

Science Class Options BWHS

9th Grade Science Class Selection

Standard versus Advance Diplomas

☉ Three options available for 9th grade students:

- Earth Science Academic
- Research Earth Science
- Research Biology

☉ Let's break it down

Earth Science Academic	Research Earth Science	Research Biology
Any academic level student	Average to bright science students with a growing interest in the sciences.	VERY advanced/science-minded students
Involves math, but is less math-intensive than Research.	Focuses on data driven research questions that are embedded with Earth Science concepts and students are introduced to the basic understanding of descriptive and inferential statistics.	Focuses on data driven research questions that are embedded with biological concepts. Students entering the class are expected to have a basic understanding of descriptive and inferential statistics taught during research earth science.
Students who are looking to pursue a standard or advanced diploma	Students who are looking to pursue a standard or advanced diploma and would like to consider an AP science course.	Students who are pursuing an advanced diploma and are looking to take at least one or more AP science courses.
Suggested criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any student NOT wishing to take a Research-Honors Science course ▪ Student that does not have a strong interest in science. 	Suggested criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will be enrolled in Geometry ▪ All A/B Math grades ▪ All A/B Science grades ▪ Above 450 on Math and Science SOL's 	Suggested criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will be enrolled in Algebra 2 or Algebra 2/Trig ▪ Grades A Math and Science ▪ Above 500 on Math and Science SOL's ▪ Strong desire to do research reports and analysis ▪ Strong grasp of data analysis

- ☉ A *small* number of 9th grade students elect to take Research Biology-Honors instead of Earth Science Honors.
- ☉ For graduation, Science courses must include 3 different disciplines.
- ☉ Colleges and universities like to see Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- ☉ AP options in high school include: Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Environmental Science.
- ☉ A prerequisite for taking AP Environmental Science is successfully completing Earth Science.
- ☉ Keep in mind, if you get overwhelmed in Research Earth-Honors Science a schedule change to Academic Earth Science is possible pending administration approval and space availability. However, if you get overwhelmed in Honors Biology, you can NOT drop to Academic Biology as this course is not open to 9th grade students.