

Course Description

Environmental Science discusses the environmental challenges that impact our future, such as land use, pollution, climate change, and loss of biodiversity. This course is centered around achieving global sustainability to meet the needs of a growing human population, while also maintaining natural resources and protecting Earth's various systems. The short- and long-term consequences of our actions on human health and the environment are also a course focus. With the collaboration of the Guy Harvey Foundation and additional professional partners, this course highlights the research and field experiences of professors, scientists, conservationists, lawyers, and more, while sharing practical and sensible strategies for preserving the delicate balance between land, ocean, air, and life. In addition, this course creates a call to action for students by teaching them how to protect the world's biodiversity and resources by adjusting the way they live, work, play, and govern in the future.

This is a year-long course consisting of 6 units. Upon successful completion, students will receive 1 credit towards high school graduation.

Course Overview

Course Outcomes

- Understand earth systems and ecological principles
- Evaluate human impact on environmental quality and sustainability
- Apply scientific reasoning to environmental decision-making
- Recognize personal agency in global environmental challenges

Semester 1 Units:	Semester 2 Units:
1. Discovering Environmental Science	4. Climate Change and Human Response
2. Terrestrial Biomes and Land Use	5. Human Population and Impacts
3. Aquatic Biomes	6. Sustainability and Our Future

Methods of Instruction

Online courses give students the opportunity to prepare for college through material and learning methods. Instruction comes through the Canvas course platform, one thirty-minute

live class per week, and teacher grading and feedback on assessments. Strong executive function skills serve students well as they navigate the course. Forms of assessment include labs, discussions, written assignments, quizzes, and tests.

Methods of Evaluation

Students will demonstrate mastery through the following formative and summative assessments:

- 40% Assignments
- 10% Participation
- 10% Quizzes
- 15% Tests
- 25% Final Assessment

Additional Course Information

Detailed information regarding OC Online policies on late/missing assignment policy, weekly live classes, academic integrity, course expectations, technology requirements and tips, and additional school policies can be found in the course setup module.