

NUSTEP Biology 102
Course Description

Mr. K. Kwas

Textbook: *Biology* by Brooker, Widmaier, Graham, and Stiling

Description: This course will coincide with Bio 102 at Niagara University. NUSTEP Bio is intended to familiarize students with the principles of college level Biology. The scientific method, evolution, cells and metabolism, macromolecules, and genetics are the main topics covered. Students will be expected to read and comprehend science textbook passages and use the information to solve problem sets. Students will also perform mathematical calculations necessary to interpret data and solve experimental problems. An overall passing grade (C or better) will receive 3 semester hours of college credit from Niagara University provided the student has enrolled and paid the tuition fee. A student can take this course without enrolling in the NUSTEP program.

Tests and Quizzes: At the completion of each unit, a test will be given in order to evaluate the progress and understanding of each student. If you know that you will be missing a test prior to the test date, please let me know so that other arrangements can be made. In the event that you miss a scheduled test, you must be prepared to take a makeup exam on the first day you return from your absence. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE!

Quizzes will be given at some point during each unit. Usually, these quizzes will be announced. However, I reserve the right to give unannounced quizzes ("pop quizzes") and will do so at different times throughout the semester. In most cases, this will be done to monitor student completion of scheduled homework.

Homework: Assignments will be given to accompany the material presented in class. All homework must be completed and prepared for discussion prior to class time. Students will be asked to share answers at the beginning of class and nightly homework may be collected at any time during the semester.

Problem sets: Each will consist of two to three questions based on data from an experiment or observations of a biological phenomenon. Students are required to use simple calculations and reasoning to arrive at an appropriate answer. Late problem sets are accepted but result in a grade reduction of 10% per day.

Laboratory: Lab reports are intended as an introduction to data analysis and scientific writing. Students will hand in data sheets for each laboratory and in addition, write two reports. Each is three to five pages long and grading will be based on the student's demonstration of an understanding of the concepts demonstrated in the laboratory exercise. Late reports are accepted but result in a grade reduction of 10% per day.

Grading: The overall breakdown for your grade is as follows:

Tests: 50%

Problem sets: 20%

Lab reports: 10%

Quizzes: 10%

Homework: 10%

Absences: According to school policy, each student is allowed only ten (10) absences for a full semester course. Students surpassing this number will fail the course regardless of academic standing. Labs must be made up either during advisement or after school.

Academic Integrity: Any student who is caught cheating will be removed from the assessment situation and will receive a grade of zero for the assessment. A meeting will be held between the student, an administrator, a parent and myself to determine the proper course of action.

Teacher Availability: I will be available for extra help during advisement period and after school every day.

Expectations:

1. Each student will do his or her best to succeed.
2. RESPECT – the teacher, fellow classmates, and school property.
3. Be to class on time and prepared.
4. No food allowed in lab due to various chemicals and dissections.
5. All students must carry their agendas with them and present them when asking permission to leave for any reason.
6. See me if you have a problem with topic, person, or policy so that we can maintain a positive learning environment.

Special Needs: Any student having a hidden disability or special need should see me at the beginning of the first class. All efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of the student.

_____ (Please sign and return the bottom portion) _____

NUSTEP Biology 102

Mr. Kwas

I have read and understand these expectations.

_____	_____	_____
Student Signature	email address	Date

_____	_____	_____
Parent/ Guardian Signature	email address	Date

Phone Number