

# Environmental Science I

Environmental Science I is the study of relationships between living organisms and their respective environment. This will be a continuation of material you learned in Biology II. You should expect to gain a better understanding of the role of organisms interacting with the environment, and the role you play in maintaining a healthy, well-balanced environment.

## Environmental Science Course Learning Outcomes:

I can use scientific method to think objectively about situations.

I can explain the cycling of matter and energy within a system, food webs/pyramids, and succession and evolution.

I can explain the role of water in relation to biodiversity, carrying capacities, and evolution of species.

I can predict human effects on the environment and how technology may change those results.

<b>Grading Scale:</b>	100-90%	A
	89-80%	B
	79-70%	C
	69-60%	D

## Classroom expectations

You will be expected to follow the policies and procedures as described in the handbook. You will need to be prepared for class each day, participate in class discussions and activities, make progress on work materials, and maintain a pace to be able to successfully complete the course.

We, as a class, will determine any other norms for the success of the participants.

## Areas of Study:

- **Introduction**

We will be reviewing scientific method, values used for making environmental decisions, and the expectations of the classroom.

- **Energy Flow**

This unit will include types of relationships among organisms, how energy moves in these relationships, and succession of ecosystems. The water, carbon, and nitrogen cycles will be reviewed.

- **Biodiversity**

This unit will address the importance of biodiversity. Endangered and threatened species, extinction of species, and native and invasive species will be analyzed. Causes to loss of species will be identified and possible solutions will be considered and justified.

- **Water**

In this unit we will refresh our memory of the water cycle in depth. We will analyze types of water usage, past and present. We will determine appropriate conservation techniques for sustainability.

## Resources

The textbook for this course is Environmental Science by Savvas.

You will be able to find alternative and optional reading materials in your canvas course for each unit.

You will also be able to find all work resources in your canvas course for each unit.