AP Environmental Science (APES)
2023-2024

Teacher Contact Information

Teacher Name:
B. Carl Rush

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Accessing the Course

Link to WakeID Portal:
http://wakeid2.wcpss.net

Class Website:
www.sciencerush.net

Course Description

The AP Environmental Science (APES) course is designed to be the equivalent of a one-semester, introductory college course in environmental science. The goal of the APES course is 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 recommended prerequisites for APES are Biology, Chemistry, Common Core II and English 10.

Course Standards

CollegeBoard's Overview for AP Environmental Science
College Board's "Course at a Glance" Description of AP Environmental Science

Course Progression

Quarter 1 (or 3) – 40% of Final Grade
- 1-2 Sustainability & Systems
- 3-4 Ecosystems & Evolution
- 5-6 Populations
- 7-8 Biomes
- 9-11 Sustaining Biodiversity

CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM – 20% of Final Grade

Quarter 2 (or 4) – 40% of Final Grade
- 12-13 Food & Water Resources
- 14-16 Geology & Energy Resources
- 17-19 Health, Air Pollution & Climate Change
- 20-21 Water Pollution & Waste
- 22-24 Cities, Economics & Politics

AP EXAM in May (optional for college credit)

Grading

- Grade Weights
  - Major Assessments: 70%
    - Tests & Major Projects
  - Minor Assessments: 30%
    - Labs (20%) Minor Projects (5%) & Service Hours (5%)
- Late Work is accepted with 5 point deduction for each day until end of unit, with a 20 point cap on deduction.

Resources

College Board website
APES Review page on class website

Materials

Notebook (3-ring binder preferred)
notebook paper / graph paper / pencils
wetland boots (optional)

Field Experiences and Community Service

APES has a strong field component, and students are required to participate in field experiences during class. Each student is also required to complete 12 hours of environmental community service throughout the semester. Events not sponsored by Green Hope must be approved in advance and will require a service form with photo attached. Activities that do not benefit the environment or an environmental organization do not count.

Correspondence

Emails will generally be responded to within two hours between 6 AM and 9 PM, seven days a week.

PowerSchool

Grades are updated in PowerSchool frequently. Both students and parents should check PowerSchool weekly.

SMART Lunch

- The APES room (316) is open during lunch every day for extra help
- Priority Day for Science is Wednesday

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