

## **BIOLOGY SYLLABUS**

### **Class Taught by Mr. K**

**September,**

#### **Course Description**

Biology is the study of living things. Scientists estimate that there are more than 12 million different species of organisms living on Earth today. These living organisms range in size from tiny microscopic bacteria to huge blue whales and towering redwood trees. Although they differ greatly in where and how they live, all living things share certain characteristics that make them different from nonliving things. These characteristics include the ability to reproduce, to grow, to develop, to use energy, and to respond and adapt to changes in the environment.

#### **Course Objectives:**

By the end of the school year you will be able to demonstrate a good understanding of the principles, processes and vocabulary related to the following areas:

1. Important life processes;
2. Scientific inquiry and investigation, including the scientific method;
3. The cell, including cell theory, cycle, structure, processes, growth and division;
4. Biochemistry;
5. Ecology;
6. Energy processes, including photosynthesis, ATP and cellular respiration;
7. DNA and Genetics;
8. Reproduction;
9. Classification;
10. Evolution;
11. Other current science, research and related issues;

#### **Required Texts, Materials, and Supplies**

**Text:** BIOLOGY, The Web of Life By Scott, Foresman, Addison Wesley

##### **Materials and Supplies**

- (1) Notebook (3 ring binder);
- (2) Pens, paper, pencils;
- (3) Other items supplied by the school, I.e. colored pencils, dividers, markers, construction paper, rulers, microscopes, videos, lab materials and supplies, pictures, newspapers, journals, magazines and other scientific publications

#### **Class Format**

*Bell ringers	*Lecture	*Demonstration
*Individual, pair and group work	*Reading	*Written class assignments
*Note taking	*Homework	*Lab activities
*Reports (written and oral)	*Presentations	*Vocabulary work
*Science notebook	*Interactive dialogue, discussion, debate	
*Tests and quizzes	*Research paper	*Extra credit assignments

As indicated by the above list, the class format will emphasize and incorporate reading, writing and higher order thinking skills.

#### **Classroom Rules and Expectations**

**You Will::**

1. Follow the Uniform Discipline Code;
2. Follow the classroom expectations (see attached lists)
3. Maintain good attendance; [**Unexcused absences WILL LOWER YOUR GRADE**]

# of days absent *from 9/2/03 to 1/30/04	Highest possible grade for Semester One
Less than 9	A
9	B
10 - 13	C
14 - 17	D
18	F
*the same policy applies to Semester 2, just change the	dates from 2/2/04 to 6/22/04

**Grades**

Grades will be determined by the percentage of total points accumulated. Grades will be given as follows:

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

Notebook (10% of grade)	Performance Points (25% of grade)	Academic Points (65% of grade)
Organization of all work	On time for class Prepared for class	Tests Quizzes
Neatness of papers	Behavior	Activities and projects
Ownership of notebook: Evidence of individuality	Participating in class discussions and assignments	Class work and homework

- \* There will be no exceptions to the grading policy. Tardiness, cutting and inappropriate behavior will have a big effect on your grade.
- \* Chapter tests and quizzes: material will come primarily from assigned readings, lecture notes, lab work, and other assignments as announced.
- \* Assignments MUST be legible or they will be returned without a grade.
- \* Semester tests: will be comprehensive.
- \* Make-up tests: For excused absences only, must be taken within three days of the student's return to school.
- \* Late work: Work that is late, due to an excused absence or other approved reason, will be accepted within one week of the due date. Grade may be lowered one step. NOTE: If absent, it is the **student's responsibility** to find out what he or she has missed.

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I have read the syllabus for Mr. K's class. I understand the content of the syllabus and agree to abide by the rules, expectations and other items outlined in it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Period