

Welcome to Biology!

Mrs. Newman • Office: X127 • Classroom: X208 • 224-632-3277 • mnewman@dist113.org • Website: <https://www.dist113.org/Page/539>

Course Overview

Biology is the study of life! We will investigate the living world around us and determine how living organisms interact with each other and the environment to sustain life. We will ask many questions and formulate hypotheses that can be tested in our very own classrooms. How has the earth changed over time? How have plants and animals adapted to these changes? Why are plants green? What is the heart's function?



Materials and Supplies

- Miller & Levine Pearson eText (DHS Bookstore)
Go to Student Technology Resource page
<https://sites.google.com/a/dist113.org/studenttech/?pli=1>
- Biology Course Pack (DHS Bookstore)
- 3-ring Class Binder with 10 write-on Dividers
- 100 page Carbonless Copy Lab Notebook
- Paper or a notebook for class notes
- #2 Pencils with erasers and blue or black ink pens
- Colored pencils
- Calculator (whatever you use for math class is fine)
- Chromebook with earbuds/headphones

Class Guidelines

Your grade is based on the following categories –**Tests and Quizzes (60%), Labs (30%), and Homework (10%)**. Only semester grades are rounded up 0.5 and above. At the beginning of each quarter, it takes a few weeks to get things going, but after that, grades are updated regularly as assignments and tests are graded (usually every week to two weeks).

Your grade for this class should reflect your achievement and mastery of the learning targets. Student achievement is assessed through summative assessments in the form of tests and quizzes. Therefore, your grade will be comprised mostly of summative assessments that test your mastery of the Biology learning targets. You will be given multiple learning opportunities in the form of homework, in-class work, and labs to help you achieve and meet the targets for each unit. Starting this year, grades will be posted at [LMS.dist113.org \(Schoology\)](https://lms.dist113.org).

Extra help is available in the ARC (Link to ARC <http://www.dist113.org/domain/91>) from science teachers most periods of the day. You may also make an appointment with me at this link <https://goo.gl/abg24V>. In all cases, it is my sincere intention to return all messages within 24 hours.

Homework: Biology homework will consist of readings and worksheets. Late work will be accepted and graded with penalty until the end of the unit. If you are absent, turn in your work the day you return to avoid late penalty.

Labs: You are required to keep a carbonless-copy lab notebook. You will receive a separate sheet on lab notebook guidelines. There will be a lab notebook quiz at the end of every quarter. *If you miss a lab*, it is your responsibility to make it up by making an appointment with me at this link <https://goo.gl/abg24V>. You will be held accountable for all labs on the lab notebook quiz. In general, you must make up the missed lab within two days of your return.

Late work will be accepted with penalty until the end of the unit. To avoid zero grades, turn in completed work because a low grade is better than a zero grade.

Absences: UNA absences result in one teacher-student conversation; assigned detentions for all further UNA.

Tardy Behavior –If you are late 2 times, per semester, I will write a behavior referral and a detention will be assigned by the Deans.

Participation Expectations: Be Prompt, Be Prepared, Stay Engaged, Stay Safe

Digital Citizenship for a Biology Student

I will ...

- **BE PREPARED**- bring a charged Chromebook daily so that you are ready to use it when asked (and appropriate) to do so.
- **BE PRESENT**- use of electronic devices when permitted by the teacher and ONLY for purposes required by this class. It will BENEFIT you to stay on task!
- **BE SAFE**- take precautions and use common sense when online. It is your device and your digital fingerprint!
- **BE HONEST**- keep online communication POSITIVE. Think, "Would I say this directly to this person?"
- **BE MINDFUL**- think before you type. When you post something to the internet it is out there
- **BE RESPECTFUL** – value relationships with your peers; don't use the device to replace valuable face to face conversations. You're not rude so don't let the device to change that!
- **UNPLUG** – 1-2 hours before bedtime to let your brain recharge!!

