



AP Environmental Science

Denise L. Bennett

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Conference Period: 3rd

Tutoring Opportunities: 8:30-8:50 W, Th, 3rd or 5th-make appointment M-F

Class Materials:

- Environmental Science for AP, 2nd ed. Friedland and Relyea
- <https://www.bfwpub.com/high-school/us/launchpad/friedlandapes2e/9664291#/launchpad>
- Notebook (Composition or Spiral or 3-ring with paper)
- **Canvas, AP College Board-my AP, on-line book resources via launchpad**

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

Course Description:

The AP Environmental Science course is interdisciplinary and will integrate the sciences including biology, chemistry, and earth science with the social sciences to analyze and predict contemporary environmental issues. The course will provide students with 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 and/or preventing them. This course prepares the student to take the Advanced Placement exam. Extra time is required on the part of AP students for class preparation, outside reading, and completion of assignments. AP courses provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory courses. Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam in the spring.

Course Goals:

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

The learner will demonstrate three types of learning cycle scenarios: descriptive, empirical-inductive, and hypothetical-predictive. (Lawson, 1985). He/She will be **highly engaged** in their learning processes and will be able to apply their learning to real-world predictable and unpredictable situations. The learner will show evidence of **relevance and rigor** by showing proficient and exemplary skills through thoughtful work, higher level thinking, and by oral responses demonstrating their knowledge and comprehension of Environmental Science. (ICLE, nd).

- The learner will demonstrate understanding of **scientific thinking** in journals/notebooks.
- The learner will demonstrate CER writing skills. **Claim, Evidence, Reasoning.**
- The learner will demonstrate and use **AVID** strategies.
- The learner will demonstrate appropriate **scientific writing** by using **APA style**.
- The learner will be exposed to **higher levels** Bloom's Taxonomy: **evaluation, synthesis, analysis, application, comprehension, and knowledge.**

- This course will also help to explore ways to implement **S**afety, **R**espect and **R**esponsibility to all students to help make them **better citizens** of our community and environmental impact.

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 70% Major 30% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, six weeks assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- Semester exams will count 1/7 of the semester grade
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student’s conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), “The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.

Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:

Extra time is required on the part of AP students for class preparation, outside reading, and completion of assignments. AP courses provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory courses. Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam in the spring. We will be using my AP for exams/knowledge checks.

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:

EMS-ISD policy will be followed. Absent/make-up: time equal to days absent +1. If you are a student athlete, you are expected to get your work in advance and turn in on time. Contact me via e-mail for absent work if absence(s) is excessive, etc.

Classroom Expectations:

Be in class on time. Have your homework and materials ready. Phones will be put away either in the hang-up or out of site in backpack. Phones are not allowed to be out unless given permission from teacher. Stay in seat until the bell rings for dismissal.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

Earth Systems & Resources, The Living World, Population, Land and Water Use, Energy Resources and Consumption, Pollution, Global Change. We will enhance the learning of the topics via text, books, research, articles, reports, labs, activities and handouts.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student’s work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty, includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.