Advanced Placement Environmental Science – Mr. Romano
Course Expectations

Course Overview:
A.P. Environmental Science is 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 Biology and a B in Chemistry, 80 or higher on the Biology Regents, and a passing grade on the Chemistry Regents.

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

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

A.P. Exam:
The exam date is Friday May 14, 2021 (12pm). You will be given specific instructions for registration in
the coming weeks. The cost of the exam is $95. 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 (with charging cord), Under the circumstances we are working under, earbuds/earphones may be used on selected days.

2. Students are expected to arrive on time for class and Google meets and follow all class and school rules as per new student code of conduct and online class etiquette (these protocols are on the district website and also posted in my Google Classroom.)

3. Cell phones and other electronic devices have increasingly become a major distraction from the learning process and therefore must be put aside during all class periods, both in-class and online. The only electronic device that a student should be using during class time is their school-issued Chromebook.

4. <u>For health and safety reasons, food may not be eaten in any science classroom as per New York state OSHA laws.</u>

5. Each student's grade will be calculated based on a point system. The typical categories in AP Environmental Science are tests/quizzes, laboratories, and "work" (classwork, homework, class participation). Tests and quizzes will be administered using the online platform AP Classroom or via a document or Google form shared with each student. Class notes can be used for each assessment. The point values for each assignment will vary based on criteria such as significance, time commitment, length of assignment, etc. Point values will always be shared with the student prior to the assignment given. Part of class participation will be taking notes. These notes may be checked as part of the classwork participation grade. Students need to stay attentive during class time, whether in-person or remote, and take appropriate notes that may be used on exams and quizzes and other assessments.

6. Classwork/homework and laboratory assignments will be given clear due dates. These assignments must be submitted before the established date <u>and</u> time. Homework makeups will be given at teacher discretion and will only receive half credit. Late laboratories/projects will be penalized 10% per day. Some assignments/parts of an assignment will be a group effort, while others need to 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. 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 communicating with 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.

9. 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. We will have to adapt together as the year unfolds to make sure everyone can get the assistance they may need to achieve success.

11. I encourage all communication relating to each student's individual progress.
    Office Phone: 364-5675 ext. 1264
    E-mail: **cromano@syossetschools.org**
    Web Resources: Google Classroom and mrromano.com
    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 Signature _____ Date _____

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____