

DeLand High School

Course Syllabus

Biology I

Teacher Information:

Name: Ms. Wendland

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Class Location: Bldg.11 Rm.202

Course Description:

Biology I utilizes a standards aligned curriculum framework to encompass the essential concepts of biological science. Students will analyze and explain the nature of science in the search for understanding the natural world, as well as practice the application of technology, scientific tools, and critical thought skills in solving problems. Students will focus on the biological structures and their functions at multiple levels of organization in living things. As scientific learners, students will collect and analyze data, interpret results, draw conclusions, and communicate their findings. Throughout the course, students will work both independently and collaboratively, in a laboratory based classroom with an active learner approach. The goal for the course is for students to gain a more meaningful understanding of the living world around them as well as a deeper appreciation of their place in it.

Course Objectives

The objectives of the course are aligned with the topics found in the Biology curriculum map for Volusia County schools. At the end of the course, students must take the End-of-Course exam.

Students who successfully complete Biology I will be competent in the following areas. The approximate timeline is as follows:

- 1st nine weeks: Science Process, Water, Enzymes, Cell Structure/Function
- 2nd nine weeks: Cell Cycle, Mitosis, Meiosis, Genetics, DNA, Biotechnology
- 3rd nine weeks: Evolution, Human Health, Photosynthesis, Respiration, Plants
- 4th nine weeks: Energy, Ecosystems, Human Impact

Grading policy

Students and parents will be able to follow grades by logging onto the Volusia County portal. I will update grades weekly. I will typically update grades on a weekend so that by the following Monday, grades will reflect what the student is currently earning. The following county grading policy will be used:

- A 90-100 Outstanding Progress (Mastery)
- B 80-89 Above Average Progress
- C 70-79 Average Progress (Proficiency)
- D 60-69 Lowest Acceptable Progress
- F 0-59 Failure
- I In progress toward grade level proficiency in skills and concepts

Summative assessments are 60% of a student's final grade and include exams, quizzes, lab reports, projects, etc. Formative assessments are 40% of the final grade and include daily assignments, daily activities and labs, worksheets and notebook assignments. Diagnostic assessments are 0% of the final grade but the results are used by the teacher to plan and adjust lessons to meet student learning needs. The EOC exam will count as 30% of the final grade in the course.

Make-up Policy:

Make-up work will be given for absences. It is the sole responsibility of the student to get the assignment from the teacher and return the completed work. If a student is absent the day before a scheduled test and returns on the test day, the student will take the test on that day, provided no new content has been presented. If a student misses the day of the test, the test must be made upon the student's return. It is the student's responsibility to arrange the time and day of the makeup test with the teacher.

Class Expectations

Each student is expected to participate in all class activities to the best of his/her ability. Each student is expected to act in a responsible manner in class and during laboratory activities. While performing labs and class work, each student is expected to pay attention and follow instructions; this is especially critical in lab. Disruptive behavior is distracting to the learning process for everyone and will not be tolerated, and may result in loss of lab privileges. No food or drinks are allowed in class or in the lab.

Classroom Rules

1. Be prepared
2. Listen and follow directions promptly
3. Speak only with permission*
4. Move only with permission*
5. Respect other people and their property

*Expectations for noise level and movement around the room will be specified before the start of each activity. Students are expected to follow these guidelines at all times.

Consequences

1. Verbal Warning
 2. Written Warning
 3. Move Seat
 4. Send out of class ***repeats of #4 will constitute lunch detention or discipline referral
- Severe Disruption=Discipline Referral

Bathroom Pass Policy:

Unless there is an emergency or other circumstance, students may use up to three bathroom passes per nine weeks. Students are not allowed out of class during the first or last 10 minutes of class.

Electronics Policy:

The county electronic device policy will be in effect in class. All electronic devices must be powered off and out of sight at all times. The first infraction will result in a warning, and the second will result in a referral with parent contact.

Class Requirements

Students are required to have a spiral notebook or 3 ring binders which we will be using as an Interactive Science Notebook. Most assignments (except summatives) will be found on assigned pages. This is a valuable tool to use while studying for summatives as well as the end of course exam. Students are required to bring this notebook each day as well as a pencil or pen. These notebooks will be graded periodically and the grade will count as a formative grade. We will also be using index cards (size 3x5) frequently in class. Any donations of these index cards would be greatly appreciated.

Academic Dishonesty

It is the expectation of all students that any work handed in is completely the work of the student. If outside sources are used, they should be properly cited. If cheating occurs during an exam, a grade of “0” will be given for that exam and that exam cannot be retaken. In cases of plagiarism, a zero will be given for that grade.

Please sign and return this last page by Friday August 18th 2017:

I, _____, have read and understand all student requirements for Biology I class.

Student Name Printed

Parent Signature/Date

Student Signature / Date

Parent Email Address—Please Print Clearly