

## AP Environmental Science with Ms. Renteria

**Website:** [tigersciencerenteria.com](http://tigersciencerenteria.com)

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**Zoom Link Meeting ID:** 982 403 538 **Passcode:** 013504

*Hello students and parents, I hope everyone is safe and your family is healthy. This is a very strange time for everyone so if there is anything I can do to help you, please let me know. I'm here for you ALL.*

The AP Environmental Science course is designed to engage students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships within the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography.

### **BIG IDEAS**

#### **Big Idea 1: Energy Transfer (ENG)**

Energy conversions underlie all ecological processes. Energy cannot be created; it must come from somewhere. As energy flows through systems, at each step, more of it becomes unusable.

#### **Big Idea 2: Interactions Between Earth Systems (ERT)**

The Earth is one interconnected system. Natural systems change over time and space. Biogeochemical systems vary in ability to recover from disturbances.

#### **Big Idea 3: Interactions Between Different Species And The Environment (EIN)**

Humans alter natural systems and have had an impact on the environment for millions of years. Technology and population growth have enabled humans to increase both the rate and scale of their impact on the environment.

#### **Big Idea 4: Sustainability (STB)**

Human survival depends on developing practices that will achieve sustainable systems. A suitable combination of conservation and development is required. The management of resources is essential. Understanding the role of cultural, social, and economic factors is vital to the development of solutions

### **TOPICS OF THE YEAR**

- 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%)

### **CLASS INFORMATION**

1. **Schoology**- Assignments will be posted and turned in on Schoology.
  - Assignments will always be due Wednesday at 11:59 pm and Monday at 11:59 pm.
2. **Website**- I will also post assignments and videos on my website- [tigersciencerenteria.com](http://tigersciencerenteria.com) under "Daily Assignments". (Sometimes Schoology is down so I like to have a backup.)

In order to best support student safety and academic growth, course expectations are subject to change. The course instructor reserves the right to modify policies.

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3. **Remind**- Please sign up for Remind for your class period. This is the easiest way for you to communicate with me. Parents are also welcomed to sign up for Remind.
  - 7th- <https://www.remind.com/join/mssrente>
4. **Schedule**- We are on an [A/B/C schedule](#). Monday and Thursday are "A" Days, Tuesday and Friday are "B" Days, and Wednesday is "C" Day.
  - **Daily Schedule**- you will need to join a Zoom session every "A and B" day.
    - 1st/5th- 8:45 am
    - 2nd/6th- 10:30 am
    - 3rd/7th- 12:45 pm
    - 4th/8th- 2:30 pm
  - **"C" Days will be tutoring and office hours. If you would like to meet send me a Remind and we will schedule a time.**
5. **Zoom Etiquette** - Please download [Zoom app](#) on your device.
  - *Keep your **audio on mute** until you want to speak.*
  - *Enable video so that we can see you! If you don't feel comfortable sharing your video that's ok too. I'm just glad you're here!*
  - *Use the Chat box to make a point or ask a question. Remember that Chat is public (even to your friends), and may be recorded, and archived.*
  - **Appropriate classroom behavior is expected in our virtual classroom.**
6. **Science Notebook**- Students will be required to keep an organized composition notebook. Classwork, whether it's an activity, experiment, illustration, notes, or journaling will be kept in the notebook.
7. **AP Classroom**- Join my class on [AP Classroom](#). Make sure your personal email is used for College Board.

### CLASS MOTTO

Mighty Tigers are:

- Respectful (language, behaviors)
- Open Minded (appreciate diversity, believe the impossible)
- Achievers (set goals, challenge yourself)
- Responsible (digital citizenship, monitor self)

### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Science department expectations for academic integrity will follow EPISD policy as stated in EIA Local policy manual.

A student who receives a failing grade (CH) due to academic dishonesty shall not be allowed to redo assignments or retake a test. At the discretion of the teacher, a discipline referral may be issued.

Actions constituting academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to; submitting others work as your own, copying work from another student, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, inappropriate use of technology, falsifying documents, and allowing others to violate the academic integrity policy. Students have the responsibility to submit coursework that is the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression.

***School and district policy is to be followed at all times. This policy can be found in the student handbook.***

### GRADING POLICY

You have two opportunities to redo grades below 70%. After each attempt you have five school days (from grade being posted) to redo the test or assignment. The average of all attempts is what gets recorded.

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If you do not turn in the assignment you will automatically receive a zero. Then you have five days to turn in your work and the above policy will be followed.

Course work will carry the following weights:

|     |               |                                  |
|-----|---------------|----------------------------------|
| 40% | Mastery       | Exams *certain Labs              |
| 40% | Understanding | Labs, Projects and Presentations |
| 20% | Engagement    | Classwork and Discussions        |

\*\*\*YOU HAVE ACCESS TO YOUR GRADES VIA STUDENT PORTAL. CHECK YOUR GRADES REGULARLY!\*\*\*

### MAKE-UP WORK

IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT THE TEACHER THROUGH E-MAIL OR REMIND FOR ANY MISSING OR MAKE-UP WORK.

- If you can't make the Zoom meeting please send me a Remind or e-mail. I understand that these are difficult times and you may need some more time. Please communicate with me so I know you are working on your assignments.

### TECHNOLOGY HELP

Students and parents call Technology Services Help Desk: 915-230-2601. If you still can't get through, please let me know and I can put in a "ticket" for help.

[PLEASE FILL OUT GOOGLE FORM AS AN UNDERSTANDING OF MS. RENTERIA'S CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS.](#)