

CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT
Course of Study
Recommendation for Adoption

Course: Academic Environmental Science, Honors Environmental Science

Date: 09-03-2026

Student Level: Academic and Honors

Grade Level: Grade 9

Characterization of Course of Study:

Environmental Science introduces students to the complex and interconnected systems that shape our planet. Students begin by exploring the geosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere, gaining a foundational understanding of Earth's systems and how they interact. The course then examines the importance of sustaining these systems, emphasizing natural resources, human impact, and conservation strategies. Students investigate relationships between organisms and their environments, focusing on energy flow, biodiversity, population dynamics, and environmental literacy. Throughout the course, students engage in hands-on investigations and real-world problem solving, developing critical thinking skills, and a deeper understanding of Earth's systems and their environment.

Reasons for Proposed Adoption:

With the full implementation of Pennsylvania's new STEELS standards, it was essential to adopt updated science resources that aligned with the newly revised Earth Science and Environmental Literacy and Sustainability standard. After a thorough review of multiple resources, the Environmental Science team recommended using a combination of the National Geographic Environmental Science and Biozone Earth and Space Science resources to support learning in the Environmental Science course. This combination provides a cohesive and engaging learning experience, offers strong support for diverse learners, and best meets the instructional needs of Central Bucks teachers and students. This course document aligns instruction to the new resources that will be used to teach these standards starting in the 2026 – 2027 school year.

Principal Approval Date: _____

Curriculum Committee Approval Date: _____

School Board Approval Date: _____