

Biology Syllabus 2026-2027

Ms. Domke

Contact Information

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Conference period: 1st hour

Room: 238

Course Overview

Prerequisite: C or higher in Science 8

Biology is the study of all living things, their structure, function, and environment. This includes all life's processes, from the individual cell to the most complex organism, whether it is plant or animal. Assignments range from basic text to projects. There will be weekly quizzes or chapter tests that include short answers, multiple choice, diagram construction, and essays. Instruction is by lecture from whiteboard notes, Google Classroom, student-centered activities, and interactive online book activities.

Course Objectives

This is a preparatory course for entrance to Chemistry, Environmental Science, Anatomy & Physiology, Honors Chemistry, and AP Biology.

Required Materials

- Pencil
- A 1.5-2 inch binder
- Notebook or loose leaf paper
- A charged Chromebook

Grading Scale

A (94-100%) A- (90-93)

B+ (87-89) B (84-86) B- (80-83)

C+ (77-79) C (74-76) C- (70-73)

D+ (67-69) D (64-66) D- (60-63)

E (0-59)

Test and Homework Expectations

Any student caught cheating will receive a **zero** on the assignment, parent/guardian will be contacted, and the student will get a referral to the office. Examples of cheating: AI usage, unauthorized collaboration, unauthorized cheat sheets/notes, plagiarism, etc.

Late Work

If you are absent, you get the same amount of work time per assignment that everyone else got to complete the work upon your return. 10% is taken off your grade for every day late, a maximum of 50% can be taken off. **Once a unit test has been taken, no late work will be accepted for a grade.** All work must be completed a **week before** the end of the quarter to be considered for acceptance.

Extra Credit

Not to be expected but there will be opportunities for extra credit periodically. If you have **missing work**, you can **NOT** ask for extra credit.

Online Platforms

It is your responsibility as a student to check your school email and any online platforms associated with the class weekly!

Google Classroom: I will be using Google Classroom to post the agenda weekly. I will upload notes, videos, assignments, etc. for those who are absent or for you to review.

MiStar: All attendance and grades will be entered into MiStar. It is your responsibility to occasionally check your grades. This is how you can check to make sure you have no missing assignments. Missing assignments may be found in your binder, unless you lost it, you will need to ask for a copy. It is your responsibility to gather and complete any missing work.

Parent Square: Parent Square will be used for communication with students and parents. Make sure you have your account set up so we can communicate effectively.

Use of Technology

No phones, smartwatches, or earbuds are to be used from **8am-3pm**. No exceptions! Refer to SHAS phone policy for more details. Chromebooks will occasionally be used for educational purposes and **only** when given instruction/permission by the teacher.

Classroom Expectations

- Students are expected to **be present** and active members of the classroom daily.
- Students are expected to come to class **prepared** with all necessary materials and completed assignments to learn and participate in all classroom activities.
- Students are expected to **be respectful** of the teacher, the classroom, and their peers.

Follow 4 B's and refer to the student handbook for school expectations.

Classroom Rules and Procedures

1. Respect others and their property
2. Be on time
3. Follow the directions the first time they are given
4. Raise your hand before speaking
5. Keep your hands, feet, and other objects to yourself
6. Use class time appropriately
7. Use school appropriate language and behaviors
8. Keep your area clean, pick up after yourself
9. Remain in your assigned seat
10. You can NOT leave the classroom without signing out on SmartPass
11. Communicate concerns, worries, and even victories with me
12. If you are absent you must gather your own missing notes/work

Tips for Success

Studying and tutoring are often great tools for success. If you want or need extra help and/or tips to succeed please come talk to me and we can schedule a meeting to discuss options.

Lab Safety

Lab Safety will be discussed in class and there will be a required lab safety quiz that must be passed with 80% or higher to be able to participate in labs.

Discipline

Minor Infractions (throwing things, talking out of turn, not being seated, etc..)

1. Verbal warning
2. Call home to parent/guardian
3. Office Referral

Major Infractions (disrespect, fighting, threatening, inappropriate language, etc..)

1. Automatic Office Referral
2. Call home to parent/guardian

Course Outline

Semester 1:

Unit 1: Biology Basics

Unit 2: Cells

Unit 3: Energy Flow

Semester 2:

Unit 4: Genetics

Unit 5: Heredity

Unit 6: Evolution

Unit 7: Ecology

Proof of Acknowledgement

I have read and fully understand the syllabus for Biology. I acknowledge that I will be held to the rules and expectations listed within this syllabus. Please sign, date, and return student and parent/guardian signatures to Ms. Domke by Friday.

Date: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____