



Welcome to Biology!



I. CONTACT INFORMATION

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II. COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit 0: Becoming a Biologist

Unit 4A: Cell Structure and Function

Unit 6: Patterns of Inheritance

Unit 8: Evolution

Unit 1: Ecology

Unit 4B: Cell Division and Cancer

Unit 7: Genetic Technology and Ethics

Unit 9: Classification

Unit 2: Biochemistry

Unit 5: Molecular Genetics

Focus Week: Bacteria and Viruses

Unit 10: Anatomy and Physiology

Unit 3: Energy Transformations

III. COURSE MATERIALS

- Pearson eText (Miller & Levine)
- Biology Course Pack
- 3-Ring Binder
- Spiral Notebook
- Carbon Copy Lab Notebook
- Pencils and Pens
- Calculator

IV. GRADING

1. Grade Breakdown

Your grade in the course will be composed of:

Summative assessments (60%), Labs (25%), and Homework (15%)

Your current grade in Infinite Campus will be your in-progress semester grade. At the end of the semester, I will round semester grades 0.5 and above.

Homework will mostly consist of readings and worksheets. Assignments that are checked in during class are worth 1 point – all or nothing. Other homework assignments will be collected. For these, late assignments will be accepted (with penalty) until the day of the unit test.

I will periodically give quizzes on the reading assignments, and these will count towards your homework grade. You can use your notes during the quizzes.

2. Late Work

If you are absent from class, you will have X+1 days to submit your missing assignment(s). "X" is the number of days you were absent. *For example: if you miss class on Monday, you will submit your homework from Monday and Tuesday on Wednesday.* This policy does not apply to lab reports. Lab reports must be submitted the day you return to class unless other arrangements have been made.

I will accept late assignments, with penalty. For each day the assignment is submitted late, there will be a 10% deduction (capped at 50% deduction). The last day to turn in an assignment is the day of the unit test that pertains to that material.

V. COURSE EXPECTATIONS

1. During class...

In general, be prompt, prepared, engaged, and safe!

2. During labs...

Follow all safety guidelines outlined in the safety contract. Your safety is the #1 priority!

You are required to maintain a carbon-copy lab notebook that follows the guidelines reviewed in class. There will be a lab notebook quiz at the end of every quarter. You are accountable for every lab covered on each lab notebook quiz. If you miss a lab, you must make it up within two days of your return (schedule an appointment with me).

3. Academic Dishonesty

Your work in this course should accurately reflect your level of understanding. Academic dishonesty on any assignment (homework, labs, tests, etc.) is NOT tolerated and may result in a zero for that assignment. Policies outlined in the student handbook apply to issues of academic dishonesty.

4. Absences and Tardies

Absences: It is your responsibility to see me upon your return to get missing assignments.

Tardies: If you have 3 unauthorized tardies per semester, a behavioral referral will be given and a detention will be served.

5. Getting Help

It's okay if a concept does not "click" for you right away! If you need extra help, you can visit the ARC or arrange an appointment with me. The best way to reach me is through email – I will do my best to respond within 24 hours.

I look forward to a great year!

