

EL Biology

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TEACHER SCHEDULE

Block	Regular	A	B	Extended Advisory
1	8:25-9:55	EL Biology II	Teacher Meetings	8:25-9:45
ADV	10:00-10:20	HS 101		9:50-10:50
2.3	10:25-11:55	Algebra I		10:55-12:15
3	12:30-2:00	PLC	EL Physical Science	12:50-2:10
4	2:05-3:35	PREP	EL Physical Science	2:15-3:35

213J

Location
Varies

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Biology is the study of life. Over the course of a year we will work to gain understanding of the most basic unit of life (a cell), how multiple cells communicate, how cells grow to become organisms and create and use energy, through organisms interacting with both living and nonliving parts of their surroundings as well as how life has changed on earth. This course will take you from the most microscopic interactions to whole population interactions, giving you a rich knowledge of life on Earth.

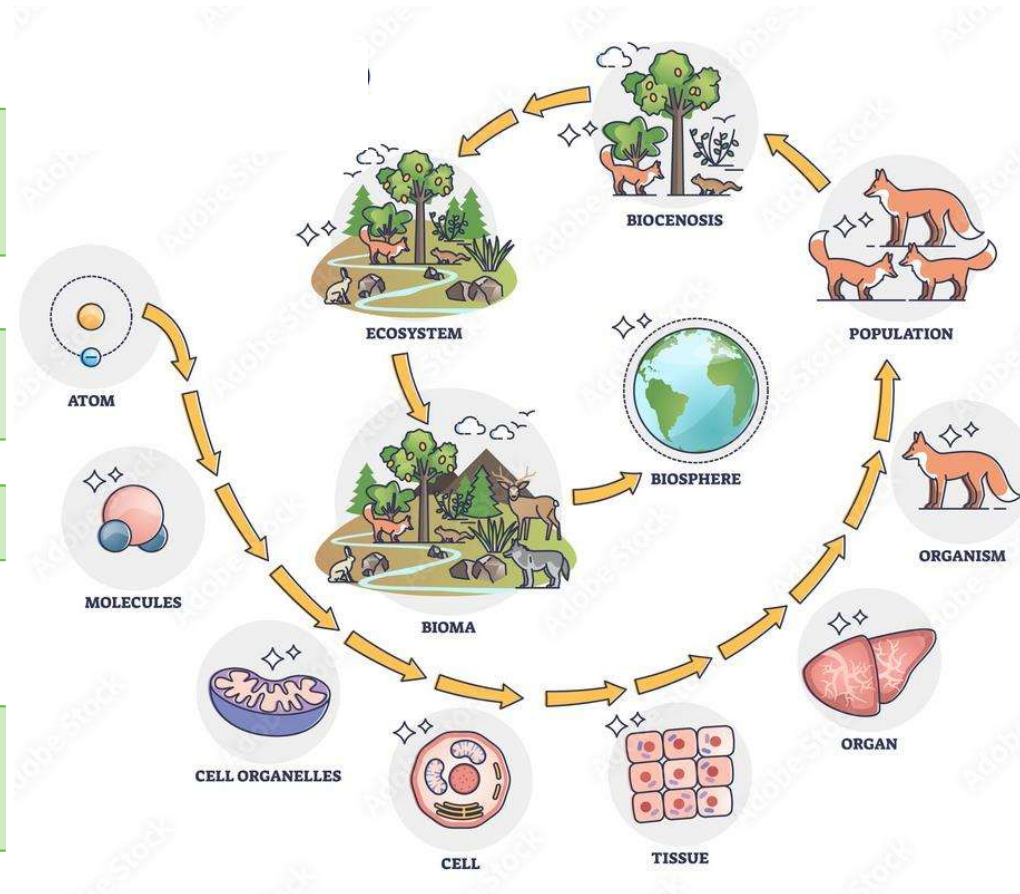
Our very first unit is the scientific method: a central concept in science (and our future learning). To fully grasp biology, it's important to first understand how scientists have made and validated the discoveries you'll explore this year. This knowledge will empower you to make your own predictions, analyze data, and experience science in action. The following table contains an overview of the units in each semester and their main ideas.

Semester 1 Units Objective

1	Scientific Method	Design a controlled experiment, collect, graph, analyze data to form a conclusion
2	Macromolecules & Enzymes	Explain the role of enzymes in chemical reactions of macromolecules and their functions in cells
3	Cells and Cell Transport	Identify basic components of cells and model how information and molecules are transferred and identified within a cell
4	DNA to Proteins	Explain how, where, and why DNA codes for protein
5	Homeostasis	Use knowledge from previous units to explain how homeostasis in a living organism

Semester 2 Units

1	Mitosis & Meiosis	Describe how somatic and gamete cells grow and reproduce
2	Genetics	Use knowledge of types of inheritance to complete Punnett squares and pedigrees to make predictions about offspring
3	Natural Selection and Evolution	Use knowledge of genetics and natural selection to analyze fitness and identify adaptations which drive evolution
4	Cellular Energy	Explain and model the processes that use and create chemical energy within cells (Photosynthesis, Cellular Respiration, Glycolysis, Fermentation)
5	Ecology	Describe how organisms interact with their environment and describe organization from organism to biome



Semester Grades and Graduation Credit

Biology is a yearlong course consisting of two semesters; passing each semester is required for graduation. Receiving an F in either semester will result in you retaking the failed semester the following year. Semester grades will determine if you earn credit for graduation

Weighted Grades and Quarters

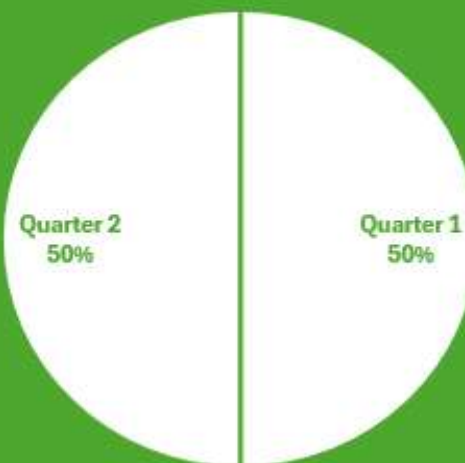
Quarter grades are weighted. 30% of your grade is collected from formative assessments: tools and methods used by educators to evaluate learners' understanding and progress throughout the learning process. They will occur throughout the class in the form of starters, practice, Kahoot!, Quizlet, assignments, etcetera. By utilizing time management, you should bring minimal work outside of class. Formative assessments allow the educator to determine if and when additional practice is needed.

When a learner has provided sufficient evidence that they have mastered the learning target(s) or standard, summative assessments (70%) will be used to obtain a comprehensive understanding of a learner's proficiency over the course of a learning target as well as the entire unit. Summative assessments will be given at the teacher's discretion and only after sufficient evidence of proficiency has been obtained. This allows the educator and learner to obtain the most reliable and valid summative assessment score.

Many different formative and summative assessments will be used in this class and have different weights in the gradebook, see the next table for ways you can expect to demonstrate understanding in this course.

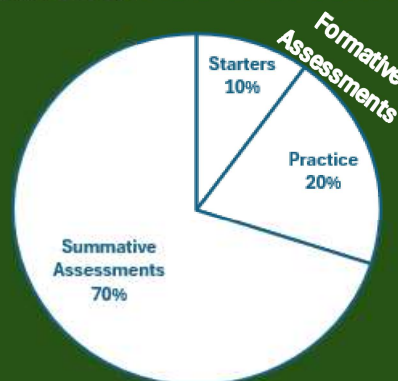
Assignments will be typically be graded within 24 working hours (1 business day) from submission. At a minimum, grades will be updated 1x per week. If you notice errors in your grades, contact your teacher.

SEMESTER GRADE CALCULATION



Letter Grade	Percent Range (%)
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F (Loss of Credit)	<60

QUARTER GRADE CALCULATION



Assessment Category	Descriptor	Time Limits	Access	Content	Available Resources	Purpose	Ability to redo
Formative	Starters	Timed	On/before beginning bell of class.	Material from the most recent lesson, topics from any previous lessons in this school year, or predictions	Previous Notes, Internet, Teacher No help from other learners	Provide educators with data on learners' understanding of the previous lesson to guide next steps	No Retakes
	Kahoot!	Timed	Following lesson In class only	Gamified learning. Used as a predictor to determine if additional practice is needed. Can take the place of some/all daily homework assignments if proficiency has been reached	Previous Notes, Internet, Teacher No help from other learners	Provide a fun alternative to practice which provides instant feedback on learners' understanding of today's lesson	Rarely retakes. Games are specific to each day and played only once.
	Schoology Practice	No time limit	Open after daily lesson	Material from today's (and previous) lessons	Previous Notes, Internet, Teacher Help from other learners only with permission	Offers learners structured, step-by-step approaches to break down assignments into manageable parts and provide immediate feedback.	Retake up to 3 times.
	Total weight= 30% Other summative assessments may be used throughout the semester and fall under the Practice category including, but not limited to Quizlet, flashcards, etcetera.						

Summative	Learning Target Quizzes	Timed (ranging from 10-30 minutes)	Opens in class, password protected	Learning Target(s) consisting of content from multiple lessons	Teacher Only	Allows learners to demonstrate their highest level of skills and knowledge with prompt feedback provided	No retakes
	Unit Assessment	Timed (90 minutes)	Opens in class, password protected	Multiple Learning Targets and or Standards	Teacher Only	Provides a final snapshot of a learner's ability to apply skills and knowledge learned throughout a unit, connecting multiple learning targets together	No retakes
	Lab	Suggested time limit of one block, difficult to make up	Only available after Pre-lab is complete and proficiency of learning targets is reached	Multiple Learning Targets and or Standards	Notes, Internet, collaborating with learners, teacher	Provides opportunity for collaboration, hands on learning, and application of knowledge developing high level thinking	No retakes
	Projects/Modeling	No time limit	Open following learner proficiency of critical learning target(s)	One or more learning target, one standard, or one unit	Notes, Internet, collaborating with learners, teacher	Learners demonstrate English Language Proficiency of scientific words and understanding through hands on learning	No retakes
Total Weight= 70%							