

Biology

Course Syllabus and Guidelines

2009-2010



Mr. Fazio
Room #289
Email: maf0171@lausd.net
Office Hours: After school and during my conference period TBA

Course Description

This course will provide you with the tools necessary to explore the living world. Not only will biology provide you with the basics of the scientific method, and how to conduct a scientific inquiry, but it will also provide you with critical thinking and analysis skills. In addition you will gain an appreciation for life and discover new ideas about the planet we live on; while building a basic fundamental knowledge in the scientific discipline of biology.

Required Text

Johnson, Raven. *Biology*. Holt, Rinehart, and Winston. 2007.

You will each have a textbook checked out to you. Everyone is responsible for your own book's care and transportation to and from class.

Assessment and Evaluation

Approximate point distribution:

40% Individual Assignments	This includes assignments such as worksheets, labs, and projects. Although students may collaborate to complete assignments each student is expected to complete their own work. Students who show any indication of sharing answers will not receive credit for the assignment, and a referral to the administration may follow.
30% Tests and Quizzes	Exams will follow after every unit and at the semester. Quizzes will be given periodically to assess learning while most will be announced there may be an occasional pop-quiz.
15% Semester Project	Students will be assigned a short research paper. Details to be announced.
15% Participation and Groupwork	Students are expected to participate in class and keep class notes and vocabulary in a notebook that will be collected periodically throughout the semester. Also some class activities will be collaborative and students will turn in one complete assignment as a group.

Grading Scale

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



Extra Credit

From time to time there may arise an opportunity for earning extra points. Although extra credit is offered it is not intended as a replacement for completing regularly assigned work. Students with excessive tardies or any unexcused absences will not be offered extra credit opportunities

MAKE-UP WORK POLICY

The opportunity to earn credit for make-up work applies *only to students with excused absences*. I do not believe that a student who makes the decision not to attend class (skips) should be given extra time on assignments or extra time to study for tests. Students have 2 school days for each day absent to make up assignments, labs, quizzes and exams.

MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES

The following materials will be needed on a daily basis.

- Spiral or Composition Notebook must be in class by _____. If this item cannot be purchased by this date, the student must notify the instructor by _____ so that one can be provided for you.
- Pencils (#2 for scan-trons) and Pens (blue and black only!)
- Section of 3-ring binder or folder dedicated to Biology

Some additional materials will be necessary during the course of the semester. An announcement will be made in advance when these materials are needed.

- Colored pencils
- Poster board
- Scientific Calculator

Classroom Expectations

I expected every student to give 100% effort everyday. Students are expected to abide by all University H.S. rules (see student handbook) as well as my classroom rules:

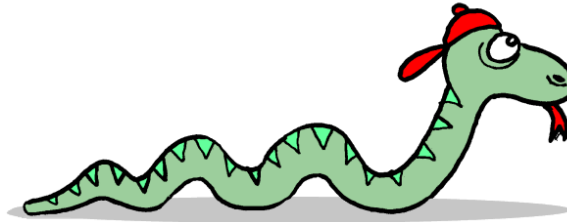
- 1. Follow Directions**
- 2. Keep hands to yourself**
- 3. Use appropriate language**
- 4. Dress appropriately for class.**



Consequences for infraction

Depending on the severity of the infraction the steps of discipline are as follows:

1. Verbal warning
2. Teacher assigned detention
3. Phone call home
4. Parent or Guardian contacted by counselor or an administrator
5. Parent or Guardian contacted by counselor or an administrator and class suspension
6. Parent or Guardian contacted by counselor or an administrator and possible removal from class.



Please complete the section below with a parent/guardian and return this portion only by _____ . Keep the rest of the syllabus in your notebook for reference.

I have read and understand the guidelines set forth in this course syllabus.

Student Name _____ Period _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Phone Number _____

Parent E-mail _____

Please list the best way to contact you _____

Thank you!
Mr. Fazio