

Your ADVANCED BIOLOGY Syllabus

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Welcome to Biology! I am excited to explore the many areas of this fascinating subject with you.. Below are course details you should review with your parent or guardian to ensure you know what is needed to be successful in this class. See or email me with any questions or concerns.

Course Description: Biology is the study of life. Our study of life will be structured using the Oregon State Standards. We will explore how organisms are connected to each other and their environment, how living things grow, reproduce, and pass on genetic information, and how life on earth changes over time. We will explore these topics through reading, collaborative investigations, labs, inquiry projects, and individual work. Review the Course Map to find when we will be exploring the major topics covered in this class.

Career Related Learning Standards: Each unit students will be given opportunities to demonstrate a strong work ethic and ability to work in teams effectively and communicate clearly. Students will receive feedback after these opportunities. See grading for more details on how to track your progress.

Use of Technology: Technology will be used extensively throughout the class and at home. IF STUDENTS DO NOT HAVE RELIABLE INTERNET ACCESS AT HOME, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. WITH NOTICE THERE ARE COMPUTERS WITH INTERNET AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY AND THE CLASSROOM. Students will use computers and Vernier probeware in class to complete labs and research, watch video lectures at home, and submit all major assignments electronically using their TTSD GoogleDocs account. Students must save their work as instructed in class, with appropriate titles, to receive credit. Students with limited computer access can use computers in the classroom or the library before or afterschool.

Our Routine: Each day will begin with our objectives and a warm-up. An updated schedule with links to our assignments will be available on our class website. Each unit will span 3-5 weeks and begin with a review of the unit standards. Our class will then work towards becoming proficient in those standards through a variety of learning opportunities such as laboratory investigations, small group discussions, presentations, creative projects, research, and film.

Homework and Daily Assignments: To meet the needs of all learners, including TAG students, lessons are differentiated by readiness, ability, and/or interest. Most notes, homework, and daily practice will be available through the class website. Completing all assignments is integral to becoming proficient in the biology and career related standards. IF STUDENTS DO NOT HAVE RELIABLE INTERNET ACCESS AT HOME, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. WITH NOTICE THERE ARE COMPUTERS WITH INTERNET AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY AND THE CLASSROOM.

Assessments (tests): Each unit will conclude with an assessment developed to test student's comprehension of the content standards. Assessments will often be a unit test with a variety of question types, but could also include demonstrating a lab skill or a research project. Students should aim for exceeding proficiency on the standards. If students do not meet proficiency they will be given additional opportunities to retest. Before students can retest they must complete test corrections or a review guide to demonstrate they are prepared.

Grading: STUDENTS MUST MEET PROFICIENCY ON ALL STANDARDS IN ORDER TO PASS EACH SEMESTER. Grades in this class are based on the goal that all students become proficient in the Oregon Biology Standards and Career Related Standards. (These standards can be found on the Biology Course Organizer or as links at the top of each unit.)

How semester grades are determined:

To earn an A	To earn a B	To earn a C
Meet proficiency for all content standards and exceed proficiency on at least 2/3 of standards	Meet proficiency for all content standards and exceed proficiency on at least 1/2 of standards	Meet proficiency for all content standards

* Grades are determined at the end of each semester, using the entire body of student work. This is a general framework, and can be also effected by many poor career related standards or improvement towards the end of a quarter. Averages and percentages will not be used, and should be disregarded on eSIS. Instead, eSIS will be used to post grades. To monitor

assignments and snapshots of your grade we will use Active Grade (see link on website). At the beginning of the semester students will set-up login information that they can share with parents. Zero's indicate the student did not complete work for that standard.

Getting Help: SIGN-UP ON THE CLASS CALENDAR TO MAKE SURE I'LL BE HERE (located in the classroom). I'm available before or after school on most days. If you need help with any part of class, including organization, reading strategies, staying focused in class, or applying the ideas, please ask.

Expectations: I will work my hardest to keep biology engaging and make our classroom a place where rigorous, enthusiastic, curious, and inquiring learning can occur. Everyone in class, including me, should follow our school's three simple rules: Be Responsible, Be Respectful, and Be Safe. We will spend time in class describing and demonstrating what this looks like and recording our ideas on our community agreement. You can also reference your student handbook.

Students will only use computers for class related activities. Any violation of this trust will result in not meeting communication, teamwork, and work ethic standards for the unit. Repeated offences may result in different activities to meet the standards.

Responsible	Respectful	Safe
<i>Monitor your learning and get help if you fall behind.</i>	<i>Show up on time and ready to go.</i>	<i>Tell the teacher if you or others have an accident.</i>

Honesty: Students are expected to do their own work, AND cite their source when adapting or using other's ideas, images, sentences, or work. No credit will be given for work that is someone else's. No credit will be given if students provide work to be copied.

Food & Gadgets: I love texting and eating as much as most people, and I put both away during class time – you should too.

Attendance & Tardiness: Being responsible and respectful includes coming to class everyday, prepared to learn in the best way you can. In the event you must be absent it is your added responsibility to collect assignments and make-up learning. Use the class website to get missing notes and assignments. I will follow the school's tardy policy. Not all labs will be available after class at the teacher's discretion and make-up labs must be completed within a week – EVEN FOR STUDENTS MISSING CLASS FOR SCHOOL RELATED ACTIVITIES.

ATTENDANCE IS CRITICAL FOR SUCCESS IN A LAB SCIENCE.

Late Work: Late work will only be graded for feedback if possible. If you need more time on an assignment or have extenuating circumstances, please see me before the due date and we will work out a solution. MOST LATE WORK WILL RESULT IN A 1 FOR WORK ETHIC.

***Signatures: PRINT YOUR NAME & SIGN** here to acknowledge you have read the syllabus.

(Student) _____

(Parent - Guardian) _____