



COMMON SYLLABUS

Department Chair: Jim Konrad jkonrad@naperville203.org

District Mission

The mission of Naperville Community Unit School District 203 is to empower students to develop a learner's mindset, demonstrate adaptability, effectively communicate, think critically, and become global citizens.

Department Mission

At Naperville North High School, our mission is to provide high-quality, innovative, and engaging science education that fosters deep understanding, critical thinking, and a lifelong passion for scientific inquiry. Grounded in the College Board's AP Environmental Science Course Content and Unit Standards, our curriculum and teaching approach empower students to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to thrive in a rapidly changing world. We are dedicated to nurturing curiosity, collaboration, and scientific literacy, preparing our students to become informed citizens who can contribute to solving local and global challenges through the application of scientific principles.

Course Description

AP Environmental Science (APES) engages students in using interdisciplinary scientific principles to analyze and evaluate complex interactions between human societies and natural systems. Students synthesize ecological, economic, and physical data to model environmental shifts, evaluate the underlying drivers of resource availability, and assess the scientific and economic trade-offs of historical and contemporary environmental policies. Through data analysis, scientific inquiry, and case studies, students design, critique, and refine evidence-based management strategies, balancing environmental, societal, and economic factors across local and global scales.

Course Textbook & Resources

Environmental Science Fourth Edition by Andrew Friedland and Rick Relyea

College Board

Course Standards & Weights

Academic:

Units	Exam Weighting
Unit 1: The Living World: Ecosystems	6–8%
Unit 2: The Living World: Biodiversity	6–8%
Unit 3: Populations	10–15%
Unit 4: Earth Systems and Resources	10–15%
Unit 5: Land and Water Use	10–15%
Unit 6: Energy Resources and Consumption	10–15%
Unit 7: Atmospheric Pollution	7–10%
Unit 8: Aquatic and Terrestrial Pollution	7–10%
Unit 9: Global Change	15–20%

CASEL Tier 1: Responsible Decision-Making in Science

The three key skill areas:

- Structured Problem-Solving (chunking, reflection, adaptability, justifying solutions)
- Foreseeing Consequences (anticipating outcomes, academic planning, reflection on decisions)
- Resource Needs Identification (knowing where/how to get help, monitoring grades, using supports)

Units of Study:

Unit 1: Ecosystems (Modules 0-7)



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Unit 2: Biodiversity (Modules 8-14) and Populations (Modules 15-18)
 Unit 3: Earth Systems & Resources (Modules 19-23) and Land & Water Use (Modules 24-34)
 Unit 4: Energy Resources & Consumption (Modules 35-41)
 Unit 5: Atmospheric Pollution (Modules 42-46) and Aquatic & Terrestrial Pollution (Modules 47-54)
 Unit 6: Global Change (Modules 55-59)

Grade Calculation Definitions

Students will be provided with multiple and varied opportunities to demonstrate mastery of learning standards. Although varied in content, all courses will include examples of practice and evidence of learning:

- **Evidence of Learning** : Tasks and assessments where structured feedback is provided to reflect a student's level of proficiency on specific standards and skills. These tasks provide targeted insights for ongoing growth while demonstrating cumulative mastery of course content. In this course, specific examples of evidence include:
 - Reading Quizzes & Concept Quizzes: Assessing foundational understanding and core knowledge.
 - Unit Tests: Measuring comprehensive mastery of academic standards.
 - Lab Experiments & Digital Simulations: Applying scientific methods, analyzing data, and testing variables in real or modeled environments.
 - Projects & Performances: Synthesizing content to solve complex problems or demonstrate applied skill.
- **Practice**: Tasks that are connected to course standards and learning targets that promote the development of skills and/or knowledge that will be assessed, but where feedback is not provided. This may include, but is not limited to daily readings, note taking, practice exercises and tasks essential to the learning process.

Grading Disbursement

Semester grades for all classes (prior to the final exam) will be calculated by a weighted average. As part of the calculation for the overall semester grade, final exams/projects will not exceed 15% of the semester grade.
 A = 100-90%, B = 89-80%, C = 79-70%, D = 69-60%, F = 59-0%

Semester Grade:

- Coursework = 85% (Evidence of Learning = 90%, Practice= 10%)
- Final Exam = 15%
 - First Semester: Phenology Project and Semester 1 Final Exam
 - Second Semester: Infographic project and Full year Final Exam

Grading Practices

Grades communicate each student's progress toward mastery of goals/standards for the course.

- Infinite Campus Symbols/Comments:
 - A score of "Missing" (M) will indicate an assessment has not been turned in and the comments section will include a specific date by which students can still submit. After that date, a zero (0) will be recorded.
 - Any score may also have a comment indicating the due date, turned in, late, reassessment eligibility including the timeline and/or reassessment final scores.
 - A zero indicates that no attempt was made by the student. If a legitimate attempt is made on an assessment and practice work has been completed in a consistent and timely manner (*completing 80% of practice listed in Infinite Campus.*), a score of 50% will be the lowest possible grade on evidence only quizzes and tests.
- Late Work:
 - Evidence of Learning work submitted after the original due date cannot be penalized more than a



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- total of 10% and can be submitted for credit up to 5 days after the original due date.
 - Practice Work is not accepted for credit after the due date.
- Other: No extra credit will be issued.

Academic Integrity Code

District 203 students are challenged to address the academic process enthusiastically, diligently, and most importantly, honestly. It is the responsibility of our students, teachers, and administration to uphold the fundamental academic values of honesty, responsibility, fairness, respect, and trust. The integrity of our district's academic programs is built upon these principles.

Academic integrity violations include cheating; plagiarism, self-plagiarism or copy infringement; obtaining or providing an unfair advantage; falsification of documents; unauthorized access to records; and inappropriate collaboration, whether intentional or unintentional. The classroom teacher and administration will collaborate and exercise professional judgment in determining academic integrity violations.

Reassessment Policy

The purpose of reassessment is to allow students to demonstrate mastery of course standards in which they remain deficient. Higher reassessment grades will replace the original assessment score, but will not exceed 85%.

- Practice work is not eligible for reassessment.
- Evidence of Learning work may be eligible for reassessment. Refer to the chart below for eligibility:

Determination for Reassessment Eligibility:	
☐ The assessment included multiple opportunities for feedback and improvement in the process for the final product OR formative assessments are aligned to standards, allow students to practice in the same assessment format, and gain feedback for improvement before the summative assessment.	☐ There was timely and consistent completion of practice work and formative assessments. ☐ A one-time performance on an assessment does not reflect the student's level of proficiency leading up to the assessment. ☐ Summative assessment score is below 85%.
Not eligible for reassessment	Eligible for reassessment if all three statements above are true.

Reassessment Parameters:

- Project-based assessments and laboratory-based activities are not reassessable due to multiple opportunities for feedback and improvement in Reassessments MUST be completed within 5 school days of the student receiving feedback unless otherwise determined by the instructor. The reassessment deadline should be communicated in an IC comment.
- The final reassessment score will be capped at 85%.
- Completed Learning Experiences & Reassessment Guidelines:
 - Quizzes: Earn half-credit back on quiz corrections up to an 85%.
 - Tests: Eligible for reassessment through a revised version of the test up to 85%.
 - Projects: Built-in feedback and revision cycles count as reassessment opportunities.
 - Labs: Not eligible for reassessments due to time, material constraints, and their role as foundational practice.

Student Communication

- Students are encouraged to communicate with their teacher regarding questions using their school email address. Teachers make every effort to respond to emails within 24 hours during the work week.



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Additional Resources for Support

- Students should refer to the daily agenda slide deck for daily and supplemental resources which can include practice quizzes, video tutorials, flashcards, and other review materials.
- Students can sign up for their teacher's W.I.N. session for additional instruction or support in learning material.
- Students can work with peer tutors during lunch periods in the Literacy Center.

Parents or Guardians Partnership

Naperville North believes in a collective partnership with parents/guardians which provides students the best opportunities for success.

Some ways parents/guardians can support their student's learning are:

- Actively check Infinite Campus for their student's grades.
 - Infinite Campus is a tool to progress monitor student work until the final course grade is posted.
 - Monthly progress grades are posted and represent the current grade of a student in the course at that moment in time.
- Discuss missing assignments, reiterate due dates, help organize folders, materials, assignment notebooks, and review upcoming projects and assessments.

The best way to communicate with the student's teacher is through email. However, if a response is not received within 48 hours, please resend the email or call their voicemail. Your email may have been filtered.