediums. Additionally, material is aligned with the College Board Outline for Advanced Environmental topics given on the AP exam in May. Students will be expected to keep up with the reading and topics so they can apply the knowledge from the chapter to provide solutions and answers to a variety of inquiry based constructs. This course meets M-Th, or four times a week for 50 minutes over the course of an entire year.

Because this course is a rigorous course of study, students signed up for this class will be observed for a probationary period in order to better support them academically. If in the first two chapters a student performs poorly and it is determined that a student will perform better in a general course, the instructor may recommend placement in an alternate course.

Chapter Tests & Quizzes

Chapter tests will generally review topics in the syllabus intermittently on any specified topic. Please see schedule. Students should expect announced & unannounced quizzes worth about 5-12 points on average reviewing specific lessons, while tests will be a more extensive assessment (20-35 questions) of the entire chapter or topic, utilizing various question types so students can demonstrate expertise in the content. Both of these assessments contribute to the test category graded at 50% of the total grade. Quizzes and one test are given per unit. Additionally, all students must pass a safety test before participating in all labs.

Midterm Exam

At midterm, students will complete the chapter test being covered at that point.

The Final Exam

There will be a final project. This will be completed after preparation for the AP Exam. APES students will sit for the AP Environmental Science Test on _____. PLEASE NOTE THIS DATE IN YOUR DATE BOOK.

Field Trip

The AP Environmental Science class will have several field trips to area sites in the Potomac Bay or Chesapeake area, as well as various field studies throughout the course of the year. The details of these field experiences will be specified at the specific points in curriculum.

Behavioral Expectations

Because We Are Takoma Academy, we expect the highest standard of behavior from our students. All students are paying patrons, and as such deserve to learn in an environment free from excessive distractions, disruptions, disparagement and/or disrespect. For this reason, it is expected that students will exhibit the highest standard of conduct in all classes, excluding behavior that includes intolerance, bullying, name-calling, talking across the room, texting, making or receiving calls, gaming or disrespect to teachers or classmates or any behavior not mentioned that is referred to in the student handbook. Failure to adhere to the classroom rules and procedures may result in a student dismissal from the classroom and in extreme cases, the course itself.

Grading Procedures

Excused Absence

Tests missed due to an excused absence must be completed within the week of a student's return to school. Work missed in the absence must be submitted by the next consecutive day of a student's return to school with an Excused Absence Slip stapled to the work.

Attendance

Daily attendance is mandatory for all students. Students must be in their classroom on time or marked tardy after the bell. Accumulated tardies & unexcused absences could affect a student's ability to earn credit for the class, and consequently result in a student repeating the class. Because of these limitations, students will be encouraged to be on time for class.

Tardy Work

All work is to be handed in when requested. Work produced at the end of class AFTER the assignment is collected, and/or missing work is considered late and will not be accepted unless in extreme circumstance or with instructor's approval.

Please note that a student given a suspension is responsible to make up ALL work missed when absent. Even though no credit is earned for the assignments, tests or quizzes missed due to the behavioral suspension(s), this makeup work is advantageous to the student as work must be complete before rescheduling tests and quizzes to get back on the class schedule.

Extra Credit

There will be some extra credit given occasionally on certain test questions. However, this is not the rule. Most importantly, students need to exert maximum effort bearing in mind that extra credit does not replace study, and when it does that this supplement will not replace a very low grade.

Submission of Work

Work submitted for class should be printed prior to arriving in class unless specified otherwise. Printing or copying of any files/papers on campus is ONLY available in the front office for a fee. (Sorry, teachers cannot print for you.) Please make advance arrangements to be prepared for submitting assignments. Submission of late work on assignments on flash drives is not acceptable.

Academic Integrity

Because Takoma Academy is committed to the highest quality of learning experiences, the school will not support compromise of the moral integrity of their students work by way of cheating. Cheating is a breach of academic integrity which may involve one or more of the following actions: use or copy of another person's work in whole or in part as if it were another person's work; copying information from any form of assessment. i.e. tests, quizzes, projects, papers etc; communicating in any form verbally or non-verbally in or during testing/quiz time; assisting another student in cheating, using notes not allowed by the teacher within a test or quiz; or any compromise of testing instructions as instructed by your teacher.

In support of Takoma Academy's standards of honesty, it is expected that all students will do individual work. Consequently, any student engaged in plagiarism during a test will immediately lose opportunity to complete the test and be given a zero grade; the student will also serve a detention, and write an EOB (Explanation Of their Behavior to submitted to the parent and placed in the student files.) Any repetition of this behavior will immediately result in suspension from class, and removal from to the principal's office for further disciplinary action. The same procedures will also apply to any compromise in homework or project assignments.

Grade Weight

For this course student grades are now being calculated according to core standards for science using the weight distribution indicated below:

Grading Categories	%Wt	Description of Work Included
Demonstrating Knowledge & Understanding	50	Quizzes, Chapter Tests, Projects
Building Explanations & Interpretations	20	Short essays, Reports
Forming Conclusions & Synthesizing	15	Analytical work, Labs
Following Directions & Conventions	10	Discipline Contracts, Timeliness of work assignments, Other

Total 100%

+ Students and parents, please check RenWeb for grade updates.

Grade Scale

<i>Grade</i>	<i>% Range</i>
A+	97.0 - 100.0
A	93.0 - 96.9
A-	90.0 - 92.9
B+	87.0 - 89.9
B	83.0 - 86.9
B-	80.0 - 82.9
C+	77.0 - 79.9
C	73.0 - 76.9
C-	70.0 - 72.9
D+	67.0 - 69.9
D	63.0 - 66.9
D-	60.0 - 62.9
F	0.0 - 59.9

Contacting the Instructor

You may opt to contact Ms. Daly via any one of several methods:

Email	Please write the student name and class in the subject line, followed by details regarding your query in the message body. Address email to hdaly@ta.edu .
Phone/Memo	You may leave a message in the front office at (301) 434-4700, x 736 and it will be returned as soon as is possible.
Walk-ins	NO WALK-IN APPOINTMENTS are permitted (especially within class time). All appointments are to be made with the instructor outside of class time.

DISCLAIMER: Please sign and return this page to your teacher by the specified date for five points!!!! Those students who also have their calculators* with name printed on them will receive an additional three bonus points!!! (A simple scientific calculator costing \$10-15 is all that is needed.) Students who fail to bring contracts in by the indicated dates will void their chance to earn an easy grade, and may not be allowed to continue in the course.

APES COURSE CONTRACT

Statement of Agreement:

I, _____ along with my parent/guardian

Printed name of Student

certify that I have read the classroom guidelines and syllabus for this course. My signature on this contractual agreement says that I agree to abide by the classroom guidelines and procedures as I strive to earn my grade in this course. Alternately, I understand that any deliberate/outstanding behavioral issues or violation of this agreement may result in my removal from class or loss of earned credit in this class. My parent/guardian agrees with and plans to support me in upholding these classroom policies.

Student's Signature

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date signed

PARENT PARTICIPATION CHECKLIST

Parent Name: _____

CHAPERONES NEEDED

___ Yes, I am interested; please sign me up to be a chaperone.

PRESENTORS NEEDED

___ Yes, I work as a _____ and would like to lecture on a(n):

☐ Environmental Science ☐ Biology ☐ Physical Science topic.

My interest is in: _____.

DONATIONS NEEDED

___ I have resource materials or equipment to donate to your:

☐ Environmental Science ☐ Biology ☐ Physical Science labs.

I could probably donate: _____ OR \$_____ for science materials.

PRAYERS NEEDED

___ No, at this present time I cannot assist with any classroom activity, but you will have my prayers!!! (Smile)