

**MVLA  
2019-20  
COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**

**Course Title:** Environmental Science  
**School:** Mountain View HS  
**UC/CSU requirement:** Yes/Yes, d  
**Textbook:** *Environmental Science: Your World, Your Turn* by Pearson

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

The goal of the Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. 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. Students will be able to:

- identify and analyze environmental problems, both natural and human-made
- evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems
- examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing these problems
- learn about the environment through firsthand observations by participating in laboratory investigations
- experiences both in the laboratory and in the field provide students with important opportunities to test concepts and principles that are introduced in the classroom, explore specific problems, and gain an awareness of the importance of confounding variables that exist in the "real world"

**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:

Tests and Quizzes	30%
Labs and Classwork	45%
Work Habits	15%
Final	10%

2. Achievement evidence collected within each grading category:

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

Labs and Classwork: This category will include measures of student environmental science knowledge and include items such as labs and projects. Assignments will include team investigations and research, reading, and written work. Scientists are expected to present their work products in a timely, neat, accurate, and well-organized fashion. Students are expected to do the same in this course.

Tests and quizzes: Approximately 1 quiz 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](#)):

- Expect to spend 1-2 hours of work outside of class each week. This work may include reading, analyzing documents, answering lab questions, and/or reviewing in preparation 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 Google Drive folder and follow up with the teacher as soon as possible when s/he returns from an absence. If the absence is marked as unexcused, the late work policy will apply.
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 her expectations regarding the use of the internet or any assignment guidelines.
7. Late work practices:
  - Late work will receive partial credit up to the end of the quarter. After the end of the quarter, late work will not be accepted. In extreme cases, exceptions may be made at the discretion of the teacher.
8. Revision practices:
  - Revisions or retakes are allowed for certain assessments. Labs, projects, tests, and quizzes may be revised for half of the credit not originally earned. All revisions or retakes are due in the timeline set by the teacher.
9. Extra credit practices:
  - No extra credit will be given in environmental science.
10. Additional grading practices: NONE

**Instructors' email addresses:**

[katie.johnson@mvla.net](mailto:katie.johnson@mvla.net)