AP Environmental Science

Mr. Jackson
2017-2018

E-mail: Best method of contact. I will respond within 48 hours.
John Jackson - john_jackson@dpsk12.org
*This is the best method to contact me

Telephone: 720-424-1826
Call before or after school hours; leave a voicemail if no answer.

Parent Conferences: Parents, please contact me at the above e-mail or office phone number to schedule a meeting before or after school hours.

Student Tutoring Hours: Students, tutoring is available before school from 7:30 – 8:00 am on Fridays. Please let me know when you plan to attend tutoring hours. I can also make myself available during lunch or after school by request.

Web Site: The web site will have the syllabus and all assignments posted on it and will be updated weekly. http://dsapresents.org/staff/john-jackson/

Environmental Science Overview

AP® Environmental Science differs significantly from the usual high school course with respect to the kind of textbook used, range and depth of topics covered, the kind of laboratory work done, and the time and effort required of students. The six themes, which provide a foundation for the structure of the AP® Environmental Science (APES) course are:

1) Science is a process as well as a body of knowledge.
   - Science is a method of learning more about the world.
   - Using science can change the way we understand and affect the world.
2) Energy conservation underlies all ecological processes.
   - Energy cannot be created; it cycles through systems.
   - As energy flows through systems, at each step more of it becomes unusable.
3) The Earth itself is one interconnected system.
   - Natural systems change over time and space.
   - Biogeochemical systems vary in ability to recover from disturbances.
4) Humans alter natural systems.
   - Humans have had an impact on the environment for millions of years.
   - Technology and population growth have enabled humans to increase both the rate and scale of their impact on the environment.
5) Environmental problems have a cultural and social context.
   - Understanding the role of cultural, social, and economic factors is vital to the development of solutions.
6) Human survival depends on developing practices and perhaps technology that will result in sustainable systems.
   - A suitable combination of conservation and development is required.
   - Management of common resources is essential.
Goals for the Course:
1) Learn the constituents of our environment and the role of humanity in its changes.
2) Prepare students for the AP Exam in May.
3) Help prepare students for college.

Course Materials: Each student will be required to keep a notebook, three-ring binder with pockets is preferable, as well as a lab book/journal. No calculators can be used on any assignments for the class since calculators are not allowed on the AP Exam in May.

*There are options for purchasing this textbook including print, electronic and renting.*

Chapter Assignments: For each chapter, students will be required to read the textbook and answer the questions associated with that chapter.

Chapter Vocabulary: Students will learn approximately 700 vocabulary words related to Environmental Science. Vocabulary is very important to fully understand science. Students are encouraged to make their own flash cards.

Quizzes: There will be quizzes on a regular basis. The quizzes will focus on vocabulary, chapter readings, lectures and activities for the week. These will take approximately 10-15 minutes of class.

Unit Exams: Each unit will be comprised of several chapters from the texts. Exams are a combination of multiple choice questions and one extended response/essay. As this is a college level class, additional time is not provided on exams. You must finish in the time provided.

Labs / Activities: There will be many activities for each unit, see the chapter assignments for an approximate listing of these assignments. Some activities will be relatively short, while others will last for many weeks. Each activity has different point values based on the length and complexity of the activity. Lab write-ups will be submitted by the group in lab format and will generally carry a higher point value

Class Expectations:

- Students and teacher will respect each other at all times in the classroom. If respect is not shown a student can and will be removed from the class.
- Students will be expected to pay attention and be quiet during teacher instructional time.
- Students may NOT have any food during class or labs. Water bottles with a lid are OK.
- During a lab, students are to be on their best behavior and remain in their seat as much as the lab allows.
- Students will not swear and will not use put-downs.
- Students are not to play with the air and gas outlets, or the eye wash station.
- Cell phones should be put away at all times in class.
- Students are expected to be on time to class. When coming in late students will be asked to sign in with the date. After 3 times of tardiness parents will be contacted, and students will have one lunch detention.
- Plagiarism and academic dishonesty will NOT be tolerated. Plagiarism and academic dishonesty will result in a grade of 0% for that assignment/assessment.
- All papers will be turned into ‘turnitin’
• Students are to put away ALL computerized devices during tests. If a cell phone, computer, or smart watch is seen out during an exam, the student will receive a ‘0’ grade for that exam.

Generally, there are not student behavior issues in my science class. However, should issues arise, any disciplinary problems will be dealt with as described on the DPS District discipline ladder.

**Not following the above-mentioned rules will result in:**
1st time – Verbal warning
2nd time - Teacher-Student Conference & call home
3rd time - Call home to parents, and Teacher/Parent/Counselor Conference
4th time – Referral to Ms. Miles

**Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100% - 90%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89% - 80%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79% - 70%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69% - 60%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59% - 0%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students get two days to make up any work missed for every one excused absence as per district attendance policy. Unexcused absences and their make up work are up to the teacher’s discretion. Any student with an extended leave from school should notify the teacher at least 1 month in advance, or as early as is possible.

**Late Work:**
Up to a week late – 50% off

Please refer to the DSA handbook for the definition of excused and unexcused absences. Unexcused absences will be handled based on the DSA handbook, and may or may not allow a student to made up missed work.

**Weighting:**

Your grade will be weighted as follows:

- 65% -- Assessments
- 25% -- Process work
- 10% -- Final Exam

Process work will include any homework, labs, activities, research papers or class work that aids in you mastering the science standards that are taught in APES. Although each assignment will have different point values, as a whole they will not be more than 25% of your grade.

Assessments will be any culminating activity that allows you to show what you what you have learned, and your level of understanding of the concept. These activities can include tests, quizzes, projects, and group work. Since most of your grade is based on how well you understand the material be sure to ask questions and advocate for yourself if you need some help with a topic in class.
Supplies

Students must have the following by September 1st:

- 2 inch binder with dividers
- Pens and/or pencils (which ever you are most comfortable with, but no red ink, or neon color).
- Lecture notebook
- Laboratory notebook

Unit Outline

The topics are not in the same sequence as listed on the AP Environmental Science course page, but all the topics will be covered in what appears to be a sequence that makes more sense than what is suggested in the table of contents of your textbook. Please keep in mind that there will also be formative assessments along with the topic summative assessment. You will be alerted to the dates of the formative assessments well enough in advance so that you may adequately prepare for them. AP Exam is May 10, 2018

Unit 1. Introduction to Environmental Science
A. Introducing Environmental Science & Sustainability (ch 1)
B. Environmental Laws, Economics & Ethics (ch 2)

Unit 2. Ecology Part I
A. Ecosystems & Energy (ch 3)
B. Ecosystems & the Physical Environment (ch 4)
C. Ecosystems & Living Organisms (ch 5)

Unit 3. Ecology Part II
A. Major Ecosystems of the World (ch 6)
B. Biological Resources (ch 16)
C. Land Resources (ch 17)

Unit 4. Resources
A. Soil Resources (ch 14)
B. Mineral Resources (ch 15)
C. Food Resources (ch 18)

Unit 5. Population
A. The Human Population (ch 8)
B. The Urban Environment (ch 9)

Unit 6. Atmosphere
A. Air Pollution (ch 19)
B. Global Climate Change (ch 20)

Unit 7. Water & Wastes
A. Water: A Limited Resource (ch 13)
B. Water Pollution (ch 21)
C. Solid & Hazardous Wastes (ch 23)
Unit 8. Energy
A. Energy Consumption (ch 10)
B. Fossil Fuels (ch 11)
C. Renewable Energy & Nuclear Power (ch 12)

I will assume that every parent has signed up for the Parent Portal to be able to view his or her child’s grade online. Students need to be proactive in looking at the Student Portal to keep up on their grades and missing assignments. I will use the email address given at registration to contact you regarding your child’s behavior and academic performance. If Internet access is difficult, or for any reason does not work, please let me know the best way to contact you about your child. Once an assignment has been collected please allow a few days for grading, and to input the results into the grading program. A blank in I.C. does not mean it is missing, it means it is not graded yet. A ‘0’ in IC means the date to turn it in has passed and your student did not turn it in. A ‘M’ in IC means that the assignment is missing and can still be turned in. You may email me with any questions you may have about your student’s progress.

This is going to be an awesome year! It is important for you to know that you will have to work to make it successful! What you get out of this class is dependant on what you put into it!

Thank you,
John Jackson

Return this portion only
I have read the APES Syllabus.

Student Name__________________________________ Period_________________

Student Signature:____________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature:____________________________________________