

AP Environmental Science
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Schoology Access Code – 6V5ZK-MC6FF

Materials List

• 5 subject spiral notebook	• Highlighters, pens, pencils, glue sticks
• Pocket Portfolio	• OPTIONAL – AP Study Guide – any edition/any publisher

Important APES assignments

- **Labs:** You will earn 2 credits from this class because there is a Lab component worked in. Writing lab reports is very important and you will be coached on the proper format. Depending on where you apply to college, you may have a lab science course as a requirement. In some cases, with proof (your notebook), you can get that credit from APES and not have to take the class in college. Keep the notebook in a safe place after this school year.
- **Math:** APES requires quite a bit of calculations and analysis of data at the Algebra level. You will have math with every unit. Because College Board does not allow calculators on the AP exam, you are also not allowed to use a calculator in class for any assignment or test. It is very important to practice and keep your math work organized. You will get points for showing your work, including the correct units and the correct answer.
- **Multiple Choice:** APES multiple choice is much more difficult than standard multiple choice. Very few of them are recall type questions. Instead they are analytical, cause and effect or comparison questions. Students do struggle with these at first, but you will have plenty of practice.
- **Free Response Questions: (FRQ)** these are our “essays”. However, there is no thesis and very little “fluff”. FRQs should be written in a clear and concise language. You must use examples and definitions in your answers, but be careful not to go too far. Think about using 3 sentences as your minimum. Some will require more, but 3 is a good place to start. You will have plenty of practice with these. We will write full FRQs, partial FRQs. You will see them on quizzes, tests and homework and we will write them individually and with a partner.

Grade Breakdown:

- **Tests** will be given the completion of a unit. They will incorporate critical thinking as well as mastery of vocabulary. They will also include appropriate AP type questions. **Percentage of total grade: 50%**
- **Notebook:** Your APES notebook will contain everything we do in class or that is assigned for homework. This will include notes, openers, math problems, lab reports, vocabulary exercises, etc. You will be given diagrams and other handouts to glue in to the notebook and will be guided through notes for the unit. See below for notebook details. **Percentage of total grade: 25%**
- **Homework:** Reading quizzes, small projects, short assignments will be assigned and graded periodically. **Percentage of total grade: 10%**
- **FRQs:** APES “essays”. These will be written in class or at home. Some will be timed. **Percentage of total grade: 15%**
- **Final Exam:** Teacher made. Final exam counts as **20%** of the final (yearlong) grade.
- **Service Learning (SL):** Students will have the opportunity to earn up to 20 hours of service learning for activities in the class. Each Unit will have a Service Learning component(s). Some SL opportunities will be graded or allow students to earn extra points on their notebooks. Mrs. Graves will help students set up their Xvol accounts and enter time earned.

Communication:

- **Email** – I will email lots of information to you and your parents. This includes schedules, reading assignments, PowerPoints, etc. Check your email daily. I will try to email you individually if you are absent and missed something in class.
- **My Website** – All the documents you are to print, notes, PowerPoints and extra resources are found on my website. Use this site to help you keep up and keep organized. Schoology Access Code: 6V5ZK-MC6FF.
- **Texting** – Students can text me with questions after the school day. DO NOT email me if you have an immediate question. I will answer texts up to 9:00 pm daily. **My number is 336-864-0555**. Always include your name in the text.

Classroom Policies and Procedures:

- We will be covering a lot of material in one class period; therefore we will participate in several types of activities and will make a lot of transitions. It is your responsibility to pay attention to and follow directions, and to make these transitions smoothly. The easier the transitions, the more we can do.
- Be prepared for class. This means having materials ready and homework complete BEFORE class begins EVERYDAY!
- **Be respectful of the environment** and those around you. The classroom is where you will be learning a great deal of material. Please respect my authority, knowledge and goals and respect the time and belongings of your peers. Everyone is there to learn and work together.
- **Be involved in class.** We will have discussions of current topics involving the environment and policies. I do not give busy work; everything I assign has purpose and will allow you to master a concept. Almost every assignment is graded for accuracy; take pride in the work you turn in.
- **Develop a plan for getting work done.** Time management is the key to being successful in any course. Your portfolios will take time outside of class to complete but you will have to develop your own schedule for getting the work done.
- **"Can I go to the bathroom?"** Bathroom breaks are allowed during non-instructional time. Interruption of teaching and learning to go to the bathroom is unacceptable. Please ask before leaving the room for any reason. This is a safety issue and non-negotiable.
- **CHEATING of any sort will not be tolerated.** Cheating is anytime a student takes credit for work that is not his or her own. Examples are plagiarism, copying or letting someone copy answers on an assignment, "checking answers" with another classmate, copying posted answers for homework, etc. All students involved in an incident of cheating will receive a zero on the assignment. Parents and administration will also be notified. Please see the Honor Code below.
- **Follow all Guilford County and Weaver rules including cell phone usage.** I do not want to see or hear any cell phones during class, unless I have authorized their use.

Students who choose to repeatedly disrupt class, who cannot abide by these expectations, who have excessive absences or tardies or who are not reaching their full academic potential will be referred to administration and placed on specific action plans as outlined in the Weaver Academy Handbook.

Notebook Guidelines:

What goes in my notebook?

Everything we do in class. We will use graphically organized visuals and diagrams to help you take notes, structuring them so that key ideas are clear, supported by examples from class, activities, labs and reading assignments. These activities will be your opportunity to demonstrate understanding of the material.

How can I earn an A on my notebook?

A student who earns an A is one that keeps a complete, neat notebook, produces quality work and has taken the time to analyze and make connections beyond the classroom. Include your own notes, drawings or tricks to remember and understand the material. We will have time in class to organize and glue in documents in preparation for a lesson or lessons. This is non-negotiable! Keep up with assignments. Your notebook must be set up like the Teacher Notebook.

How will notebooks be graded?

Assignments in the notebooks will be graded on thoroughness, quality and organization. Different assignments will be given different point values. Assignments will be graded periodically throughout the unit, and then totaled for a percentage value at the end for the final grade.

What if I am absent?

It is your responsibility to find out what notebook assignments or notes were done during your absence. Find a classmate or friend who is organized ask to see their notebook when you return. Also be willing to share your notebook with students who need help. You can also use the Teacher Notebook in class or during lunch. This notebook doesn't leave the room. Notebook set up template is posted on my website.

Honor Code

Students are expected to follow an Honor Code for completing work. Your signature on the welcome letter is your agreement to follow the honor code below:

"I will abide by the Weaver Honor Code. I will not give or receive unpermitted assistance in the preparation of any work or assessment that is to be used by the instructor as the basis of grading."

Absences & Make up work

Students are allowed 3 absences each quarter before make up time is required. Beginning on the 4th absence and for each subsequent absence students must make up 45 minutes outside of class. If time is not made up, students will be in jeopardy of losing credit for the course. Make up time should be completed within a reasonable time frame.

Work that is missed should be made up within 3 days upon returning to school. If you are absent on the day a portfolio is due or a quiz is scheduled, you should be prepared with that work or to take the quiz on the day you return. All homework you may have prior to the absence should be turned in upon your return. Any missed work should be completed within the 3 day window. If you are absent on a lab day or for an unannounced quiz, we will make arrangements to make that up as soon as possible.

Field Trip Absences:

- Please get work before leaving on the Field Trip
- If you are on campus the day an assignment is due, you are responsible for turning it in that day even if you do not attend my class.
- If you are not on campus on the due date, the assignment is due the day you return.
- For an assignment given while you were out, you will have the 3 day grace period.
- Anything can be turned in early to avoid confusion.
- Extenuating circumstances should be discussed with me.

For notes, you should identify a person in class that you can get notes from. Homework assignments are always posted on the board. Make sure you complete any assignments that you have missed and show them to me when you are finished. I will put aside any handouts or assignments for you. ASK for them when you return. Quiz & lab make-ups should be arranged with me. The Notebook set up template is on my website and can be used to fill in information you may have missed during an absence.

Grading of late work: Work that is turned in 1 day late will receive a 50. More than 1 day late is a zero for the assignment.

AP Lab Credit and AP Exam Information

Students will receive 2 credits on their transcripts for this class: 1 for the lecture and 1 for the lab.

Students should take the lab as a Pass/Fail course. Why? 1) it is CP credit/quality point class & 2) even with an A it can lower the grade point average because the A is only worth 4 points instead of 5.5. Students and Parents will have a form to sign regarding the lab credit and your understanding that it is Pass/Fail.

The AP exam for this course will be given on Monday May 6 at Noon.

All students will take the AP Exam.

The AP Exam is for college credit only and does not bear weight on the students' grade in the class. Scores are released in July.