

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE 2020-2021

Mr. Dickson
Pearland High School

Welcome to APES! This class will cover major environmental topics such as acid rain, biodiversity, climate change, energy, the atmosphere, water, soil, human populations and pollution. Because this class is Environmental SCIENCE and not Environmental Studies, it will have a large laboratory and field investigation component. This allows you, the student, to learn about the environment through firsthand observation. At times we will be going off campus for our studies. Parents should be aware that their student will be leaving campus periodically as part of the course.

Furthermore, this is an Advanced Placement science course which allows you the opportunity to earn 3 hours of college credit by earning a 3, 4 or 5 on the exam administered in May. We will work together throughout the year so that you will have the skills and knowledge required to earn credit.

You are part of a generation with the responsibility to do something amazing! It is my belief that this is one of the most relevant and important classes you will take because it addresses issues you will face throughout your life. You are living in a phenomenal age of technology and enlightenment. I hope that what you learn in APES will inspire you to be the trailblazers, the inventors and the advocates for all other life. So, work hard, learn all you can, use what you know and be the change that makes a difference for our earth!

Grades

Activities	Percentage
Unit Tests / Projects / Term Journal	60%
Labs / Practice FRQs	30%
Reading Quizzes / Lecture Videos / Note Checks	10%

Required Materials

Computer Access / Internet Access

District issued laptop or equivalent

Textbook: Exploring Environmental Science for AP by G. Tyler Miller & Scott E. Spoolman

Classroom Policies

Labs: Students will complete lab write-ups in their lab notebook (OneNote Class Notebook). A lab report rubric will be given to the students prior to the due date of the lab.

Lecture Videos: Students will be required to view lecture videos outside of class, these videos will be watched through Canvas. Videos will be graded based on the number of correct questions answered while watching the video. Lecture video grades may be averaged for a weekly daily work assignment.

AP Classroom Students will be *required* to use College Board's AP Classroom software to complete Personal Progress Checks and unit exams and benchmarks.

Reading Quizzes: Students will take a short in-class quiz over the reading sections assigned to them for homework. These quizzes will cover assigned homework reading sections but may also cover in class material. Quizzes will be completed online through Canvas. Per district policy, students may make corrections to quizzes up to a 70.

Note Checks: Students will bring their notes to class the day before an exam for a "note check". Note checks will be graded on completion.

Journal Checks: Journals will be submitted through canvas on the Wednesday before report cards and will count as a major grade for that grading period. Please refer to the APES Journal Rubric for assignment details. Journals will be completed in the Class Notebook.

Make-Up Work- Students receive 1 day per absence to turn in make-up work. Refer to Canvas to ensure all homework assignments are checked and quizzes are completed after an absence. The absent work crate is a green crate in the front of the room. Students are responsible for collecting the assignments for the days they are absent. Students must also submit a Late Work form to any assignment being turned in after the due date and must indicate they were absent on the form.

Missed Tests and FRQ's- If a student returns to class the day after the test is given, the student will be expected to take the test in class that day. Otherwise, you must schedule a time to make up the test. This must be done within 3 days of the test. If tests are not made up within the 3-day window, the student will forfeit any opportunity to re-take the test.

Late Work: If a student is absent the day that an assignment is due, he/she must submit the assignment on the day the student returns to school. All assignments submitted to Canvas will need to be submitted on or before their due date in order to receive full credit as Canvas automatically marks assignments late. All late work (not a result of an absence) will receive a flat reduction of 30 points. Students will have only 3 days after the due date to submit the assignment for credit, after the 3 day late period the student will receive a zero.

Cell phones: Cell phone usage in class will be determined by the daily assignments. When students can use their cell phones, they must use them for academic purposes only. If the daily assignments do not require the use of a cell phone, students are not allowed to have them visible and all headphones must be removed. Failure to do so will result in the confiscation of the student's cell phone and a \$15 fine for return as determined by the PHS student code of conduct.

Cheating- Copying someone else's work or allowing another to use your work is academically dishonest. Students involved in any form of academic dishonesty will be given a zero for the assignment or test. Parents will be notified, and an office referral may be given. Students will be expected to follow all assessment directions on testing day, failure to do so could result in a zero.

Student Devices: Students will be required to bring their district device (or equivalent) with them daily. Student devices are expected to be charged and ready for use. These devices will be used to complete daily instruction and without them students may miss out on important educational opportunities.

Behavior- All School and District rules apply.

- Tardies will be documented in Skyward and will affect your ability to exempt semester finals. Quizzes and tests begin at the bell and they are timed. *You will not be given extra time if you are late.*
- ID badges must always be worn. Students who do not have an ID badge on will not be allowed to enter the classroom.
- Students must be in dress code as described by the "PHS Student Code of Conduct."
- Respect is key. I respect you as my student and I expect the same in return. I also expect that you respect each other as members of this class.
- Students who are misbehaving in the virtual classroom will be removed from the classroom for a 24-hour period and the student's assistant principal over discipline will be notified.
- Students are expected to follow all district/school guidelines for online learning.

Test & Quiz Re-takes-

- Test re-takes MUST be completed within 5 days after the test has been posted to Skyward.
- A grade of 70 is the maximum that can be earned on any re-take.
- Per Pearland ISD District Policy, AP students may only request to re-take 2 tests per nine-week grading period.
- Corrections/re-takes may only be made on tests and quizzes. *Students will not have the ability to make corrections to daily work or lab assignments.*

Tutoring - Tutoring is available in person and online on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school from 3:00 – 4:00 pm. Remote learning students may access me for tutorials through Canvas during the designated times. Students may also request additional tutorials outside of the normal tutorial window if I am available.

Course Topics

Unit	Description
Unit 0	Safety & Introduction to APES
Unit 1	Earth Systems and Resources
Unit 2	The Living World: Ecosystems
Unit 3	The Living World: Biodiversity
Unit 4	Populations
Unit 5	Land and Water Use
Semester Exams	
Unit 6	Energy Resources and Consumption
Unit 7	Atmospheric Pollution
Unit 8	Aquatic and Terrestrial Pollution
Unit 9	Global Change
Review for AP Test	

AP Exam Information:

Exam registration and payment will occur during the fall semester, additional information will be distributed to students as we receive it from College Board.

The AP exam is: **Friday, May 15th 2021 @ 12:00pm.**

A score of 3, 4, 5 will award the student credit for any state funded college in the State of Texas. Credit for out-of-state and private colleges may be awarded based on the college's specific requirements, refer to your anticipated college's registrar for specifics.