AP Biology

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Conference Period: 9:05am-9:50am
Tutoring Opportunities: M/W: 4:25pm-4:55pm | T/TH: 8:20am – 9:00am
Class Materials:

Textbook

- Reece, Jane, et al., Campbell Biology, 6th Edition, 2002, Pearson Benjamin Cummings. Raven, Johnson, et al., Biology 10th edition, 2013, McGraw-Hill.
- Each student has access to the investigations contained in AP Biology Investigative Labs: An Inquiry Based Approach, as well as other laboratory investigations as deemed necessary.
    - Online Textbook: www.PearsonMyLabandMastering.com

College Board Website
Canvas
Used Daily in class:

- Laptop
- AP Biology Digital Notebook

Students enrolled in a high school level math course (including middle school algebra), Chemistry or Physics will be using a Texas Instruments TI 84 PLUS or a TI 84 PLUS CE graphing calculator. This calculator can be found online and in many stores that sell school supplies. The calculator can be used throughout all high school courses a child attends during their enrollment. If you have any specific questions or concerns, please contact mbailey02@ems-isd.net. ***You do NOT need a calculator for this course!***

I **strongly** encourage students to purchase an AP Biology study guide from a local bookstore or online through Amazon. This will assist students in the review process and prepare for the exam.

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our Single Sign-on Portal (SSO). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

Course Description:
The AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester college introductory biology course usually taken by biology majors during their first year. After showing themselves to be qualified on the AP Exam, some students, in their first year of college, are permitted to take upper-level courses in biology or register for courses for which biology is a prerequisite. Other students may have fulfilled a basic requirement for a laboratory-science course and will be able to undertake other courses to pursue their majors.

AP Biology should include those topics regularly covered in a college biology course for majors. The college course in biology differs significantly from the usual first high school course in biology with respect to the kind of textbook used, the range and depth of topics covered, the type of laboratory work done by students, and the time and effort required of students. The textbooks used for AP Biology should be those used by college biology majors. The kinds of labs done by AP students must be the equivalent of those done by college students.

The AP Biology course is designed to be taken by students after the successful completion of a first course in high school biology and one in high school chemistry as well. It aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology.

Course Goals:
Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:
Understand the foundation of the course and allow students to create meaningful connections among course concepts listed as big ideas below.
Big Idea 1: Evolution (EVO) | Big Idea 2: Energetics (ENE) | Big Idea 3: Information Storage and Transmission (IST) | Big Idea 4: System Interactions (SYI)

Student Evaluation:
The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged: Advanced courses 70% Major 30% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, six weeks assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- Semester exams will count 1/7 of the semester grade
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student's conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), "The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.
- Official grades will be in Skyward only and can be accessed by student and parent through Family Access.

Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:
We encourage you to talk to your child about what they are learning in class. Here are some resources to assist you and your child throughout Biology this year:
https://www.khanacademy.org/ | https://quizlet.com/ | https://www.studyblue.com/ | http://www.ck12.org/biology/ | www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com/northamerica/masteringbiology/

Students will also be expected to read assigned textbook selections, watch assigned videos, check Canvas for assignments, keep an updated notebook and study at least 20-30 min a day in order to prepare for quizzes and tests.

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:
ABSENCES/ATTENDANCE
Regular school attendance is essential for a student to make the most of his or her education–to benefit from teacher-led and school activities, to build each day's learning on the previous day's, and to grow as an individual. Absences from class may result in serious disruption of a student's mastery of the instructional materials; therefore, the student and parent should make every effort to avoid unnecessary absences. Two state laws–one dealing with the required presence of school-aged children in school, e.g., compulsory attendance, the other with how a student's attendance affects the award of a student's final grade or course credit–are of special interest to students and parents.

MAKEUP WORK
Makeup Work Because of Absence (All Grade Levels) For any class missed, the teacher may assign the student makeup work based on the instructional objectives for the subject or course and the needs of the individual student in mastering the essential knowledge and skills or in meeting subject or course requirements. A student will be responsible for obtaining and completing the makeup work in a satisfactory manner and within the time specified by

the teacher. A student who does not make up assigned work within the time allotted by the teacher will receive a grade of zero for the assignment. Students shall have time equal to days absent from class plus one day to complete all missed assignments. A student is encouraged to speak with his or her teacher if the student knows of an absence ahead of time, including absences for extracurricular activities, so that the teacher and student may plan any work that can be completed before or shortly after the absence. Please remember the importance of student attendance at school and that, even though absences may be excused or unexcused, all absences account for the 90 percent threshold in regard to the state laws surrounding "attendance for credit or final grade." [See Attendance for Credit or Final Grade.] A student involved in an extracurricular activity must notify his or her teachers ahead of time about any absences. A student will be permitted to make up tests and to turn in projects due in any class missed because of absence. Teachers may assign a late penalty to any long-term project in accordance with timelines approved by the principal and previously communicated to students.

Classroom Expectations:

* Be prompt to class and in your seat when the bell rings.
* Be prepared with required daily materials.
* Follow Lab Safety Protocols.
* Respect yourself, others, and Boswell High School facilities.
* Exhibit academic integrity.
* Use electronic devices at appropriate times (lunch and passing, or per teacher direction only).
* Follow all expectations stated in the student handbook.
* Absolutely NO food or drink allowed in the science classroom.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

1st 6 weeks
- Unit 1: Chemistry of life | Chapters 3-5
- Unit 2: Cell Structure and Function | Chapters 6-7, 27 (Begin)

2nd 6 weeks
- Unit 2: Cell Structure and Function | Chapters 6-7, 27
- Unit 3: Cell Energetics and Enzymes | Chapters 8-10
- Unit 4: Cell Communication | Chapters 11-12 (Begin)

3rd 6 weeks
- Unit 4: Cell Communication | Chapters 11-12
- Unit 5: Heredity | Chapter 13-15
- Unit 6: Gene Expression and Regulation | Chapter 16-20 (Begin)

4th 6 weeks
- Unit 6: Gene Expression and Regulation | Chapter 16-20
- Unit 7: Natural Selection | Chapter 22-27 (Begin)

5th 6 weeks
- Unit 7: Natural Selection | Chapter 22-27
- Unit 8: Ecology | Chapter 51-56

6th 6 weeks
- AP Exam Preparations
- End of Year Projects

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.