

Ms. Hayley Larsh
AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
2020 - 2021

This syllabus will cover the following classes: AP Environmental Science

Ms. Hayley Larsh

hlarsh@alaschools.org

EXT: 2028

Room A-107

Classroom Website: <https://mochiclassroom.com> & Google Classroom

Tutoring: W 3:00 pm - 3:30 pm in person or Th 7:30 am- 8:00am via Google Meet or by appointment

This course is designed to investigate Earth's life support systems and human impact in order to develop students' analytical skills and problem-solving techniques towards a more sustainable future. Students' will be able to apply their knowledge of AP Environmental Science concepts to real-world questions or scenarios to help them become scientifically literate citizens as concepts explored in the course give students' detailed knowledge of the three scientific principles of sustainability and the three social science principles of sustainability through discussions, guest lectures, field trips, exploratory labs, and research projects.

Class Values:

RAISE Values (*Respect, Accountability, Integrity, Service, & Excellence*)

Classroom Contract: To be created during the first two weeks of school, this contract will be a pledge between the students and staff, allowing for clear expectations and future accountability.

Lab Safety Rules: Each student will watch a Lab Safety Video and must pass a Science Lab Safety Test in order to participate in any science labs. In addition, all students and parents must acknowledge and sign a Flinn Scientific Laboratory Safety Contract that will be sent home during the first week of school. Failure to sign and return the contract will prevent student participation in science labs resulting in a zero for missed labs.

Expectations:

AP courses are college-level courses. Students will need to dedicate more time to homework, studying, and reading assignments/ notes. Including the completion of a summer assignment. On average, students will have daily homework and/ or readings for AP Environmental Science. Additionally, students will participate in class discussions, labs, and field trips that analyze

current Environmental problems and potential solutions. Daily bellwork will check student's understanding of at home reading assignments.

Homework is expected to be turned in on time; late work will not be accepted for full credit. Students will need to communicate planned absences with the teacher and utilize resources available to make up any missed work. Therefore, students should get all of their school online accounts activated and use them regularly throughout the school year.

Labs should be attended outside of unexpected absences. Due to the amount of set-up time required to prepare for each lab, and the unique procedures and materials used in each lab, missed labs may result in a zero. Alternate assignments may be available on a case by case basis, to be communicated and assigned outside of normal class time.

Tests must be taken on the designated date. Test corrections and retakes will need to be arranged within the allotted time specified on the classroom website during Tutoring hours or by appointment. Test corrections and retakes will not be available for District Quarter & Semester Finals, and if missed, student & parents will work with administration to schedule a time for the student to complete. District Quarter & Semester Finals cannot be given early.

There will be no retakes/ late work accepted the last week of each quarter.

Students with IEPs & other accommodations will need to communicate and coordinate with the teacher to accomplish as much as possible within class & during designated weekly tutoring hours. All accommodations will be a case by case basis, coordinated with each student's case manager and available paras, based on the documents provided.

Below are the Categories and grading scales:

<i>CATEGORY BREAKDOWN</i>		<i>GRADING SCALE</i>	
Assessments	50%	90-100%	A
Classwork	20%	80-89%	B
Homework	10%	70-79%	C
Final	20%	60%-69%	D
Total:	100%	59% and below	F

Specific Supplies: Students should purchase a notebook for taking Cornell notes. I highly recommend pre-formatted Cornell Notebooks which are available on Amazon for \$5 - \$10. Otherwise, any college ruled single subject composition book can be used with the student manually formatting each page- an example of formatting is available on the classroom website and we will review the formatting the first few weeks of school.

Students will need a calculator for some labs. If students have a calculator that has games on it (i.e. Tetris), or can send or receive texts, the student will not be able to use it and it will be treated the same way as a cell phone.

- Multi-colored dry erase markers
- Cornell Notes Notebook or Single Subject College Ruled Composition notebook
- Black, blue, & red inked pens
- #2 pencils (no mechanical pencils please)
- Calculator
- Highlighter

Discipline: If there is occasion for discipline, this will be handled per the ALA student handbook. Plagiarism on work (including copying others homework and/or tests) will be handled severely. Parents will be notified in the event a student receives a Yellow Card for behavioral or policy violations.

Please refer to the ALA student handbook for the cell phone policy

This syllabus contains general information and is not meant to cover everything. Please refer to the student handbook for more policies regarding American Leadership Academy.

Safety: As previously stated, students will have to pass a Science Lab Safety Test and return a signed Flinn Scientific Laboratory Safety Contract in order to participate in labs. Furthermore, students will have to physically write out safety procedures for each lab, as they pertain to the lab, in order to participate in labs on lab day. To ensure student success, every lab will be prefaced with a “Pre-Lab” class period in which students will have an opportunity to complete the necessary requirements during class time, or as homework, if additional time is needed, prior to each lab.

Failure to follow safety procedures during labs (such as failure to wear goggles when required) will result in the students’ immediate removal from the lab and the student will subsequently receive a zero.

Movies and Videos: Please be aware that there may be videos and movies shown in class. Among those may be PBS science documentaries, NOVA, Bozemann Science, Crash Course Science, Bill Nye, Ricochet Science, MT Chemers, Monkey See Science, TED-ED, TED Talks, MTS Science Video, More Thinking Science, Frank Gregorio Sci Vid, Mexus Ed, Nucleus Medical Media, JCCC Sci Vid, Learning Resource, Biology Class, Pearson Sci, Fuse School, Red Orbit, Myth Busters, National Geographic, Discovery Health, Discovery Channel documentaries and History Channel documentaries, etc., as appropriate. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me.

General: Students will be expected to have read the Student Handbook (available on the ALA website - alaschools.org) and be prepared to follow it. By attending class, students acknowledge these rules and commit to modeling **RAISE** values.

Textbook: Living in the Environment - AP Edition by G. Tyler Miller & Scott E. Spoolman: 2015.

Workbook: AP Environmental Science - AP Edition by Biozone: July, 2020.

Overview of AP Environmental Science Units

The Living World: Ecosystems
The Living World: Biodiversity
Populations
Earth Systems & Resources
Land & Water Use
Energy Resources & Consumption
Atmospheric Pollution
Aquatic & Terrestrial Pollution
Global Change

See [College Board website](https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-environmental-science) for full breakdown:

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-environmental-science>

Daily In Class Rules and Expectations:

1. Enter the classroom quietly and begin bellwork as instructed. Students are not permitted to leave the class until the teacher dismisses the class.
2. Be respectful and considerate of teachers, other students, their property and personal space.
3. Be respectful with lab equipment and chemicals. Practice safe lab procedures at all times.
4. Follow all school rules and guidelines according to the student handbook. Please remember to keep your phone and electronic devices put away, and that only water is permitted in the classroom.

By signing this syllabus, you are agreeing to and understand the items listed within Ms. Larsh's AP Environmental Science Syllabus for Academic Year 2020-2021.

Please sign and return this portion of the syllabus:

Student Printed Name

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Date

*Return this portion of the syllabus with the required signatures to Ms. Larsh during the first week of school.