

CHINO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

Environmental Science AP

Course Number	5425
Length of Course	One (1) year/two (2) semesters
Grade Level	11-12
Prerequisites	Two years of high school laboratory science—one year of college preparatory biology and one year of college preparatory physical science (such as chemistry, physics, or college preparatory APS/IPS)
Credit	5 units per semester/10 total credits
Repeatable	Not repeatable for credit
Board Approved	April 19, 2007

Description of Course:

The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary; it embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study. Yet there are several major unifying constructs, or themes, that cut across the many topics included in the study of environmental science. This course utilizes the AP Environmental Science curriculum provided by the College Board. The exam is representative of such a course and therefore is considered appropriate for the measurement of skills and knowledge in the field of environmental science. This course utilizes the AP Environmental Science curriculum provided by the College Board. www.collegeboard.com

Rationale for Course:

The AP Environmental Science course is designed to be the equivalent of a one-semester, introductory college course in environmental science. Depending on the department offering the course, it can have a rigorous science perspective or a sociologic or political emphasis. AP Environmental Science has been developed to be most like the former, and is intended to enable students to undertake, as first-year college students, a more advanced study of topics in environmental science, or alternatively, to fulfill a basic requirement for a laboratory science and thus free time for taking other courses.