

AP Environmental Science Perry High School



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Course Description

Welcome to AP Environmental Science (APES). This course presents scientific principles, concepts, & methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. Further, to identify & analyze environmental problems both natural & man-made, to evaluate the risks associated with these problems, & to examine solutions for solving or preventing them. As an AP student, you must be committed to a year of intensive study & will be expected to take the AP exam in May.

Dual Enrollment

AP Environmental Science can be taken for college credits through the dual enrollment program at Chandler Gilbert Community College. APES is equivalent to Environmental Biology (BIO105) & students may earn four credit hours for completing the yearlong course. Please, see the class website for more information.

Required Textbook

Miller Jr., Tyler G. *Living in the Environment, 15th Edition*.

Google Classroom

Google Classroom will be used as the class website & will provide needed resources throughout the year.

Required Materials

1. Class Notebook: 3 ring binder organized with dividers must be maintained at all times
2. Graphing paper
3. Calculator
4. Black ink pens & pencils

Suggested Supplemental Materials

In addition to using AP Classroom, an AP exam review book is recommended for use throughout the year. There are many different options available for purchase: Barron's, Crash Course, Cracking the AP Biology Exam, 5 Steps to a 5, etc.

Grading Policies

Your grade will be accessible through Infinite Campus (<https://campus.cusd80.com/campus/portal/chandler.jsp>). Semester grades will be calculated on an 80/20 formula.

The grading scale is 90-100% = A, 80-89% = B, 70-79% = C, 60-69% = D, below 59% = no credit earned.

Grades for the course will be computed based on a weighted average of your scores in the following categories:

Assessments (Tests & Quizzes)	60%
Lab Work	25%
Participation/Homework Activities	15%

Coursework

1. Tests & Quizzes: Exams will mimic the AP exam & will consist of multiple-choice questions & free response questions. Quizzes may include multiple choice, vocabulary definitions, & free-response questions. Any content covered in the material you are responsible for reading/viewing/watching in the content homework could appear on an exam. The take-home message is that your independent work is crucial, & must be done if you want to succeed. Please be prepared by keeping up with your work.
2. Homework: All reading & video assignments are carefully chosen to enhance subject comprehension. You should be doing something EACH night. Possible assignments may include vocabulary building, reading guides, web assignments, objective questions, & essay responses.

3. Laboratory Work: Several labs will be conducted throughout the year. Lab write-ups include both formal & informal write-ups, pre & post lab assessments, & occasional lab practicals. Formal labs will be due one week after completion of the lab.
4. Participation/Content Discussion: Content discussion will be a normal part of class. To make this as non-boring as possible, you are expected to interface with the content prior to coming to class.

Classroom Policies

1. Late Work: Homework will be collected at the beginning of the period on the due date & any work turned in after that time will be considered late. Late work will receive a 50% reduction in grade & must be submitted by the following class period.
2. Missed Work: "I was absent" is not an excuse for missing an assignment. The class website will be updated with the agenda & links to the missed work. You have the equivalent of the number of the days you missed to make-up missed assignments. Missed labs may require an alternative written assignment. Missed work due to an excused absence must be made up after school. Obtaining missed work is the responsibility of the student. Missed assessments will be made up during the class period on the day the student returns.
3. Cheating: Students are expected to demonstrate honesty & integrity while in attendance at Perry High School. Giving aid, receiving aid or observing aid being given on any assignment is considered dishonest. Copying homework is cheating & zero credit is given for plagiarized work. Please note that in addition to your grade dropping, NHS will also be notified.
4. Attendance: It should be expected that with such a rigorous course, any absence from class would be discouraged. We cover an extensive amount of material each day, of which some assignments cannot be fully made up. Any material missed due to an unexcused absence will receive no credit. A.R.S. §15-803 (B) states that absences may be considered excessive when the number of absent days exceeds ten percent of the number of required attendance days prescribed in A.R.S. §15-802. Ten percent equates to nine (9) days of absences per semester regardless of whether they are excused or unexcused. Students with excessive excused absences will be required to provide medical documentation to remain in class & excuse any further absences. If additional absences occur, & medical documentation is not provided, the student will be referred to administration.
5. Tardy Policy: The first tardy will result in a warning, the second a call home, & all subsequent tardies will be referred on to administration.
6. Safety: Safety is a major consideration in any science laboratory. All students will be required to sign a safety contract & pass a safety assessment before participating in the laboratory. Students who do not observe & practice classroom safety procedures will not be permitted to participate in lab & receive a zero for that assignment.
7. Behavior: Students are expected to follow all school rules to allow for a safe learning environment. This includes the use of school appropriate language. The first offense will result in a warning, the second a call home, & all subsequent offenses will be referred on to administration. Cell phones are not allowed to be used during class, unless otherwise instructed by the teacher. Phones will be confiscated & held until after class for the first offense. The second offense will require that students pick up their phones in the security office.
8. Food/Drink: There is no food, drink, or gum allowed in the classroom, except for water bottles.

Tutoring

AP Environmental Science is a rigorous course & at times, you may find yourself in need of extra assistance. One of the best ways to be successful is to attend tutoring as soon as possible when you are confused. Mrs. Kenyon will be available after school on Tuesdays & Thursdays, or by appointment.

Attitude

Students are expected to have a positive attitude while in the classroom. This includes respecting fellow classmates, the classroom, & all equipment. Further, students are expected to work hard in this class. Grades are not handed out, but rather earned by the student. I encourage all of you to work to the best of your ability, be respectful, responsible, & accountable for your actions. In return, you can expect the same from me!

Success Contract

This is a contract stating the promise of the student, parent/guardian, & teacher to follow in order for the student to be successful. By signing this contract, all parties have agreed to adhere to the guidelines listed.