**Classroom Rules**

1. Students are not to be engaged in any behavior that prevents a teacher from teaching.
2. Students are not to be engaged in any behavior that prevents other students from learning.
3. Students are not to be engaged in any behavior that is not in their best interest.

Consequences
1. Warning
2. Phone Call Home
3. Office Referral

**Classroom Procedures**

1. **All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late work will NOT be accepted.**
2. **All make-up work will be in a folder marked “make-up” and filed under your class title. Check the file, ask your classmates what you have missed, check the course page at www.mrshoovlersscienceclass.weebly.com, and then ask me. Make-up work will not be completed while regular classroom work is taking place. No make-up exams will be taken without my approval and without my presence.**
3. **You are responsible for reading the associated chapter/text. References will be shared with the students online and during class. Expect quiz and exam questions to come from the reading as well as lecture and lab.**
4. **Follow all rules posted in the student handbook and in place throughout the school district.**
5. **Turn in all work to the green box and file under your class. The green box is located on my desk.**
6. **Check the class website for information related to the class and share it with your parents.**

**Contact Information**

**Mrs. Hoovler**

shoovler@westyellowstone.k12.mt.us

www.mrshoovlersscienceclass.weebly.com

**406-646-7617 School Phone**

**Grade Scale**A  93-100%
B  84-92%
C  72-83%
D  64-71%
E  0-63%

**Syllabus**

**Class Description:**

**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. The following themes provide a foundation for the structure of the AP Environmental Science course.**

**1. Science is a process.**

**• Science is a method of learning more about the world.**

**• Science constantly changes the way we understand the world.**

**2. 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.**

**3. The Earth itself is one interconnected system.**

**• Natural systems change over time and space.**

**• Biogeochemical systems vary in ability to recover from disturbances.**

**4. Humans alter natural systems.**

**• Humans 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.**

**5. Environmental problems have a cultural and social context.**

**• Understanding the role of cultural, social, and economic factors is vital to the**

**development of solutions.**

**6. Human survival depends on developing practices that will achieve sustainable**

**systems.**

**• A suitable combination of conservation and development is required.**

**• Management of common resources is essential.**

Because of the interdisciplinary nature and the amount of material to prepare before the AP Exam, this course will be **fast paced** and rely on student’s to complete assignments outside of class time.

Use the syllabus as a guide and note that changes may be made as we get into the material.

**Course Materials**

A textbook for the course is being evaluated. Until then, use the following for class and home work.

The Habitable Planet, <http://www.learner.org/courses/envsci/index.html>

Earth Space Science Textbook

Inquiry into Life Textbook

*Silent Spring*, by Rachel Carson

**The AP Exam**

The class syllabus will be submitted for review and upon approval, students can register to take the AP Environmental Science Exam in early May 2013. The cost is approximately $87 each that can be subsidized for students enrolled in the free or reduced lunch program.

The AP Environmental Science Exam is 3 hours long and is divided equally in time between a multiple-choice section and a free-response section. The multiple-choice section, which constitutes 60 percent of the final grade, consists of 100 multiple-choice questions that are designed to cover the breadth of the students’ knowledge and understanding of environmental science. Thought-provoking problems and questions based on fundamental ideas from environmental science are included along with questions based on the recall of basic facts and major concepts. The number of multiple-choice questions taken from each major topic area is reflected in the percentage of the course as designated in the topic outline. The free-response section emphasizes the application of principles in greater depth. In this section, students must organize answers to broad questions, thereby demonstrating reasoning and analytical skills, as well as the ability to synthesize material from several sources into cogent and coherent essays. Four free-response questions are included in this section, which constitutes 40 percent of the final grade: 1 data-set question, 1 document-based question, and 2 synthesis and evaluation questions.

Colleges often require students to present their laboratory materials from AP science courses before granting college credit for laboratory, so students should be encouraged to retain their laboratory notebooks, reports, and other materials.