

Advanced Placement Environmental Science – Mr. Romano Course Expectations

Course Overview:

A.P. Environmental Science is a course designed to be the equivalent of a one-semester introductory college course in Environmental Science. The goal of this course is to provide students with the scientific principles required to understand interrelationships of the natural world and analyze environmental problems. This course provides an in-depth study of the interactions between the living and non-living components of the ecosystem. An introduction to ecological community concepts and the influence of chemical, geological, atmospheric and physical factors on living systems will be considered. The course provides a study of the effect of human activities on the worldwide ecosystem and provides an examination of the issues of human over-population, atmospheric change, chemical pollution and agriculture.

Prerequisites:

Being that students are expected to build upon knowledge acquired in previous science class experiences, the prerequisites of this course include: Earth Science, a recommended minimum grade of B in Regents Biology and a B in Regents Chemistry, 80 or higher on the Biology Regents, and a passing grade on the Chemistry Regents.

Topic Outline:

- I. Ecology
- II. Climate, Terrestrial Biomes and Aquatic Life Zones
- III. Evolution and Biodiversity
- IV. Sustainability and Understanding the Environment
- V. Problem Solving in Environmental Science
- VI. Population: Population Dynamics and the Human Population
- VII. Nutrient Cycles and the Human Impact
- VIII. Toxicology
- IX. Human Health and Pesticides
- X. Geology and Mineral Resources
- XI. Nonrenewable Energy Resources
- XII. Renewable Energy Resources
- XIII. Air and Water Pollution
- XIV. Waste

Textbook:

Environmental Science for the AP Course (2nd edition) Friedland & Relyea

A.P. Exam:

The exam date is Friday May 3, 2022 (8am). You will be given specific instructions for registration in the coming weeks. The cost of the 2021 exam was \$95, but that fee is subject to change. Registration & payment are made through the College Board website and the guidance department.

The AP exam format is as follows:

- 80 multiple choice questions (60%); time = 90 minutes
- 3 free response questions (40%); time = 70 minutes

Class Procedures:

1. Students should be prepared for class every day. Being prepared means having a dedicated binder with all previous notes and assignments, sharpened pencils or pen, and a charged Chromebook/laptop.
2. Students are expected to arrive on time for class and follow all class and school rules.
3. Cell phones and other electronic devices have increasingly become a major distraction from the learning process and therefore must be checked in during all class and laboratory sessions.
4. For health and safety reasons, food may not be eaten in any science classroom as per New York state OSHA laws.
5. Each student's grade will be calculated based on the following percentages:

Tests/Quizzes:75% Laboratory/Classwork/HW 25%

6. Classwork/homework and laboratory assignments will be given clear due dates. Homework assignments must be submitted on the date and time indicated. Many homework assignments will be reviewed immediately and cannot be made up for credit. Lengthier homework assignments that are collected will only be accepted one day after the due date at half credit. Late laboratories will be penalized 10% per day. Some assignments/parts of an assignment will be a group effort, while others will reflect individual student work.
Clear instructions will be provided and students not complying with said instructions will be penalized accordingly,
7. As is true with most college coursework, when there is no written assignment, it is expected that students study their written notes. We move at a very rapid pace and will cover an extensive amount of material. It is important that students be responsible to keep up with the pace by reviewing their notes on a consistent basis.
8. Tests and quizzes will always be announced to allow ample preparation time. The format of tests and quizzes will vary to include both multiple choice and free response type questions. Students are responsible for, and may be quizzed on, all reading assignments - even if the material has not been discussed in class.
9. Students are responsible for all missed work as a result of an absence. This includes obtaining all notes or handouts missed, completing classwork/homework assignments, and seeing me to make up any assignment, quiz, or test in a timely manner. **Please be proactive.** When you are absent, or anticipate an absence, you should contact me via our Remind app or by email. Contacting me directly ensures that you have the correct information as to the work that was accomplished when you are absent.
10. Extra Help: My weekly extra help time is Wednesday morning 7:00-7:30am in room E10. I am also available to assist students at other times before school or during a common free period by appointment.
11. I encourage all communication relating to each student's individual progress.
Office Phone: 364-5675 ext. 1264
E-mail: cromano@syossetschools.org
Remind App: Text: **81010**. Type in Body: **@EnviRomano**
Parent Portal: I ask that you please monitor your child's progress throughout the year.

Student's Name (please print) _____

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent's Name (please print) _____

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent's Current Cell # _____
(mom or dad <-- circle one)

Parent's Current E-mail _____
(mom or dad <-- circle one)