

AP Biology Syllabus

Course Prerequisites: Successful completion of high school Biology and Chemistry

Course description: The AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester college introductory biology course usually taken by science majors in their first year. This course includes the same topics covered in the textbook, the range and depth of topics covered, the type of laboratory work done by students, and the time effort required of students. Rather than learning from a micro level outward, students learn from a macro level inward. Students are also expected to learn not by memorization of facts, but through content and concept application via the AP Biology science practices. Inquiry laboratory experiences are a substantial component of this course requiring students to apply their content knowledge to novel scientific questions.

General Information:

Term and year: Term 1 and 2, Year 2016-2017

Instructor: Mrs. Sara Fugina

Telephone number and extension: 395-5090 x506128

E-mail address: sara-martin@scusd.edu

Textbook:

Pearson, Campbell and Reece, Biology, AP ed. 8th

Materials:

You will need a three ring binder that will hold all of your notes and daily assignments. You are to keep all handouts and worksheets in this binder unless asked to do otherwise. You will also need to have a college-ruled notebook for all your lab write-ups. I expect you to bring collegiate lined paper, a pencil, and a blue or black pen everyday. It is your responsibility to look after your work. Binder/lab notebook check will be enforced frequently.

Classroom and Behavior Expectations:

1. Follow all district and school rules according to the Student Code of Conduct.
2. Sit in your assigned seat and have ALL needed class materials ready when the bell rings.
3. Follow all directions from the teacher immediately, the first time they are given.
4. Follow all Lab Safety Rules.
5. Show respect to EVERYONE in the classroom at ALL TIMES. No profanity or inappropriate language.

Grading Policy:

In this class, you have total control over how well you do in this course. Students will be graded based on an understanding and application of the stated biology standards. It's definitely possible for everyone in this class to get an A. If you put in the best effort and turn in the high quality work needed to get an A, then you will get an A. Grades will be as close to the college board grading system as possible to mimic college course requirements and rigor.

A	89 – 100%
B	79 – 88.9%
C	69 – 78.9%
D	59 – 68.9%
F	0 – 58.9%

You will need to pass this class in order to graduate. It is my duty as your teacher to assist you in this learning journey.

Grade Percentage Breakdown:

Reading Guides: 10% of total grade

Homework Assignments: 10% of total grade

Lab Write-Ups/ Collaborative Assignments: 10% of total grade

Binder/ Notebook Check: 10% of total grade

Unit Exams and Weekly Quizzes: 50% of total grade

End of the semester group presentation: 10% of total grade

Late work policy:

All assigned work must to be turned in on time with no exception. This policy is put in place to help you learn to appreciate deadlines and not to discourage you from learning. As an adult, you will be responsible for meeting many deadlines (mortgage payment, tax filing, etc) and failure to submit such important documents on time will put you in serious financial and legal troubles. A system that I found very helpful for me to organize everything is putting all deadlines down onto your personal calendar. I often check due dates at least 2 weeks ahead of time to have refresh my mind on important works. Desktop/laptop calendar can be an extremely helpful organizational tool.

Make ups/Homework:

Homework will be available on the classroom website for students to access at all times. I will not be reminding students to get their make up work! Students should expect to have some homework daily, whether it be reading, working on practice worksheets, working on a project, studying for AP level unit quizzes and exams or writing lab analyses. Students will have as many days as they were absent to get their work back to me, or it becomes late. This will only apply for excused absence.

Attendance:

When the bell rings, I expect everyone in his or her assigned seat working on the Warm Ups. Tardiness is not acceptable. If you are late to and/or miss a class, it will be your responsibility to come to check the classroom website or attend my Office Hours and complete all your missed assignments. You are responsible for tracking down what assignment you are missing and turn in your make-up work at the end of the day. For an excused absence, I won't deduct points from your make-up work. However, for any unexcused absence or tardy, points will be deducted according to the late work policy stated above.

Tardy Policy:

Since we will work bell to bell. I do expect students to be in their seats with all the materials by the time the tardy bell rings. Running through the door as it rings will result in a tardy! There will be a daily warm up which you will not get credit for if you are tardy. 5 tardies will result in a one hour detention, which will be served after school or over two lunch periods. Continued tardies will result in a referral.

Mrs. Fugina reserves all rights to change her policies and requirements based on necessary circumstantial needs.

I have read the syllabus and understand all the requirements.

Student name:

Student signature:

Guardian name:

Guardian signature: