

## Course Policies and Syllabus

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**Course Overview:** This course is an introductory level college environmental science course with dedicated laboratory time and requires serious commitment of outside student directed self-learning by the student for successful completion. Advanced writing and reading skills are required. The course follows the guidelines of the [College Board curriculum](#), and students are expected to take the AP Environmental Science Exam to earn credit or receive advanced placement, pending satisfactory performance on the exam.

**Textbook:** Exploring Environmental Science for AP, 2021, Miller, G.T., S.E. Spoolman, National Geographic Learning/Cengage Learning publisher.

**Supplemental Text:** Fast Track to a 5, Preparing for the AP Environmental Science Examination, 2021, Miller, G. T., S. E. Spoolman, National Geographic Learning/Cengage Learning publisher.

**Laboratory Manual:** none at this time

**Schedule:** Oxford Area High School operates on a four-day rotating schedule with 44 minute periods. AP Environmental Science will meet for 2 single periods and 1 double period during the four days. The double periods allow extended laboratory investigation or short, local field trips. Approximately 20% of class time will be spent on laboratory investigations.

### **Technology**

Computer technology is a strong component of this course. Students are expected to use the resources via Blackboard at <https://oxfordk12.blackboard.com/>. Links to online videos, topic resources, assignments, and the class schedule will be available.

### **Laboratory and Field Investigation**

Colleges often require students to present their laboratory materials from AP science courses before granting college credit for laboratory, so students should be encouraged to retain their laboratory notebooks, reports, and other materials.

**Anticipated Lecture Schedule for AP Environmental Science  
Short Version**

	<b>Unit Topic</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
Aug/ Sept	Unit – 1 Introduction to Environmental Science	Ch 1: The Environment and Sustainability  Ch 2: Science, Matter, Energy, and Systems
Sept/ Oct	Unit 2 Ecological Principles and Human Population Growth	Ch 3: Ecosystems: What are they and How Do They Work?  Ch 4: Biodiversity and Evolution  Ch 5: Climate and Terrestrial Biodiversity  Ch 6: Aquatic Biodiversity
Nov/ Dec	Unit 2 Ecological Principles and Human Population Growth  Unit 3 Earth’s Resources and Land Use	Ch 7: Species Interactions, Ecological Succession, and Population Control  Ch 8: Human Population  Ch 9: Sustaining Biodiversity: Saving Species and Ecosystem Services  Ch 10: Sustaining Terrestrial Biodiversity: Forests, Public Lands, Grasslands, Wetlands, Cities
Jan.	Mid-term Exam  Unit 3 Earth’s Resources and Land Use	Ch 11: Geology, Soil, and Mineral Resources  Ch 12: Food Production and the Environment  Ch 13: Water Resources

	<b>Unit Topic</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
Feb	Unit 4 Energy  Unit 5 Pollution and Global Change	Ch 14: Nonrenewable Energy  Ch 15: Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy  Ch 16: Environmental Hazards and Human Health
Mar	Unit 5 Pollution and Global Change	Ch 17: Water Pollution  Ch 18: Solid and Hazardous Waste  Ch 19: Air Pollution and Ozone Depletion  Ch 20: Climate Change
Apr.	Review for AP Exam	Culminating Field Trip Chincoteague Bay Field Station, Wallops Island, VA. Marine Ecosystem Exploration
May	APES Exam	Exam date TBA
June	Final Exams/Projects	Final Project TBD