



Bristol Public Schools
Office of Teaching & Learning

Department	Science
Department Philosophy	Bristol Public Schools science programming provides students with knowledge of the science and engineering practices, crosscutting concepts, and the core ideas of science and engineering to engage in public discussions on science related issues, to be critical consumers of scientific information related to their everyday lives, and continue to learn science throughout their lives. To ensure this level of scientific literacy, Bristol Public Schools anchor science units in phenomena, this practice promotes student ownership of learning and supports student application of the science content as it pertains to the real world. In each science unit, students work to explain phenomena through the applications of the three dimensions of the Next Generation Science Standards: (1) science and engineering practices, (2) disciplinary core ideas, and (3) cross cutting concepts. Bristol's use of phenom-based units and the three dimensions ensure that students connect with and build a deep conceptual understanding of science concepts. Throughout the kindergarten through grade 12 experience, this philosophy provides all Bristol students with the skills and concepts to be scientifically literate adults.
Course	AP Environmental Science
Course Description for Program of Studies	The AP Environmental Science course is designed to engage students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships within the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography. The AP Environmental Science course is designed to be the equivalent of a one-semester, introductory college course in environmental science. Students have the opportunity to spend a minimum of 25% of instructional time engaged in hands-on, inquiry-based laboratory and/or fieldwork investigations.
Grade Level	11, 12
Pre-requisites	"93" or above in Academic Algebra 1, or "83" or above in Accelerated Algebra 1; "93" or above in Acad. Biology or "83" or above in Accel. Biology. Must have taken Chemistry or taken concurrently.
Credit (if applicable)	1.0

