**AP Environmental Science Syllabus**

2014-2015

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Welcome to APES! This class will introduce you to the planet you live on, and just how tremendous of an impact you have on it! The main theme of this course is the concept of SUSTAINABILITY, or using our Earth’s natural resources wisely and not wastefully. You will try to make sense of the world around you and decide, when necessary, what there is to be done to fix the problems we face every day. This course will force you to have an educated opinion on some of our world’s most controversial and relevant issues being faced by all creatures on our planet.

**Class Expectations**

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| *Be Prepared!** **Be on time**
* Come to class ready to learn and participate
* Bring all necessary materials to class every day
* Use the restroom and finish eating/drinking before class (water OK in the classroom)
 | *Be Respectful!** **Be respectful to yourself, your classmates, the teacher, and the classroom**
* Use appropriate classroom language
* Before the bell rings, be seated in your seat
 | *Be Responsible!** Be responsible for your own actions and realize consequences
* Stay on task and in your seat
* Do homework when assigned
* **Stay organized and save your homework/notes!**
* Strive to do your best
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**COURSE CONTENT AND LAB ACTIVITIES**

Rather than following the textbook chapter by chapter, I have decided to create a course with four over-arching themes. These are the four major “spheres” of the Earth. The first unit will be the GEOSPHERE, which encompasses the structure of the earth, and how we use the land. The BIOSPHERE is next, which discusses life on earth. The ATMOSPHERE discusses the air, and the various layers of atmosphere on Earth. Finally the HYDROSPHERE discusses water, and the various aspects of it. For a complete list of topics and possible laboratory experiments covered, see the attached data table.

**ELECTRONICS POLICY (AKA MY PET PEEVE AS A TEACHER):**

It is Santa Monica High School policy that all electronics are to remain turned off and out of sight during school hours. If this is not done electronics will be confiscated and turned in to the office where they can be picked up after 1-5 school days (weekends not included) by you or a parent/guardian. Refusal to give up your phone when prompted will result in security being called, your phone still being taken away, and you getting a detention.

*[Moral of the story: don’t put up a fight about it, you phone is still going to be taken away from you]*

**BATHROOM POLICY**

You will be given 4 bathroom passes per semester. Use them wisely and don’t lose them; **you will not be allowed to use the bathroom or get a drink of water if you do not have a pass**! Any unused bathroom passes will be worth extra credit at the end of the semester. The amount of extra credit is TBD.

**Grading:**

This is a college level course. Therefore, the grade distribution reflects what you can expect in a collegiate class:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| GRADE DISTRIBUTION |  | GRADE SCALE |
| Tests/Quizzes | 55% |  | A | 90% and above |
| Labs/Projects | 20% |  | B | 80%-89.99% |
| Homework | 10% |  | C | 70%-79.99% |
| Final Exam | 15% |  | D | 60-69.99% |
| NO ROUNDING! |  | F | 59.99% or less |

**Homework:**

Homework will be checked the day after it is assigned and stamped if completed on time. *[Note: if I get to you with the stamp and you are not ready, it is considered late]*. At the end of each chapter the homework, along with notes, current events, quizzes, etc. will be collected in a **CHAPTER PACKET**.

**Late Work**: If chapter packets are turned in late, 10% of the potential score will be deducted each class day it is late. Special exceptions can be made on an individual basis, which requires a phone call/in-person conversation with the teacher explaining the situation. **REMEMBER: ALL WORK IS FOUND ON MY WEBSITE!**

**Academic Honesty:** All work turned in is expected to be your own original work. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism and copying will not be tolerated. The first offense will receive a zero on the assignment. If it continues to be a problem it will be referred to administration and you could be suspended or expelled.

**Attendance:**

**Tardies:**

You are considered tardy if you arrive late *or if you are not in your seat working on the warm-up when the tardy bell rings*.

**Absences:**

If your absence is excused, you will be able to make up your work for full credit. You will have as many days as you were absent to turn in any missing assignments. Because you will be informed well in advance, missed tests and labs must be made up within the number of days you were absent. For instance if you are absent for two days, including the test day, you will have two days to make up the exam before it will be scored as a zero. It is YOUR responsibility to arrange to make up missed work *outside of class time* (before or after school or at lunchtime). If your absence is not excused, you will receive a zero on any missed work, tests, or labs.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

* Calculator (Graphing OR Scientific)
	+ TI-30X Recommended – Texas Instruments)
* Laboratory Notebook (Notebook with GRAPH paper)
* AP Environmental Science STUDY BOOK (Barron’s Recommended)
* Pens and Pencils
* Binder or Folder

Please review this syllabus with your parent/guardian and sign below indicating that:

**Student:** I have read and understand the syllabus for Mr. Lockett’s class. I understand the expectations, my responsibilities, and that if I ever have any questions or concerns that I should speak to Mr. Lockett as soon as possible without disrupting class.

**Parent/Guardian:** I have reviewed and understand the syllabus for Mr. Lockett’s class. I understand what is included in the course content and activities, what is expected of my child and that if I ever have any questions or concerns that I should contact Mr. Lockett.

*He revisado y entiendo el extracto para la clase de Sr. Lockett. Entiendo lo que es incluido en el contenido del curso y las actividades, y lo que es esperado de mi niño. De eso si tengo cualquier pregunta o concierno que debo contactar a Sr. Lockett.*

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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Student Name |  | Class Period |  | Student Signature |  | Parent Phone # |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Parent Name *Nombre de Padre* |  | Parent Signature *Firma de Padre* |  | Date *Fecha* |  | Parent Email |

**Remove the bottom portion of this page at the dotted line and return to Mr. Lockett**