

AP Environmental Science (APES)

Shelly Petersen

- BS Agriculture/Animal Science, University of Arizona
- M. Ed Special Education, Grand Canyon University
- Trained in APES instruction in 2019
- National Geographic Certified Educator
- Arizona Environmental Educator Certified
- American Wildlife Leadership School-Conservation Education
- Colorado State University – Wildlife Biology 696 (working on more)
- Envirothon Coach – State winning teams for 2 years, 2nd place for Centennial last year
- Arizona Game and Fish Educator of the year 2011

This class will be a lot of fun, but it is also a lot of work and at a fast pace. My goal is that you all do well on the AP Exam in May.

What does a 4 or 5 score replace?

University of Arizona:

Environmental Science 4 or 5 score counts as T2 Natural Sciences or T1 GEOS 170 OR* Elective credit 3 units

Arizona State University:

Environmental Science 5 or 4 score is 3 credits in SOS 110

NAU

Environmental Science 4 or 5 counts as ENV 101 and 101L for 4 credits

What about grades?

Tests and other assessments. The tests alternate between multiple choice tests and free response tests, essay exams.

small quizzes. These quizzes will happen at least twice a week. They will not be cumulative, but on the previous class's materials. I apologize that you will be annoyed by them but they will encourage you to study regularly.

Big Idea Questions/ Group work- The big idea questions will take a multitude of current day topics with content from the various lessons. The students will need to create solutions to the problems with a tiered step process in their approach, for example a ten-year plan.

What about homework?

You usually will not receive written homework. You are expected to review your notes and keep up on the reading. Do not fall behind. Material in the reading not mentioned in class is still fair game for assessments. Sometimes you may be asked to research materials for a topic.

What about reading?

Friedland, Andrew, Relyea, Rick, and Courard-Hauri, David (2019). *Environmental Science for AP**. New York, New York: W. H. Freeman and Company.

Please keep on the reading, it will improve your score on the AP Exam. Rocking this class and skipping the book will generally lead to a 3/5 on the AP Exam. Reading the text improves your ability to get a 5/5. *Silent Spring* and *A Sand County Almanac* are great additions for any student wanting to improve their knowledge in Environmental Science. It will add knowledge for the free response questions.

What about notes?

You will need a separate binder for this class. Note taking will be required. Some people can learn without taking notes, but they still learn better if they take notes.

As far as fidgety stuff. Doodling in your notes is fine. Please don't bring in other homework, do reading for this class or others, knit or crochet.

Hand-write your notes, you may not use your computer for note taking. You will need a calculator, phones cannot be used for calculators. They are allowed on the test this year.

What if notes go too fast?

We have to get in one year's content in a little over 15 weeks the pace will be fast at first, but it is college pace. I will post notes online after each class. If you miss part of a slide, I recommend leaving some blank lines in your notebook, marking it with a symbol, and finding the missing information through a classmate. Your notes will not be graded by me, they are to help you learn.

How do I take notes?

Your lectures are college level. The slides in the presentations provide major points in the content, but you will have to add additional detail as you follow along. Copying what is on each slide will not prepare you for the tests, make certain you copy other details mentioned by the teacher. The best way to do this is to focus on what I say and not copying each slide down as it appears.

You can find additional information on note-taking at this website

<http://www.cse.buffalo.edu/~rapaport/howtostudy.html>

What is a passing grade on the AP Environmental Science exam to qualify for Capstone at CeHS?

A 3 is a passing grade for the CeHS Capstone program.

What if I don't pass the exam?

Just taking the course and sitting for the exam is a big deal. You will demonstrate to potential colleges and scholarship committees that you are ready for the challenge of college level work.