Honors Biology
Mrs. Mora
2022-2023

HONORS BIOLOGY
COURSE OVERVIEW AND EXPECTATIONS

Welcome to Biology! This course is designed to give students a hands-on, real-life experience into the world around them. Based on the scientific method, this program is designed to target and improve students' scientific process skills: predicting, inferring, separating and controlling variables, comparing and contrasting, problem solving, using numbers and collecting, recording, organizing and interpreting data.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Come to class prepared.
2. Get your start-up binder and be ready to start as soon as the bell rings.
3. Show respect for yourself, others, and your school at all times.
4. Follow instructions the first time they are given.
5. Cell Phones need to be completely out of sight, or in cell phone jail along the wall.
6. 20/10 rule – students are not allowed to leave class during the first twenty minutes or last ten minutes of class.
7. Remain in your seat until excused to leave. It is considered a sign of disrespect to line up at the door.

TEXTBOOK

- *Biology;* Miller & Levine; Pearson/Prentice Hall, Inc. 2019
- Online textbook resources and eText also frequently utilized

MATERIALS

- You need to have your own pair of headphones that are compatible with Chromebooks. (Chromebooks have a standard 3.5mm headphone jack, as well as Bluetooth capabilities)
- Organization is essential for success in every class. To help stay organized in biology, it is recommended that you purchase a three-ring binder (½ in) that will be designated just for this class. Place 6 dividers inside (we will title the dividers in class). It is recommended that you buy two: use one for first semester and one for second semester. Please keep this binder organized and complete, as it will be your study aid for tests. *This organization method is not for a grade and is not required; but will work well with the way the class is structured.*

ATTENDANCE AND LATE WORK

Regular attendance is essential for success in all classes, but especially a challenging state-required science course with an EOC. **If you are absent, it is your responsibility to ask me for make-up work**. In general, you have two days to complete work after an excused absence. Late assignments or work turned in after an unexcused absence will lose 10% per day. Students and parents should check Focus regularly for the most up-to-date grade information.

GRADING

Quarter grades will be based on the points earned in the following categories:

55% tests (*can't use notes*)
25% quizzes and knowledge checks (*can use notes*)
20% homework and class work

Semester grades follow the county policy of 35% for quarter one, 35% for quarter two, and 30% for the semester exam.

WEEKLY OUTLINES

I post weekly outlines in Canvas and on my staff page on the LBHS website. Please use the outlines to stay informed about homework assignments and upcoming assessments.
This is a MUST DO if you are absent!

SCIENCE FAIR

Honors biology students have the opportunity to participate in science fair. See me as soon as possible if you are interested; we hold Lemon Bay's science fair in November. This school-based fair is used to select entrants into the Edison Regional Science Fair in Fort Myers. The selected projects will be entered into the regional science fair in January, with the possibility to be awarded scholarships, summer research fellowships, and cash prizes.

END OF COURSE (EOC) EXAM

The Florida Department of Education has implemented a Biology EOC to measure student achievement of the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for this biology course. This is a computer-based assessment that will be given to every biology student in the state of Florida. You must pass the EOC to graduate with Scholar Designation on your diploma.

The EOC covers content from the whole year and will count as **30% of your overall grade**.

This means your Semester 1 & 2 grades will not be determined until after the EOC results come back in June/July. You will have a * on your report card until then.

TOPIC OUTLINE (these are the headers for your dividers)

Semester 1

Unit 1: The Nature of Science = scientific method

Unit 2: Biochemistry = basic chemistry, properties of water, macromolecules, enzymes

Unit 3: Cells = cell theory, different cell types, structure and function of organelles and membrane

Unit 4: Cellular Energetics = photosynthesis, cellular respiration, fermentation

Unit 5: Plant Structure and Function = basic anatomy of vascular plants and associated functions

Unit 6: Cellular Reproduction = DNA replication, mitosis, cancer

Semester 2

Unit 7: Human Reproduction = meiosis, karyotypes, reproductive anatomy and pregnancy

Unit 8: Genetics = Punnett squares, different modes of inheritance, pedigrees

Unit 9: Molecular Genetics = protein synthesis, biotechnology

Unit 10: Evolution = natural selection, hominine evolution, origin of life

Unit 11: Classification = taxonomy of living organisms, viruses, bacteria

Unit 12: Human Anatomy = human systems: immune, cardiovascular, parts of the brain

Unit 13: Ecology = population and community ecology, ecosystems, nutrient cycles, human impact

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns.

Email is best: jenee.mora@yourcharlotteschools.net

Or message me over Remind. Use the join code below for your period:

Period 3 – @a6ffde426a

Period 5 – @2dkae6eg8d

Period 6 – @8g6c76kkf8

Period 7 – @2e4cd837b2