

Biology
Fall 2019
G206

Ms. McCoy's Information
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Class website: <http://pgscience.weebly.com>

Course Purpose

Biology is the study of all life on earth. General areas of study in this course include: the basic unit of life, the cell, how living things are alike and different, the importance of all five kingdoms of organisms and how life continues from age to age. The methods used in teaching this course are laboratory experiences, classroom discussions, group work, lectures and field trips. This course has an End-of-Course test requirement – students must score a Level III or above to be deemed proficient.

Course Goals

The curriculum goals for this course are set forth by the NC Essential Standards for Biology and can be located at <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/acre/standards/new-standards/science/biology.pdf>

Course Fee:

This course has a \$5.00 fee.

Supply List

Notebook (for class notes)
Paper
Pens
Pencils (colored pencils suggested but not required)

Pacing Guide

<i>Unit Topic</i>	<i>Length (days)</i>
Ecology	13
Cells	11
Cellular Energy	8
Molecular Genetics	15

Genetics	17
Evolution and Adaptations	15
Semester Review	5

Grading Scale

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	Below 60

Class Grading

Nine weeks grade:

Tests, Projects, Formal Labs	50%
Daily Work (quizzes, lab work)	30%
Minor assessments (classwork, homework)	20%

Semester grade:

$$(1^{\text{st}} \text{ nine weeks} \times .375) + (2^{\text{nd}} \text{ nine weeks} \times .375) + (\text{EOC grade} \times .25) = \text{Course average}$$

Tests

Test dates will be announced well in advance. Students who are absent the day before a test must take the test with the rest of the class. Students who are absent on the day of the test must take the test after school on a day agreed upon by the student and teacher.

Missed Work

If you are absent, homework due the day you missed is due upon your return to school. You will have one week from the day you return to hand in any homework assigned on the day(s) of your absence. You will also have one week to make up any missed labs. This can be done at a time agreed upon by you and me (before or after school). If you have not made up missed work after the week, your work will be considered late.

Late Work

A 25 point penalty will be assessed on all late work.

Interventions

Students with a class average below 70% will be assigned mandatory enrichment. Students who fail to show mastery on tests (70%) will be assigned mandatory enrichment.

Students who fail to complete assignments and have zeroes in the grade book will be assigned mandatory enrichment until all missing assignments are complete.

PowerSchool

Parents and students can access student grades in PowerSchool. Grades will be updated weekly in PowerSchool.

Cell Phone Policy

Cell phones are a huge distraction during class. You don't need to be actively using your phone for it to divert your attention during class. You cannot afford to be distracted during this class. Cell phones must be turned off (or at least silenced) and put away (PGHS Policy). I have a cell phone storage unit in the classroom for anyone who will be too tempted by their phone when it is nearby. Phones will remain put away until permission is granted to use the phone (or class ends). I expect phones to be put up when directed to do so. Students must submit cell phones before leaving class to use the restroom (PGHS Policy).

Scholarly Integrity

It is expected that the work you do will be your own, whether on a test, quiz, homework, or lab report. When you collaborate in groups, you are expected to discuss ideas and help each other to clarify your understanding of concepts. You may collect data together on labs. However, when you write down answers to questions, they should be your own answers, reflecting YOUR understanding and knowledge. Copying someone else's work is called cheating; it is not allowed and will earn all participants a ZERO on the assessment.

Success in Biology

- ✓ **Be Prepared** (Bring your book, notebook, homework, pen and pencil to each class.)
- ✓ **Be On Time** (School Tardy policy; you must be in your seat when the bell rings)
- ✓ **Be "Present"** (School Attendance policy; pay attention in class; share your ideas, thoughts, and brilliant insights!)
- ✓ **Be Respectful** (treat other people, the animals, and the room itself with consideration; do not interfere with the educational process)
- ✓ **Be Honest** (Do your own work with pride; tell the truth)
- ✓ **Be safe** (You are expected to follow all lab safety rules and procedures AT ALL TIMES and you are expected to follow all directions the first time they are given with no question).

My Expectations

It is expected of all students to act in a way that **WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH THE LEARNING OF OTHER STUDENTS IN MY CLASSROOM!** It is your job to earn the grade that you want to have. I will work just as diligently as you to help you achieve and learn. However, I will not **give** you a grade. Please ask questions if you do not understand something. If I am aware that you do not understand a concept, only then I can help you. I do not ask you to be perfect, but I do ask you to keep trying! Parents are encouraged to call or email me at school with questions or concerns. I look forward to working with all of you!