



## **Advanced Placement Environmental Science 2014- 2015**

**Ms. Volain - Springfield Central High School/Room 318**

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**Phone: 787-7085 or**

**787-7453 SCHS Guidance Department to arrange appointment**

**Late day: Wednesdays, 2:20 – 3:00 pm.**

### **Course Description and Objectives**

AP Environmental Science is a college level course for qualified high school students. The seven areas of study in APES are Earth Systems and Resources, the Living World, Population, Land and Water Use, Energy Resources and Consumption, Pollution, and Global Change. Environmental Science is an interdisciplinary study that draws on science, mathematics, economics, history and law in the context of human interaction with the natural world. Identification and analysis are employed with scientific methods as students take on the role of citizen scientists. Problems, risks, and policies in developing stewardship and promoting sustainability of the planet Earth are explored.

A Lab Period is scheduled for Semester 1 during Marking Periods 1 + 2, effectively doubling the course meeting time to meet the class lab requirement.

The AP Environmental Science course time will consist of 50% lecture, 35% lab and fieldwork, and 15% research and projects.

Students will spend a considerable amount of time outside. Students must be prepared for all types of weather! Students are required to attend all field trips.

### **The AP Exam and College credit**

Students are required to take the 3-hour AP Environmental Science Exam on May 4, 2015. Depending on the student score and college policy, college credit **may** be granted for APES. Because some colleges expect evidence of extensive lab and fieldwork to potentially offer credit, a Field Journal must be maintained and graded. The Massachusetts Math & Science Initiative awards money to students who receive a passing score of 3 or greater.

### **Textbooks**

Friedland, Andrew, Relyea, Rick; *Environmental Science for AP\**, 2012, W.H. Freeman and Company/BFW.

Other supplemental textbooks will be assigned.

Proper care is expected of these \$100.00 books. Students will read 20 – 30 pages a week.

### **Websites: refer to these frequently for study and review**

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com> - AP Environmental Science

[http://bcs.whfreeman.com/friedlandapes/#t\\_668210](http://bcs.whfreeman.com/friedlandapes/#t_668210) Textbook webpage.

## **Course Assignments and assessments**

**Tests:** Unit or Chapter. A Midterm and a Final Exam (in **addition** to the College Board exam) are mandatory, scheduled during midterm and final test weeks and will be reported on report cards.

**Quizzes:** based on field work, field trips, and labs

**Lab Reports:** Formal structure based on student experimental design

**Projects:** Research based papers, Power Point and oral presentations

## **Homework includes**

**Outlines:** Unit or Chapter summaries submitted before Tests; no late submissions are accepted

**Writing:** based on news and issues

## **Calculations and problems**

**Checkpoint:** questions assigned from textbook

Some assignments will be graded as a group.

PowerTeacher software is used for grade calculations

## **Grading**

Although much of class time in APES is hands-on and research, academics will make up most of a student's grade. Notice that time and grade weights are opposite for these activities.

### **Activity time**

2/3 Hands-on

1/3 Academic

### **Grade weight**

1/3 Hands-on

2/3 Academic

## **Course Requirements**

Not all Test material will be covered during class time; students will be informed of Test content. Missed tests must be made up within 1 week of the scheduled test.

AP Environmental Science cannot be dropped in the 1<sup>st</sup> Marking Period.

Due dates for all assignments are firm.

Prompt arrival to class is expected; teaching and lab will begin at the 2<sup>nd</sup> bell.

All students are required to participate on all field trips. Be prepared for cold and wet conditions.

Access to a computer and printer is needed for this class

Requirements as specified by Ms. Volain throughout the year.

**Materials:** 3-ring notebook binder, lined paper, and Field journal (to be provided)

## **Class conduct: Cell phones are not permitted**

Class behavior and procedure will be followed as specified verbally and as posted in class by Ms. Volain; all school and district policies will be enforced. Detention and home phone calls will be given and made.

## **Field Trips: Drivers needed!!! Destinations may be subject to change**

Bondi's Island Wastewater Treatment Facility

Waste Management Municipal Recycling Facility

Connecticut River

Forest Park

Riverfront Park

Blunt Park

Springfield Cemetery

Covanta Waste to Energy Plant

**Please sign below and return to Mrs. Volain.**

Permission is granted for student to attend all Field Trips.

Permission is granted for students to drive and transport other students to the Field Trip sites.

Permission is granted for students to be driven in other student’s and parent’s cars.

All students must wear seat belts and follow all traffic laws.

Students may not make stops at other places to and from the Field Trip sites.

**I have read the AP Environmental Science Expectations and Requirements and understand them.**

**I will follow all AP Environmental Science Expectations and Requirements.**

**My parent/guardian has read the Expectations and will work with me to achieve them.**

**Student** \_\_\_\_\_  
print name

**Parent/guardian** \_\_\_\_\_  
print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
sign name

\_\_\_\_\_  
sign name

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent work phone \_\_\_\_\_

Student cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**A word about Plagiarism...**

**Plagiarism** is “the unauthorized use of the language and thoughts (in whole or in part) of another author and the representation of them as ones’ own”. Plagiarism and related academic misconduct includes but is not limited to:

Turning in non-original work from the Internet, books, newspapers, and magazines: no “cut and paste” submissions

Copying another students work

Offering another student your work

Cheating

**Students will receive a zero** for any Plagiarism or academic misconduct. The student will be written up to their Assistant Principal for disciplinary action.

