



# AP Environmental Science

## Course Syllabus 2025-2026

Environmental Science is the struggle to understand the world we live in; how our planet impacts us and the ways that we impact the functioning of our planet. We will build on things you know and add a deeper knowledge of how our planet is connected.

<b>Class Website and Classroom Codes</b> <a href="#">BHS Staff Website</a> <a href="#">1st Semester Google Classroom Join Codes</a>	<b>Teacher Contact Info</b> <a href="mailto:juitvlugt@bisd303.org">juitvlugt@bisd303.org</a> Phone: 206-780-1297 Office Hours: As Needed
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## Course Information

### Description

Environmental Science is a collaborative study that investigates how humans interact with the natural world. AP Environmental Science is designed to be equivalent to a one-semester introductory college course in environmental science. The course content has been developed by university and high school level faculty to most accurately reflect material found in many introductory courses at the college level. The goal of this course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems, both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary; it embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study. The curriculum draws upon various scientific disciplines including:

- Earth Systems and Resources
- The Living World
- Population Dynamics
- Land and Water Use
- Energy Resources and Consumption
- Pollution
- Global Change

### Course Websites

Assignments will be posted and submitted via each class period's Google Classroom. Students must [join their class period's Google Classrooms](#) to access learning activities and other important information. A link to your Google Classroom enrollment codes can be found at the top of this document, and Mr. Uitvlugt will also share this information during the first week. If parents/guardians would like to receive Guardian Summaries, they can contact any one of their child's teachers to sign up.

Students must also sign up for [myap.collegeboard.org](https://myap.collegeboard.org) and use the Join Code for the appropriate class period to access work and resources there. Mr. Uitvlugt will share the Join Code with you.

## Learning Objectives

The six themes, which provide a foundation for the structure of the APES course, are:

- 1) Science is a process.
  - Science is a method of learning more about the world.
  - Science constantly changes the way we understand the world.
- 2) Energy conservation underlies all ecological processes.
  - Energy cannot be created; it must come from somewhere.
  - As energy flows through systems, at each step more of it becomes unusable.
- 3) The Earth itself is one interconnected system.
  - Natural systems change over time and space.
  - Biogeochemical systems vary in ability to recover from disturbances.
- 4) Humans alter natural systems.
  - Humans have had an impact on the environment for millions of years.
  - Technology and population growth have enabled humans to increase both the rate and scale of their impact on the environment.
- 5) Environmental problems have a cultural and social context.
  - Understand the role of cultural, social, and economic factors is vital to the development of solutions.
- 6) Human survival depends on developing practices that will result in sustainable systems.
  - A suitable combination of conservation and development is required.
  - Management of common resources is essential.

## Learning Resources

Textbook: FRIEDLAND, ANDREW, and Rick Relyea. *Environmental Science for the AP Course*. 4th ed., BFW Publishers, 2023.

All assignments will be posted on Google Classroom, which students should check daily.

## Course Overview

General Scope and Sequence for APES:

Unit	Topic	Relevant Modules in Textbook
1	What is Environmental Science and The Living World: Ecosystems	0 - 7
2	The Living World: Biodiversity	8 - 14
3	Populations	15 - 18
4	Earth's Systems and Resources	19 - 23
5	Land and Water Use	24 - 34
6	Energy Resources and Consumption	35 - 41
7	Atmospheric Pollution	42 - 46
8	Aquatic and Terrestrial Pollution	47 - 54
9	Global Change	55 - 59

## Student Expectations

### Attendance and Engagement

Unless they are ill, all students are expected to participate in all learning activities, whether these are held on campus or online. If a student is unable to participate in these activities, they must make alternative arrangements with the teacher.

### Academic Honesty

Honesty is a compelling principle by which we operate all aspects of student and school life. Academic honesty is highly valued at BHS. Students should not cheat or plagiarize, nor should they tolerate such among fellow

students. Students do not receive credit for work that is not their own. Cheating is defined as an attempt to earn credit or receive a grade for coursework in a manner other than defined as acceptable by the teacher. Plagiarism is the taking of language, ideas or thoughts from another person or resource without acknowledging the source. Students who use plagiarized papers or projects or are involved in any other form of cheating will be subject to reduction in grades and/or disciplinary action for a first offense. Because of the serious nature of academic honesty, violations of this code may result in loss of credit for the assignment with a recorded failing grade. It may also entail loss of credit for the course with a recorded failing grade, removal from the course with a failing grade, and/ or additional appropriate disciplinary action. (BISD Student Handbook)

Collaboration with ChatGPT or other AI composition software is permitted in this course with appropriate documentation of how it was used and for what purpose.

## Communications and Self-Advocacy

I am a firm believer that students need to be comfortable advocating for themselves. If you have questions or concerns, please email Mr. Uitvlugt or talk to me after class. I cannot help you unless I know what you need.

## Advanced Placement Exam

BHS policy states that students who are enrolled in an AP course are required to take the exam in May. There are scholarship funds available to students who may need assistance – please ask Mr. Uitvlugt or your counselor about this if needed. Our exam this year will be **Friday May 15, 2026, at 8 a.m.**

## Policies & Procedures

### Attendance

Attendance is expected and will be taken at the beginning of class every day. Students that are absent will be expected to make up the work they missed and contact the school to excuse their absence.

### Grading

There will be two categories that will determine a student's grade in this course:

- Assessments, projects, labs: 80%
- Practice of Standards/Homework: 20%

I will clearly identify the category that each learning activity or assessment falls under in Skyward.

Bainbridge High School reports grades at the end of each semester; progress reports are available for at the end of Term 1 and 3. Letter grades are calculated using the following grading scale:

Grade Mark	Description	High	Low
A	A	100.00%	93.00%
A-	A-	92.99%	90.00%
B+	B+	89.99%	87.00%
B	B	86.99%	83.00%
B-	B-	82.99%	80.00%
C+	C+	79.99%	77.00%
C	C	76.99%	73.00%

C-	C-	72.99%	70.00%
D+	D+	69.99%	67.00%
D	D	66.99%	60.00%
F	F	59.99%	0.00%

You may edit your tests to earn half-credit for your test corrections at the discretion of Mr. Uitvlugt. You should plan with Mr. Uitvlugt to do this before or after school.

Zeros are used in the gradebook (Skyward). If you don't turn something in, I have no way to assess your learning. They can be changed by turning in late work. If you plan on doing late work, confirm that plan with me.

## Submitting Assignments

### Turning in work

Any numbered assignments listed under the **Classwork** tab in Google Classroom should be turned by the due date according to the listed instructions.

### Late Work

Students are expected to check their Google Classrooms for homework assignments and links to useful resources. All assignments should be turned in on time according to the due date on Google classroom. If there is an issue turning work in, email Mr. Uitvlugt to let him know. He will negotiate an appropriate due date with you. When Mr. Uitvlugt grades work, you will receive a Zero if you are missing an assignment. If you have arranged an alternate due date with Mr. Uitvlugt, you may submit late assignments and receive a grade for the work submitted.

## Technology

Per the school wide phone policy, phones and ear buds should not be on your person during academic time.

To fully participate in this course, you will need to have access to your BISD Chromebook or a similar device and an Internet connection.

For tech support, please go to [www.bisd303.org/techsupport](http://www.bisd303.org/techsupport) and report your issue.