


APES Summer Assignment 2021-2022

Welcome to APES! The purpose of the summer assignment is to introduce you to some of the major themes that will be covered in AP Environmental Science. We will draw upon the concepts presented here throughout the year, so it is important that you complete this work before school begins. The more you engage with this material over summer, the more prepared you will be for the class. I look forward to working with you next year!

Your summer assignment has **3 components** and will be **due Friday, September 10, 2021 on Haiku.**


<p><u>READ</u></p>	<p>Order your textbook, Friedland and Reylea's <i>Environmental Science for AP</i> (2nd Edition), and read Chapter 1 and take notes for an open note quiz at the beginning of the year.</p> 												
<p><u>WATCH</u></p>	<p>ONE environmental documentary from the list of nine options below. Full descriptions and links are on the following page. The movies fall into three general categories that will be fundamental in our studies this year: Food, Pollution, and Global Change. Choose which movie interests you, grab some popcorn, and enjoy! You will write a paper (see below) on this documentary so take notes where you see fit. Many of the documentaries can be found at a local library, on Netflix, or simply on YouTube.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="418 1016 1458 1310"> <thead> <tr> <th>Food</th> <th>Pollution</th> <th>Global Change</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cowspiracy</td> <td>A Plastic Ocean</td> <td>Before the Flood</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Food, Inc.</td> <td>Plastic Paradise</td> <td>Chasing Coral</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GMO OMG</td> <td>The True Cost</td> <td>Racing Extinction</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Food	Pollution	Global Change	Cowspiracy	A Plastic Ocean	Before the Flood	Food, Inc.	Plastic Paradise	Chasing Coral	GMO OMG	The True Cost	Racing Extinction
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<p><u>WRITE</u></p>	<p>Compose a paper (about 2-3 pages double-spaced) on the movie you chose that includes:</p> <p><u>Part I - Summary:</u> Summarize the environmental documentary you watched. Your summary should also include your own personal reflection and opinion of the film.</p> <p><u>Part II - Environmental Issue:</u> Describe, with detail, one environmental issue discussed in the movie. Does the film do a good job presenting the issue? Is a viable solution for the issue presented in the movie? If not, explain why you think a solution was not presented and suggest a possible solution based on what you learned while watching.</p> <p><u>Part III – Anecdotes:</u> Documentaries frequently use anecdotes or a story to illuminate a major point, and these can be powerfully illustrative. Describe one story from the movie that you would share if you were discussing this movie with friends. Explain why you feel this example best illustrates or effectively communicates what the documentary is trying to say.</p>												

FILM OPTIONS


You only need to watch ONE movie from the list of nine options. Of course, you are welcome to watch the others if you are interested and have the time. Below are the descriptions (adapted from various internet sources) to help you decide. At the beginning of the year we will meet in groups to discuss the documentaries.


Theme: FOOD


<p>Cowspiracy (2014, 1 hr 31 min)</p>	<p>Trailer: http://www.cowspiracy.com</p>
	<p>Synopsis: <i>Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret</i> is a groundbreaking environmental documentary following intrepid filmmaker Kip Andersen as he uncovers the most destructive industry facing the planet today – and investigates why the world’s leading environmental organizations are too afraid to talk about it.</p> <p>Animal agriculture is the leading cause of deforestation, water consumption and pollution, is responsible for more greenhouse gases than the transportation industry, and is a primary driver of rainforest destruction, species extinction, habitat loss, topsoil erosion, ocean “dead zones,” and virtually every other environmental ill. Yet it goes on, almost entirely unchallenged.</p> <p>Available on Netflix</p>
<p>Food, Inc. (2008; 94 minutes)</p>	<p>Trailer: http://www.takepart.com/foodinc/film</p>
	<p>Synopsis: In <i>Food, Inc.</i>, filmmaker Robert Kenner lifts the veil on our nation's food industry, exposing the highly mechanized underbelly that has been hidden from the American consumer with the consent of our government's regulatory agencies, USDA and FDA. Our nation's food supply is now controlled by a handful of corporations that often put profit ahead of consumer health, the livelihood of the American farmer, the safety of workers and our own environment. We have bigger-breasted chickens, the perfect pork chop, herbicide-resistant soybean seeds, even tomatoes that won't go bad, but we also have new strains of E. coli—the harmful bacteria that causes illness for an estimated 73,000 Americans annually. We are riddled with widespread obesity, particularly among children, and an epidemic level of diabetes among adults.</p>

<p>GMO OMG (2013, 85 minutes)</p>	<p>Trailer: http://www.gmofilm.com/official-trailer.aspx</p>
	<p>Synopsis: Today in the United States, by the simple acts of feeding ourselves, we are unwittingly participating in the largest experiment ever conducted on human beings. Each of us unknowingly consumes genetically engineered food on a daily basis. The risks and effects to our health and the environment are largely unknown. Yet more and more studies are being conducted around the world, which only provide even more reason for concern. We are the oblivious guinea pigs for wide-scale experimentation of modern biotechnology. GMO OMG tells the story of a fathers discovery of GMOs in relationship to his 3 young children and the world around him. We still have time to heal the planet, feed the world, and live sustainably. But we have to start now!</p>


Theme: POLLUTION


<p>Plastic Ocean (2013, 1 hr 42 min)</p>	<p>Trailer: https://plasticoceans.org/about-film/</p>
	<p>Synopsis: A PLASTIC OCEAN begins when journalist Craig Leeson, searching for the elusive blue whale, discovers plastic waste in what should be pristine ocean. In this adventure documentary, Craig teams up with free diver Tanya Streeter and an international team of scientists and researchers, and they travel to twenty locations around the world over the next four years to explore the fragile state of our oceans, uncover alarming truths about plastic pollution, and reveal working solutions that can be put into immediate effect.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Available on Netflix</p>


<p>Plastic Paradise (2013, 57 min)</p>	<p>Trailer: http://plasticparadisemovie.com</p>
	<p>Synopsis: Every single piece of plastic that has ever been created since the 19th century is still somewhere on our planet. So if it never goes away, where does it go? Thousands of miles away from civilization, Midway Atoll is in one of the most remote places on earth. And yet it's become ground zero for The Great Pacific Garbage Patch, syphoning plastics from three distant continents. In this independent documentary film, journalist/filmmaker Angela Sun travels on a personal journey of discovery to uncover this mysterious phenomenon. Along the way she meets scientists, researchers, influencers, and volunteers who shed light on the effects of our rabid plastic consumption and learns the problem is more insidious than we could have ever imagined.</p>

<p>The True Cost (2015, 1 hr 32 min)</p>	<p>Trailer: https://truecostmovie.com</p>
	<p>Synopsis: This is a story about clothing. It's about the clothes we wear, the people who make them, and the impact the industry is having on our world. The price of clothing has been decreasing for decades, while the human and environmental costs have grown dramatically. The True Cost is a groundbreaking documentary film that pulls back the curtain on the untold story and asks us to consider, who really pays the price for our clothing?</p> <p>Filmed in countries all over the world, from the brightest runways to the darkest slums, and featuring interviews with the world's leading influencers including Stella McCartney, Livia Firth and Vandana Shiva, The True Cost is an unprecedented project that invites us on an eye opening journey around the world and into the lives of the many people and places behind our clothes.</p>

Theme: GLOBAL CHANGE

<p>Before the Flood (2016, 1 hr 36 min)</p>	<p>Trailer: https://www.beforetheflood.com</p>
	<p>Synopsis: Before the Flood, presented by National Geographic, features Leonardo DiCaprio on a journey as a United Nations Messenger of Peace, traveling to five continents and the Arctic to witness climate change firsthand. He goes on expeditions with scientists uncovering the reality of climate change and meets with political leaders fighting against inaction. He also discovers a calculated disinformation campaign orchestrated by powerful special interests working to confuse the public about the urgency of the growing climate crisis. With unprecedented access to thought leaders around the world, DiCaprio searches for hope in a rising tide of catastrophic news.</p>

<p>Chasing Coral (2017, 1 hr 33 min)</p>	<p>Trailer: https://www.chasingcoral.com/about-the-film/</p>
 <p>The poster for 'Chasing Coral' features a split image. The top half shows a bright, sunny beach scene with waves crashing onto the shore. The bottom half shows a deep blue underwater scene with a diver and coral reefs. The text 'CHASING CORAL' is written vertically on the right side. A quote at the top reads: 'What lies below, reveals what lies above.'</p>	<p>Synopsis: Coral reefs around the world are vanishing at an unprecedented rate. A team of divers, photographers and scientists set out on a thrilling ocean adventure to discover why and to reveal the underwater mystery to the world.</p> <p>Available on Netflix</p>

<p>Racing Extinction (2015, 1 hr 34 min)</p>	<p>Trailer: https://racingextinction.com/film/</p>
 <p>The poster for 'Racing Extinction' features a central image of the Earth as seen from space, with a dark, shadowed side. The title 'RACING EXTINCTION' is written in large, bold, white letters at the bottom. The background is dark with some faint, colorful elements.</p>	<p>Synopsis: A documentary that follows undercover activists trying to stave off a man-made mass extinction. Utilizing state-of-the-art equipment, Oscar-winner Louie Psihoyos (The Cove) assembles a team of artists and activists intent on showing the world never-before-seen images that expose issues of endangered species and mass extinction. Whether infiltrating notorious black markets with guerrilla-style tactics or exploring the scientific causes affecting changes to the environment, Racing Extinction will change the way we see the world and our role within it.</p> <p>Full movie on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sUpccvUa0C4</p>