



Mountain Range High School
 12500 Huron Street • Westminster, CO 80234
 Office: (720) 972-6300 • Fax: (720) 972-6529
<http://www.mountainrange.adams12.org>

School Year	2020-2021	Teacher Name	Matt Bleskan
Email Address	ble012961@adams12.org	Classroom, Office	B101, A107

Course Name	AP Environmental Science (APES)		
Course Description	AP Environmental Science courses are designed by the College Board to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, identify and analyze environmental problems (both natural and human made), evaluate the relative risks associated with the problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Topics covered include science as a process, ecological processes and energy conversions, earth as an interconnected system, the impact of humans on natural systems, cultural and societal contexts of environmental problems, and the development of practices that will ensure sustainable systems.		
Unit of Study	Content Standards	Timeline (Chapters)	Targeted Date of Assessment
APES Introduction	Environmental Decision Making: Ethics, Economics, Policy	1 week (1 - 3)	8/24
Living World	Chemistry to Energy to Life, Species Interaction and Community, Environmental Systems, Biodiversity	5 weeks (4, 6, 7, 11)	10/9
Earth Systems	Soil and Agriculture, Freshwater Systems, Marine Systems, Atmosphere	5 weeks (9, 15, 16, 17)	11/14
Land Use	Agriculture and Biotechnology, Resource Management, Urbanization	5 weeks (10, 12, 13)	12/14
Population	Evolution, Biodiversity, Population Ecology, Human Population	4 weeks (5, 8)	1/25
Pollution	Environmental Health and Toxicology, Waste Management	4 weeks (14, 22)	2/22
Energy	Fossil Fuels, Conventional Alternatives, New Renewable Alternatives	4 weeks (19, 20, 21)	4/24
Global Change	Global Climate Change, Sustainable Solutions	4 weeks (18, 23)	5/10

Course Grade Scale	
A	89.5 - 100
B	79.5 – 89.4
C	69.5 – 79.4
D	59.5 – 69.4
F	0 – 59.4

Assessment/Practice Proficiency Levels	
4	Advanced Understanding of the Standard
3	Meets the Standard
2	Approaches the Standard
1	Does not Meet the Standard



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Grade Reporting Criteria/Weights	
Disciplinary Core Ideas	60%
Science and Engineering Practices	15%
Communication	15%
Practice	10%
Grades are based on achievement of Content Standards and Grade Level Expectations. *Weekly progress grades are posted at https://ic.adasm12.org/campus/portal/adams12.isp	

General Expectations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The classroom environment will be a physically and emotionally safe space for all students to participate in and learn about the scientific method and the course content. - Safe laboratory behavior is always the expectation, which includes eye protection and zero tolerance for "horseplay". • Grades are based upon the demonstration of proficiency on units associated within specific grade reporting criteria. • Assessment: Assessments are a means to determine a student’s mastery and understanding of information, skills, concepts, or processes. These tasks make up the Disciplinary Core Ideas (content) category, weighted at 60% of the overall grade. • Labs: Multiple opportunities will be given throughout the year for students to exercise inquiry based learning and skills development. These assignments fall into the Science and Engineering Practices category, weighted at 15% of the overall grade. • Written work: A few times each semester students will be tasked with creating an essay or presentation for selected topics. These assignments fall into the Communication category, weighted at 15% of the overall grade. • Practice: Practice includes opportunities for students to receive clear, specific, and timely feedback as they are developing knowledge and skills, prior to Assessments. These assignments are very diverse in nature and fall into the Practice category, weighted at 10% of the overall grade. • Assessments will be graded based on teacher/district/state rubrics. • Students are held to the Academic Integrity Policy for Mountain Range High School.

Class Expectations
<p><u>Missing or incomplete assignments/assessments for this course:</u> Superintendent Policies 6280 Homework and 6281 Make-Up Work will be followed for this course. They state that it is the student’s responsibility to request and obtain missing work. When a student has an excused absence, the student has the same number of days they were absent plus one day to make up assignments. <i>Example: A student is excused absent, Monday and Tuesday. The student would have Wednesday, Thursday and Friday to make up the work, which would then be due at the beginning of the period on Monday.</i> Students who are unexcused may not be able to receive feedback from Practice prior to required Assessments.</p> <p>In order to preserve test security, students may be required to take a missed test immediately upon return from an authorized absence if that student has had the opportunity to access all learning prior to the absence. Students missing a group or individual presentation may also be required to give that presentation upon return. <i>Example: A test is given on Thursday and a student is absent on that day (authorized, excused), but was present the days prior. This student may be required to take the test on Friday</i></p> <p><u>Plagiarism/Cheating:</u> Plagiarism means to present, as one’s own, the work, writing, words, ideas or computer information of someone else. These sources could be either published or unpublished. Cheating is supplying, receiving or using inappropriate devices to improve performance on a test or assessment. Students who engage in plagiarism or cheating will be disciplined according to the school discipline matrix.</p> <p><u>Weekly Progress:</u> Current grades are accessible through Infinite Campus. A link to Infinite Campus can be found on the Mountain Range website: http://www.mountainrange.adams12.org/</p>



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