



Biology

2025-2026



Teacher's name:
Mrs. Chichester

Room number:
1104

E-mail:
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Extra Help:
Available after school or by student appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Welcome to Regents Biology! This inquiry-based science course explores the natural world around us. We will discover how living things grow, function, change, and respond. We will also examine the interconnectedness among living things to each other and their environments. The beauty and variety of life make every day a new adventure. The goal is that by the end students will be able to make informed and ethical decisions regarding the living world around them.

“Biology is truly a land of unlimited possibilities”- Sigmund Freud

Laboratory Requirement

Students must successfully complete **1,200 minutes of lab** experience and the 3 required New York State labs in order to be eligible to take the NYS Biology Regents Exam. No late labs will be given full credit.

**The Regents exam for this class is mandatory for student graduation.*

CONTENT AND SCHEDULE

Quarter 1:

- Cellular Respiration
- Homeostasis and Human Body
- Evolution

Quarter 2:

- Protein Synthesis
- Genetics

Quarter 3:

- Human Reproduction
- Cell division

Quarter 4:

- Photosynthesis
- Ecology
- Regents Preparation

EXPECTATIONS

1. **RESPECT.** Respect fellow classmates, teachers, school property and rules, as well as yourself is expected on a daily basis.

Starting Class

2. Arrive to class **ON TIME AND PREPARED** to begin everyday. Enter the room quietly and respectfully. Turn in any assignments due that day before finding your seat. Get out all materials needed before the bell rings. There will be a warm-up to start each class and without being told, you should begin this work.

After the bell rings, students will be quiet and **READY TO LEARN**. Cell phones and earbuds are prohibited.

Tardiness

3. Do not interrupt instruction for your peers if you come to class late. Enter the class quietly and respectfully. Turn in your pass on my computer desk. Quietly get out materials and begin working. I will be over when I can to further explain. As per school policy, 3 tardy entrances results in a write-up.

Homework

4. **HOMEWORK** is due at the beginning of class. Do not work on a late assignment during class time, Ten percent is deducted of the assignment for each day it is late.
All paper homework and assignments will be turned in using the black bin.

Absences

5. If a student is absent, it is the student's **RESPONSIBILITY** to communicate. Please see me *before or after* class to get the missing work but never during class time. You may also send a message on Teams to get the missing assignments. You have the number of days you were absent to complete the missing work before late penalties apply.
When you have completed the work, send a message on Teams or turn in the paper.

Instruction Time

6. During instruction time it is expected that you demonstrate respectful body language and eye contact. The room is quiet and students raise their hands to speak. Do not blurt out comments or disrupt class.
7. Bathroom visits should take place after this time if possible. Please sign out completely when leaving the room.
8. When working with partners or groups be respectful of others ideas and keep comments positive. *Never complain* about who you will be working with. I expect that students do not talk negatively about others. If there is a problem, please speak to me privately and quietly. Although you may work with peers, students will do their **OWN** work.

Labs

9. **ALL** lab rules and directions must be followed. Failure to comply may result in the student sitting out of the lab and taking a zero or lowered grade on the assignment. Some of the expectations for lab are listed below:
 - **No** horseplay during lab
 - Follow the lab directions carefully

- Report **any** accidents to the teacher immediately
- Do not open any drawers without permission
- **Wear** safety goggles and apron when instructed
- No eating, drinking, or chewing gum past the caution tape
- Handle glassware with care
- Be **extremely** careful around hot items such as burners or hot plates
- When using materials in the lab, return them exactly as you had found them
- Clean-up all materials and station before leaving

Dismissing Class

10. Wait to pack up until instruction is over and teacher has given you the okay. Check area for belongings and neatness. Remain in your seat until the bell rings. There is no waiting by the door.

MATERIALS

A charged iPad, charger, and writing utensil

- Not bringing a charged device will result in a lowered unit participation grade
- Under no circumstances should you be on a website/App other than the ones for class

A Logitech stylus will be provided to write on the iPad for class time

- It is your responsibility to take care of the item and report any damages. Any damage can result in the loss of the utensil for the remainder of the year and you may be liable for charges.

GRADING PROCEDURES

Unit Tests.....35%

Labs and Projects.....30%

Quizzes.....20%

Homework/Classwork.....15%

There is a participation grade attached to activities and labs based on student's participation, following safety expectations, and clean up protocol.

To the Parents/Guardians

It is a privilege to teach your student this year!

Please send me a message in the new ParentSquare app to let me know that you have read the syllabus. (Click on Messages, click New Message, and type my last name to send me a direct message.)

Your message will also allow us to open a line of communication to get ahold of each other easily throughout the school year. Thank you!