AP Biology Classroom Expectations

**2018-2019**

**Course:** AP Biology

**School Number:** 503-673-7600 (*x*4616)

**Teacher:** Mr. Schuster, Rm. 120

**Preparation Period:** 2nd

**Office Hours:** Before School 8-8:30AM and After School 3-3:30 P.M.

**Email:** **schustet@wlwv.k12.or.us**

**Online Resources:** [www.pearsonschool.com/access](http://www.pearsonschool.com/access) enter first six (SSNAST); click covered titles (choose science and then Campbell, 9ed.; select “student registration”, then “I Accept”. Create username (your full, real name) and password. You’ll need an access code: SSNAST-EMAIL-STEYR-DAYAN-POTTO-ACHES. Please provide THE email address you want me to use to contact you. Once you’ve created an account, finish your activation by entering the Course ID:TSCHUSTER1819.

Reminder: AFTER USING THE COURSE ID AND THE ACCESS CODE, **ACTIVATE YOUR ACCOUNT!**

**Course prerequisite:**

Completion of Biology, Chemistry, and instructor approval by application.

**Text/Readings:**

Readings and exercises can be found in the text and accompanying website provided: *Campbell* *Biology, 9th ed.* (2011) by Reece, Urry, Cain, *et.al*. Additional reading material will be provided during the course.

**Course Goals and Learning Target:**

This course differs from high school coerces with respect to the level of textbook and instruction used. This course is the equivalent of a college introductory biology course taken by *biology majors*. To ensure and meet this outcome, student will understand the biological concepts as they are set forth in the College Board’s Advanced Placement Biology Course Description Handbook. These concepts include, broadly:

Big Idea 1: The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life,

Big Idea 2: Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce and to maintain dynamic homeostasis,

Big Idea 3: Living systems store, retrieve, transmit and respond to information essential to life processes, and

Big Idea 4: Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties.

An emphasis will be placed on furthering the development of critical thinking skills and a conceptual understanding of modern biology through the practice of scientific methods and laboratory exercises. Students work on metacognitive skills which will make learning easier and more enjoyable.

**Learning Experiences That Support Achievement of Learning Targets:**

Each student is expected to:

 participate in small and large group learning activities,

 participate in twelve prescribed laboratory exercises,

 produce special projects that support the course goals,

 carefully maintain a notebook,

 actively participate, and

 perform homework assignments **every night**.

**Required Materials: (These materials should be brought to class daily)**

 11/2 inch (or larger) 3-ring binder with 4 dividers (D-ring style binder is best)

 college-ruled filler paper

 black or blue pen and a #2 pencil

* textbook, covered
* calculator
* stapler (bring work to class already stapled, pls.)
* online access

**Course Requirements for Students:**

*Students are required to:*

* Obey safety guidelines must be adhered to at all times. A safety contract which explains safe laboratory practices will be provided for student review and signature.
* Read and copy the day’s agenda into the notebook.
* Turn in all assigned work on designated due dates.
* Perform all required lab exercises and write lab reports on designated dates.
* Take all exams and quizzes on designated testing days.

 Bring the required materials to class everyday and actively participate in classroom activities.

 Maintain an up-to-date assignment sheet in order to help observe progress.

 Keep a chronologically-arranged biology notebook that will be turned in each semester for a grade.

**Methods of Assessment:**

* Homework assignments will be checked for completeness.
* Students will take a quiz after each section.

 Students will take an exam after each chapter/unit.

 Quizzes may be given after a video or laboratory exercise or at the instructor’s discretion.

 Participation in class will account for 5% of the grade.

 Lab reports will be graded only if completed (*see rubric for lab exercises*).

 Missing assignments will be given a zero and will lower the overall course grade.

**Grading:**

 Grades are assigned based on student performance and are calculated on a total points system. Every point counts, so it is important that the student attempt all assignments.

Grading Scale:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 90-100% | A |
| 80-89% | B |
| 70-79% | C |
| 67-69% | D |
| 66% and below | F |

*Approximate* Breakdown:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Quizzes/Exam | 50% |
| Homework | 25% |
| Labs/Projects | 20% |
| Work Ethic | 5% |

**Make-Up work:**

* When absent, you are expected to contact a classmate for missed assignments and information about materials missed. There is homework every day, so share phone numbers with classmates and establish study groups.

 When you return from an excused absence, it is your responsibility to check for missed work.

 If an assignment is due on the day you are absent, you must turn it in on the day you return to school.

 *Late assignments are not accepted* unless your absence is *excused*.

 If you miss a test or lab exercise due to an excused absence, it is your responsibility to arrange for a make-up quiz, test, or lab within two (2) days of your return to class. Failure to do so will result in a zero (0) for that quiz, test, or lab.

* Quizzes/In-class assignments worth fewer than 20pts. may not be made up. In essence, you are losing participation points. How can you participate if your are not in class?

**Parental Support:**

Parents are encouraged to:

* provide a quiet place for their student to study,
* ensure that their student to attend school everyday,

 contact the teacher if they have concerns regarding their student’s progress,

 encourage their student to do the assigned work,

* check homework for completeness,

 and encourage their students to seek help when it is needed.

**Special Instructions / Classroom Expectations:**

* **No food or drink** is permitted in the classroom at anytime, due to safety regulations in a laboratory. However, a closed container of water is permitted.

 ***There is no extra credit offered!*** Therefore, it is imperative that assigned work is performed and turned in on designated due dates.

 Students are expected to be in their assigned seats with class materials ready when the tardy bell rings at the commencement of class.

* Smart/cell phones and mp3 players will remain off during class time unless otherwise instructed.

 Parents will be notified by the instructor if their student is in danger of receiving a D or an F.

 Tardies will be recorded. The third tardy will result in a detention. If another teacher makes a student tardy, it is the responsibility of the student to bring a signed and dated pass from that teacher on the day of the tardy.

 Any defacing or damage done to another’s person or school property is not tolerated.

***Retain and reference this document for the duration of the school year.***

--------------------Read the information above, complete form, detach, and return to Mr. Schuster--------------------

I have read and understand the Classroom Expectations for AP Biology, taught by Mr. Schuster.

Student Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name(s) (please print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parental Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Remember: **Students are assigned HOMEWORK IN AP BIOLOGY EVERY NIGHT. Expect to spend at least 1 to 1.5 hours of per night working on AP biology if you expect to earn an A and a 5.**