

## Forsyth County Schools Course Syllabus 2022/2023

COURSE TITLE:   Advanced Placement Environmental Science	
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**Course Description (GaDOE/College Board):** AP Environmental Science is designed to provide students with the 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. The following themes provide a foundation for the structure of the AP Environmental Science course: (1) Science is a process, (2) Energy conversions underlie all ecological processes, (3) The Earth itself is one interconnected system, (4) Humans alter natural systems, (5) Environmental problems have a cultural and social context, and (6) Human survival depends on developing practices that will achieve sustainable systems.

**Standards:** *Course Content Standards can be found on p. 24*

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-environmental-science-course-and-exam-description.pdf>

**Required Assignments:** This class will have a variety of assignments including but not limited to project-based learning, argument driven research, and summative assessments. Literacy is an extremely important aspect of this class, so keep up on any required reading.

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Unit 0: Introduction to AP Environmental Science	Unit 5: Land and Water Use
Unit 1: The Living World - Ecosystems	Unit 6: Energy Resources and Consumption
Unit 2: The Living World - Biodiversity	Unit 7: Atmospheric Pollution
Unit 3: Populations	Unit 8: Aquatic and Terrestrial Pollution
Unit 4: Earth Systems and Resources	Unit 9: Global Change (this unit is embedded within all units)

Projects will include but are not limited to the following: Ecosystems, Sustainability and Agriculture, City Planning Project, and AP Exam Review Project.

**Required Materials:** 2" binder with 8 dividers, scientific or graphing calculator, pencils/pens

**Availability for Extra Help:** Instructional Flex (IF) and Tuesday/Thursday from 7:45 am - 8:15 am

**Makeup Work:** *Make up work is defined as work assigned during a student's absence, not work assigned prior to an absence. The student has five (5) school days upon returning to school to complete make-up work. The teacher has the discretion to grant a longer period to make up work if there are extenuating circumstances.*

### Grading Calculations:

Course Average = 50% (1<sup>st</sup> Sem. Course Work) + 50% (2<sup>nd</sup> Sem. Course Work)

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Course Work = 75% Summative + 25% Formative

### Grading Policy:

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 70 – 79

Failing = Below 70

*Formative Assessments include, but are not limited to, homework, class work, labs, investigations, practice tests, rough drafts, and sections of projects/research papers/presentations.*

*Summative Assessments include, but are not limited to, unit tests, final projects, final essays, formal lab reports, final research papers, and final presentations.*

Updated May 2022 BDC

**Learning Resources/Textbook(s):** All learning resources, both print and digital, are meant to support and enhance the student learning experience in this class. Below are the names of the textbooks and websites that will be used in this course. Some of the web-based resources require parent permission per federal regulations. Federal laws that guide parent permission requirements are as follows:

- **Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA):** The school is required by CIPA to have technology measures and policies in place that protect students from harmful materials including those that are obscene and pornographic. Any harmful content contained within inappropriate sites will be blocked.  
<http://fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.html>
- **Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA):** COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under 13 years of age. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes.  
<https://www.ftc.gov/tips-advice/business-center/guidance/complying-coppa-frequently-asked-questions-0>
- **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):** FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents the right to review records. Under FERPA, schools may disclose directory information in certain circumstances.  
<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

Please review the resource list. Each website related to the curriculum resources is provided along with its privacy policies. Should you have any questions regarding these resources, immediately contact the course teacher via email or phone.

Name of Resource*	Hard copy/Website	Privacy Policy
Cengage	Digital platform for <i>Cengage AP Environmental Science Mindtap</i> textbook, supplemental, and assessment material (accessed via ClassLink)	<a href="https://corporate.cengage.com/privacy/k12-notice/">https://corporate.cengage.com/privacy/k12-notice/</a>
Explore Learning	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	<a href="https://www.explorelearning.com/index.cfm?method=Controller.dspPrivacy">https://www.explorelearning.com/index.cfm?method=Controller.dspPrivacy</a>
Newsela	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	<a href="https://newsela.com/about/privacy-policy/">https://newsela.com/about/privacy-policy/</a>

*\* The following resources are county approved. These resources may vary by school due to sequencing, pacing, curriculum design, and/or individual needs of students.*

Parent Initial for Approval **	Name of Resource	Website	Privacy Policy
	Seek by iNaturalist	<a href="https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/seek_app">https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/seek_app</a>	<a href="https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/privacy">https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/privacy</a>

*\*\* The following resources are web-based resources that require parent permission. By signing the syllabus, the parent is approving these resources. Should you have any questions regarding any of these classroom resources, please contact your student’s teacher via email.*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read this course syllabus and approve of its contents. I agree to allow my student to use each of the classroom resources listed in the learning resource section. I will support my student in following the classroom expectations outlined in this course syllabus. I agree that I am the person who is legally allowed to consent for my student, whose name is listed below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student’s Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent’s Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date