

**MVLA
2019-20
COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**

Course Title: AP Environmental Science
School: Mountain View HS
UC/CSU requirement: Yes/Yes, d
Textbook: Environmental Science for AP* by Friedland and Relyea, 2012

Student Learning Outcomes:

AP Environmental Science combines ideas and information from Biology, Chemistry, and Earth Science, as well as the social science fields of Economics and Political Science. Topics of study include Earth's systems, human population, land and water use, energy sources, and global change. Students will combine their scientific knowledge with perspectives from history and economics to examine progress in the field of environmental science.

Laboratory, field, and internet-based research and investigations are emphasized to familiarize students with contemporary environmental research techniques.

Students will be able to:

- analyze environmental problems
- evaluate risks
- collect data
- investigate complex issues
- design solutions to prevent, resolve, or mitigate environmental problems
- participate in field investigations, historic and current case studies, and problem-solving exercises that will focus on in-depth analysis of specific environmental topics and issues.

Assessment and Grading ([BP 5121](#) / [AR 5121](#)): To ensure that every student has an equal opportunity to demonstrate their learning, the course instructors implement aligned grading practices and common assessments with the same frequency.

1. Grading categories and their percentage weights:

Category 1: Tests	30%
Category 2: Labs and Classwork	30%
Category 3: Quizzes	10%
Category 4: Work Habits	15%
Category 5: Final	15%

2. Achievement evidence collected within each grading category:

Work habits: This category includes measures of homework completion, classwork completion, organization, and participation; approximately 5 or less assignments per week.

Labs and Classwork: This category will include measures of student environmental science knowledge and include items such as labs and projects; approximately 1-3 per week.

Tests and quizzes: Approximately 1-3 quizzes and 1 test per unit.

Final exam: one per semester.

3. Grading scale: see chart.

Grading Scale:

A	89.5 – 100 %
B	79.5 – 89.4%
C	69.5 – 79.4%
D	59.5 – 69.4%
F	50 – 59.4%

4. Homework/outside of class practices ([AR 6154](#)):
 - Students should expect up to 4-5 hours of focused, undistracted homework time per week. This will include reading from the textbook, taking notes on the textbook, finishing labs, other assignments that are not finished in class, or time reviewing for tests and quizzes.
5. Excused absence make up practices ([Education Code 48205\(b\)](#)):
 - Work that is late due to excused absences must be made up within one week of the absence to receive full credit, unless otherwise arranged with the teacher. After the week, the late work policy applies. It is the student's responsibility to check the website and follow up with the teacher as soon as possible. If the absence is marked unexcused, the late work policy applies. Investigation portions of laboratory activities must be made up within one week since many require special materials.
6. Academic integrity violation practices ([MVHS Academic Integrity Policy](#)):
 - The Board expects that students will not cheat, lie, plagiarize, or commit other acts of academic dishonesty. Any work completed with unauthorized aid will be considered cheating. Check with your teacher if you are unsure or unclear about their expectations regarding the use of the internet or any assignment guidelines.
7. Late work practices:
 - Each student will receive 3 late passes per semester. Late work with a pass stapled to it will receive full credit. Late work without a pass will receive no credit. All late work should be submitted within the quarter in which it was due and must be turned in by the Friday prior to the last week of the academic quarter. Late passes may be used on any assignment within the current quarter except when specified by the teacher. Late passes may not be used on test revisions.
8. Revision practices:
 - Unit tests can be revised/corrected for scores below 70%. Test Revisions are due no later than two weeks after the test is handed back and will raise a student's grade 0.5 points for each correct answer. All Labs can be revised for half of the lost credit.
9. Extra credit practices:
 - No extra credit will be given in AP environmental science.
10. Additional grading practices: The lowest quiz score will be automatically dropped from each semester.

Instructors' email addresses:

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Additional information:

AP Exam

The A.P. Environmental Science Exam created by the College Board and Educational Testing Service will be administered May 11, 2020. This exam is two hours and forty minutes in length and consists of two parts: a multiple-choice section comprised of 80 questions and forming 60% of the grade, and a free response section comprised of three questions and forming 40% of the grade. The multiple-choice section is designed to cover a student's breadth of knowledge in environmental science. The free-response section emphasizes the application of principles in greater depth. Students will need to compose answers to broad questions, demonstrate reasoning and analytical skills, and synthesize material from several sources into a coherent essay. There are three types of free response questions: design an investigation, analyze a problem and propose a solution, analyze a problem and propose a solution with calculations.