

Advanced Placement Environmental Science Summer Assignments – 2016-2017

The summer assignment will consist of reading three books over the summer and writing two reports to be turned in on the FIRST day of fall semester, in room 245, even if you are scheduled to take the class during the spring semester of 2017. Each student will also participate in a semester-long project based on one of the books.

All students will read THE FOREST UNSEEN, written by David George Haskell, ENERGY AT THE CROSSROADS, Global Perspectives and Uncertainties, written by Vaclav Smil, and NO IMPACT MAN, written by Colin Beavan.

Report 1: Write a 2-3 page report on THE FOREST UNSEEN. Use 11 point ARIAL font with line spacing set at 1.5 for both reports. A 20% penalty will be applied for not following these directions. Your reports should include your thoughts on the following:

What was the author trying to accomplish with this book? What was the author trying to say about the environment? Describe in 3-5 sentences each, 10 specific examples from throughout the book, including the page number, that support your opinion about what the author was trying to say about the environment. Was the author successful in presenting and supporting the central theme? Support your opinion!

Report 2: Write a 3-5 page book report on ENERGY AT THE CROSSROADS, Global Perspectives and Uncertainties. What was the author trying to accomplish with this book? What was the author trying to say about the environment? Describe in 3-5 sentences 25 specific examples, including the page number, that support your opinion about what the author was trying to say about the environment. Was the author successful in presenting and supporting the central theme? Support your opinion!

After reading NO IMPACT MAN students will participate in a semester-long project, looking for ways to reduce their ecological footprint.

These three books will introduce students to central themes that will be covered in APES. Reading these three books will be invaluable in understanding sustainable living and the impacts of not living sustainably on our future. THE FORESR UNSEEN will be invaluable in understanding how to view nature in a way that becomes a living lab for students to be able to apply concepts covered in APES.