**White Station High School**

**AP Environmental Science**

**2025-2026**

**Ms. Crystal Davis**

DavisCK@scsk12.org

**Course Description:**

AP Environmental Science is a yearlong, rigorous, upper-level science course that is comparable to an introductory college course in environmental science. The APES course provides students with the principles, concepts, and methodologies to understand the interrelationships of our natural world. Major environmental issues and problems will be critically evaluated to include possible solutions. This course will prepare students to take the national AP exam in environmental science and college credit can be obtained from participating colleges and universities.

**General Course Goals:**

1. Develop an understanding of the process of science, especially environmental science.
2. Prepare for the national APES examination given in May.
3. Provide the knowledge needed to make informed decisions regarding environmental issues.
4. Learn to make positive impacts on the environment.

**Class Website:** [www.WSHSChemistry.com](http://www.WSHSChemistry.com) For classroom resources, class calendar and other pertinent information.

**Grading and Reporting Categories:**  Your quarter grade will be based on:

* 40% - Summative Tests and APES Journal
* Summative assessments include unit tests. These cumulative tests will model the same format as the national AP exam and will include multiple choice (selected response) and scientific essay (free response questions or FRQ’s) questions. Tests will be announced with advance notice of at least 3-5 school days..(check the APES calendar). Included in this category is your quarterly APES Journal.
* 20% Summative Quizzes
* These short cumulative quizzes will model the same format as the national AP test and will include multiple choice (selected response) and scientific essay (free response questions or FRQ’s) questions.

* 30% - Formative Assessments:
* Formative assessments include all laboratory assignments, chapter review packets, other class work, and most projects.

* 10% -Homework and Participation: This will be graded on completion only.
* Homework usually includes practice math problems, warm-ups, and other shorter assignments.

**Textbook:** *Environmental Science for AP-* *Second Edition* by Friedland and Relyea (New York, NY: W.H. Freeman and Company) Replacement Cost: $125.00

# Review Book: *Princeton Review AP Environmental Science Prep*, 18th Edition $19.99(Amazon)

**Important Information to Consider:**

1. Late work – All work is expected to be turned in by the due date. All late work will be scored at half credit unless it was late due to an **EXCUSED ABSENCE**, then the student will have one week to turn in the missing work. If the **ABSENCE IS UNEXCUSED**, any late work will be scored at half credit.
2. You must do your own work. It is not OK to have answers to analysis questions or any other assignments that are identical to others in the class, even when working on group labs. IT IS NOT OK TO USE **AI** OR TO COPY ANSWERS DIRECTLY FROM THE **INTERNET**.

1. Every teacher is unique and has different expectations. I have high expectations for you, particularly with lab work. One specific example includes graphs, tables, and charts. These need to be labeled and have descriptive titles. We will practice good science in this class.

1. We all know that cell phones/electronic devices are distractions in education. However, using these in class on a test/quiz day will be considered an act of cheating. I will give you a zero on that assessment (no retakes), I will notify your parents as well as Ms. DeMarco, head of the Optional Program.

**AP Test:**

All students are expected to take the national AP Test in early May. Those who do take the AP test will be exempt from the final exam and will complete an AP project that will represent their final exam grade. The AP test is a three-hour exam consisting of 80 multiple choice questions that represent 60 percent of the exam and three essays (free response questions) that represent 40 percent of the exam.

**To be Successful in this Course:**

Attend class; read text assignments and review notes and vocabulary in a timely manner; participate in labs, group, and other student dependent activities; **and come in to get extra help**.

**Student Expectations:** Students are always expected to:

* Be respectful,
* Be prepared to think, read, write, and be an active participant, every day.
* Complete assignments on time,
* Ask questions,
* Have fun (learning is better this way), and
* Take ownership and responsibility for their education.

This course will be taught in two semesters with approximately 18 weeks in each. Students attend five 45-minute classes per week with a minimum of two class periods per week dedicated to laboratory activities, field activities, and/or long-term study. A minimum of 25% of instructional time is devoted to laboratory investigation, hands-on inquiry-based experiences and/or fieldwork. There are nine units in the course, each lasting approximately two to three weeks. Two weeks will be allotted for test preparation, with additional laboratory time and study for the time period after the AP Exam. PLEASE REFER TO THE ATTACHED PACING GUIDE

**The units within the APES course with corresponding exam weighting are as follows:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ¨ | Unit 1: The Living World: Ecosystems | 6–8% |
| ¨ | Unit 2: The Living World: Biodiversity | 6–8% |
| ¨ | Unit 3: Populations | 10-15% |
| ¨ | Unit 4: Earth Systems and Resources | 10–15% |
| ¨ | Unit 5: Land and Water Use | 10–15% |
| ¨ | Unit 6: Energy Resources and Consumption | 10–15% |
| ¨ | Unit 7: Atmospheric Pollution | 7–10% |
| ¨ | Unit 8: Aquatic and Terrestrial Pollution | 7–10% |
| ¨ | Unit 9: Global Change | 15–20% |

Students will also engage with the course material by researching environmental policies and legislation implemented in connection with human interaction with the environment. The study of laws and policies expose students to environmental issues, the debates and negotiations among parties with competing interests that arise in connection with these issues, and the outcomes of those debates and negotiations.

The requisite environmental policies and legislation are as follows:

* Clean Air Act
* Clean Water Act
* Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
* Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)
* Montreal Protocol
* Kyoto Protocol
* Endangered Species Act
* Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)
* Delaney Clause of Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act
* Resource Conservations and Recovery Act (RCRA)

***WSHS 2025 Environmental Science Supply List***

Fees:

* $30 Fee for lab equipment and chemicals (soil and water test kits, etc)
  + Due by *Friday, October 3rd, 2025*
* $30 Zoo Field trip (admission, food, shirt)
  + Field Trip (probably) May 19th
  + Money due by *Friday, October 3rd , 2025*

AND

* Access to a laptop or other computer to access AP Classroom
* 1 LARGE spiral notebook (a 4-5 subject notebook is perfect!) or a 3-ring binder with write on dividers for journal
* 4 Rolls Paper Towels
* 2 reams of Copy Paper (500 sheet / ream)
* 1 box Disposable Gloves (laboratory grade, latex free) to fit YOUR hand size
* Expo Markers (4 pack)
* 1 box Kleenex or tissues
* 1 tub Clorox or Lysol Wipe

