

DEPARTMENT: SCIENCE

NAME OF COURSE: AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

AP Environmental Science is an applied science that has deep roots in problem solving. Environmental scientists search for viable solutions to environmental problems, solutions that are based as much as possible on solid scientific knowledge. The main focus will be to attempt to understand how the biosphere changes naturally and how human activities are altering it. For example, changes in industry, transportation, water, resource use, energy production, agriculture, waste production and expansion of cities all occur in an environment affected by economics, politics, science and law. In the class, students will be able to apply knowledge from the basic sciences and mathematics to these very interdisciplinary practical global problems.

MAJOR TOPICS COVERED

- Earth Systems and Resources
- The Living World
- Population
- Land and Water Use
- Energy Resources and Consumption
- Pollution
- Global Change

TEXTBOOK

- Environmental Science for AP by Friedland and Relyea

REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to complete all reading assignments in both their textbook and “outside” readings from scientific journals and periodicals. Notebooks must be kept for classroom and text information. Homework will be assigned regularly. Quizzes, both announced and unannounced, will be given. Major exams will be given *approximately* every two to three weeks. Current events related to the field of environmental science will also be discussed/researched. The College Board Advanced Placement test and a final examination will be taken in May. College credit may be available through Adelphi University.

GRADING PROCEDURES

Tests - 50%

Quizzes – 20%

Labs - 20%

Homework - 10%