2020 Advanced Placement® Environmental Science

About the AP® Environmental Science Summer Institute
This session is designed for both new and experienced teachers. At this summer’s institute you will have an opportunity to get hands-on experience with APES labs and activities, plan your next year’s program, review course content and the released exams, and review the free response questions from the 2020 exam. We will review textbooks and survey Internet resources throughout the week. You will be receiving several textbooks and reviewing several sample lab programs during the week. You will learn how to transform traditional labs into inquiry based labs. We will be going on several field trips during the week as well. The main goal of this week is to help you develop a comprehensive and successful course.

The tentative time line is as follows:

Day 1
- Introduction and Week’s Overview
- Review of the APES® Participant’s Manual (College Board manual, handouts and CD)
- Overview of the AP® Environmental Science Course
- Textbook options/text selection.
- First nine weeks at a glance – content and activities
- Overview Video - Endangered Planet Video
- Syllabus Resources
- Lunch
- Student workload: homework
- Lab basics expected labs, long and short term labs, inquiry-based labs
- FRQ #1: rubric use

Day 2
- Specific information on the major content areas
- Lab manuals
- Field trips
- Lab resources
- Field work for water testing
- Eco-column design and construction
- Lunch
- Computer lab: on-line resources (videos, software, websites)
- Human demographic activities
- Prep for LC50
- FRQ #2
- Continue discussion on planning your course and strategies for success

Day 3
- Field trips
  - Waste Water Treatment Facility, Landfill, Recycling Center
- Lunch
- Biodiversity lab
- Toxicity & risk activities
- Math for APES
- Chemistry of Air Pollution
- FRQ #3

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Day 4

- FRQ# 4
- Lecture-content specifics continued
- Complete lab activities
- "Post Exam" activities
- Lunch
- Participant Share-a-thon ➔ Share favorite labs, resources, and ideas
- Wrap up - Final thoughts and comments on this course, evaluations

What to bring:
Items you should bring during the week include:

- a laptop computer or tablet & storage device
- a copy of your school’s academic calendar
- a current syllabus
- a copy of the textbook you will be using next year
- closed-toe shoes (for laboratory work)
- one lesson plan to share
- one best practice to share
- comfortable clothes and shoes for walking in the summer heat
- a light sweatshirt or sweater in case you get chilly in the AC

Instructor:

Pam Shlachtman currently teaches A.P. Environmental Science at Miami Palmetto Senior High School. She has served as a science instructor in the Miami-Dade Public School System since the mid 1980’s, many of those as chairperson of the science department. With a B.S. in Chemistry and a M.S. in Environmental and Urban Systems, Pamela served as an adjunct professor at Florida International University for over 10 years. Her professional accomplishments include designing and reviewing science curriculum for the Miami-Dade County Public School System, consulting for the College Board in Advanced Placement Environmental Science, participating in the AP annual reading (serving as a table and question leader), contributing to several AP Curriculum Modules and being a former member of the Test Development Committee for A.P. Environmental Science. She has taught AP Environmental Science since its inaugural offering in 1997. In addition to numerous academic achievements, Science Teacher of the Year awards, and awards for Outstanding Leadership in Environmental Science, she coached her 2004 Envirothon Team to a First Place Finish in the North American competition.

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