

2023-2024 AP Environmental Science **Mr. Ojala: Room 387**

Course material areas of focus:

- I. Introductory materials, Unit 1: The Living World: Ecosystems
II. Unit 2: The Living World: Biodiversity III. Unit 3: Populations
IV. Unit 4: Earth Systems and Resources V. Unit 5: Land and Water Use
VI. Unit 6: Energy Resources & Consumption VII. Unit 7: Atmospheric Pollution
VIII. Unit 8: Aquatic & Terrestrial Pollution IX. Unit 9: Global Change

Teacher hours: I will be available before class daily starting at 8:00 am. My class will also be open at lunch by appointment, after school daily, and weekly during *office hours* for extra credit, studying / tutoring and make-up work or tests.

Grading policy: Grading will be calculated according to this grading system:

90-100% = A 80-89% = B 70-79 % = C
60-69% = D under 60% = F

Late assignments (without documented excuse) are subject to an up to 50% score reduction.

Assignment types and grade weighting: Grades will be based on an accumulation of points. Weekly bell work assignments will generally be 5 points, with in class assignments and homework assignments also made to be worth 5 points. Lab reports will be worth 12-25 points, while quizzes and unit tests will be worth either 50 or 100 points. Each semester will also have one more comprehensive lab report that will be scored for 100 points. Tests will all be closed notes and any study guides or materials generated will not be available to you on exam day. Extra credit will be allowed in this class, but capped at 10% of the points accumulated, so it is very important to keep up with assignments and homework so that you do not fall behind.

Homework will be assigned at least once per week. *Homework will not usually consist of finishing an assignment begun in class, but will more often involve learning terminology and concepts in advance of classroom discussion, activities, and assessment.* It will typically be assigned two or more days before it is due to maximize the time available for its completion.

Assignments missed due to absence are to be made up during office hours or on your *own* time as soon as possible. All work completed should have your name, the date, class period, and assignment name identified in the upper right-hand corner of the paper.

Materials: Required text = Environment The Science Behind the Stories, Jay Withgott and Matthew Laposata, 7th Edition (2021)

Supplemental materials = AP Environmental Science Course and Exam Description by AP College Board, Fall 2020

Paper (a 3-ring binder works best so that you can keep your hand-outs, notes, and assignments together), Pencil

Attendance: Although attendance is not figured directly into your grade, a few absences can seriously affect your performance in this class.

Assessment: As mentioned above students will be graded by in class questions, labs (at least 1/week), assignments and tests, all of which are a mixture of teacher and College Board generated. Homework will generally involve textbook reading and questions, as well as My AP Class tasks. The final exam will be held Thursday, May 9th 2024 and will be weighted as follows:

Units	Exam Weighting
Unit 1: The Living World: Ecosystems	6–8%
Unit 2: The Living World: Biodiversity	6–8%
Unit 3: Populations	10–15%
Unit 4: Earth Systems and Resources	10–15%
Unit 5: Land and Water Use	10–15%
Unit 6: Energy Resources and Consumption	10–15%
Unit 7: Atmospheric Pollution	7–10%
Unit 8: Aquatic and Terrestrial Pollution	7–10%
Unit 9: Global Change	15–20%

This exam will be 2 hours and 40 minutes long, including a mixture of 80 multiple-choice and 3 free-response questions.

Key dates / deadlines (subject to minor change):

Unit 1 exam: 10/16/23	Unit 2 exam: 11/3/23
Unit 3 exam: 11/20/23	Unit 4 exam: 12/11/23
Unit 5 exam: 1/23/24	Unit 6 exam: 2/20/23
Unit 7 exam: 3/8/23	Unit 8 exam: 4/9/23
Unit 9 exam: 4/30/23	Final exam: 5/8/22 (8:00 am)

Class expectations:

1. Respect each other and focus on learning.
2. Be timely.
3. Come to class prepared.
4. Actively listen and give your full attention to class discussions (not yours.)
5. Exercise the Golden Rule.

**Be Safe.
Be Respectful.
Be Responsible.
Be a Graduate.
Be a KNIGHT!**



Response if classroom expectations are not met.

- 1st: Warning.
- 2nd: Talk after class / detention & parent contact.
- 3rd: Detention / phone call home / counselor referral.
- 4th: Detention / parent contact / Office Discipline Referral.

I can be reached at the number or e-mail listed below if you would like to discuss any aspect of your and/or your child's involvement in this class. Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Eric Ojala, Science Educator
 Hellgate High School 925 Gerald Ave. Missoula, MT 59801
 Work phone: (406) 728-2402 ext. 6519
 School e-mail: etojala@mcps.k12.mt.us
 Google sharing address: etojala@mcpsmt.org