



Biology

Mrs. Ditto
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Conference Period: 4th period

Tutoring Opportunities: 8:40 to 9:00 am Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment, during lunch period by appointment

Class Materials:

- “Biology” by: Stephen Nowicki (available through your SSO Portal)
- Composition notebook
- pens/pencils
- college ruled paper
- highlighter/colored pencils
- glue sticks
- scissors
- Canvas, student email

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:

In Biology, students conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using **critical thinking** and scientific **problem solving**. Students in Biology study a variety of topics that include: **structures** and **functions** of cells and viruses; growth and development of organisms; **cells, tissues, and organs**; nucleic acids and **genetics**; biological **evolution**; taxonomy; metabolism and **energy** transfers in living organisms; living systems; **homeostasis**; and **ecosystems** and the environment.

Course Goals:

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

Explore the principles of cell biology, genetics, taxonomy, evolutionary change and ecology. We will develop critical thinking skills by examining real world problems during laboratory investigations on a regular basis in which students will be expected to design and carry out experiments using appropriate methods and resources.

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% 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 only 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://my.hrw.com/>

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 15-20 min a day in order to prepare for quizzes and tests.

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:

Please refer to the district attendance and grading policies for information.

During Remote Learning: In order to be counted present in class for the day, you will need to **log-in to Canvas and submit your daily assignment**. Logging in to Canvas only does not count as being considered present for the day.

For in-class instruction the district attendance policy will be followed. Students are considered tardy if they are not in class when the bell rings.

For late work the following is from the district grading and reporting policy:

An assignment may be turned in under the following guidelines:

1 school day late – maximum score is 85

- ❖ A 100 would record as an 85 (100 x .85)
- ❖ An 80 would record as a 68 (80 x .85)

2 school days late – maximum score is 70

- ❖ A 100 would record as a 70 (100 x .70)
- ❖ An 80 would record as a 56 (80 x .70)

3 school days late – maximum score of 60

- ❖ A 100 would record as an 60 (100 x .60)
- ❖ An 80 would record as a 48 (80 x .60)

No late work will be accepted after 3 school business days and a zero is recorded in the grade book.

Classroom Expectations:

We believe in the growth mindset in this classroom and are striving to have a culture of students that work together in a positive way and encourage each other to learn through mistakes. Students are expected to come to class on time and ready to learn. Students are required to have the necessary materials to complete their assignments. Cell phones are required to be off and put away in their backpacks.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

- * Ecological Systems
- * Evolution
- * Cellular Systems
- * Genetics

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.