



2019-2020
Environmental Science
Course Overview

Course Description

Environmental science is a captivating and rapidly expanding field, and this course offers compelling lessons that cover many different aspects of the field: ecology, the biosphere, land, forests and soil, water, energy and resources, and societies and policy. Through unique activities and material, high school students connect scientific theory and concepts to current, real-world dilemmas, providing them with opportunities for mastery in each of the segments throughout the course.

Course Objectives

- Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:
- Understand the interrelationships in the natural world
- Examine the natural cycles of energy flow and evaluate how human interaction affects these cycles
- Model real-world phenomena and determine possible consequences of specific actions
- Defend the best choices to protect the environment with changing trends in human demographics
- Interpret evidence and communicate scientifically about environmental conditions and hazards

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment as a traditional classroom course would. Throughout the course, you are expected to gain at least a 2-5% increase each day online on the following activities:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson
- Assessments which include quizzes, topic/unit tests and cumulative exam



Scope and Sequence

When you log into the Virtual Classroom, you can view the entire course map, which provides a scope and sequence of all topics you will study. Clicking a lesson's link in the course map leads to a page listing instructional activities, assignments, and learning objectives specific to that lesson. The units of study are summarized below:

Environmental Science A

Unit 1: Matter & Energy in Ecosystems

Unit 2: Organization of the Environment and Biomes

Unit 3: Populations and Changes in Ecosystems

Unit 4: The Atmosphere and Climate

Environmental Science B

Unit 1: Human uses of Land

Unit 2: Human Impact on Water Resources

Unit 3: Understanding Natural Resources

Unit 4: The Environment and Society

Unit 5: Humans and the Environment