

 **Mcdonough high school**

**biology SYLLABUS 2019-2020**

**Teacher:** Paul Sills

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**Course Description:** Biology is a course designed to provide the current and comprehensive information concerning the study of living things and their processes. Throughout the semester this course provides an opportunity for students to develop scientific process skills, laboratory techniques, and an understanding of the fundamental principles of living organisms. Students will explore biological science as a process, cell structure and function, genetics and heredity, evolution and classification, diversity of living organisms and their ecological roles, and an introduction to animal structure and function. The Georgia Milestone will be administered in December and April, which covers objectives for both semesters and count as 20% of the student’s final grade. Laboratory experiences, both short and long term are an integral part of this course.

* Remain responsible for your learning, progress and achievement.
* Take the Georgia Milestone to insure mastery (80% to 100%) of the Georgia Performance Standard.
* Actively participate in oral and written discussions.

**Expectations**: To be successful in this course the student ***MUST*** complete all assignments and participate in all lab activities. Attend class prepared to work. A high level of participation in class activities, personal responsibility for assigned work, improvement of thinking skills, creativity, and an scientific attitude for exploration of new scientific concepts and information.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS**

Students need the following materials all year long:

* 1. 3 ring binder(any size)
  2. Organizing Tabs
  3. Colored Pencils/Markers
  4. Black/Blue Pens and Pencils
  5. Loose Leaf Notebook Paper
  6. Composition notebook(lab reports)

**Class/Lab Procedures and Rules**: Students must return their signed Flinn Safety contracts before participating in lab based activities. All school policies in the student handbook will be followed, as well as all lab safety rules and teacher policies. Tardy policy will be followed as listed in the handbook.

**Technology:** Student chrome books are the only technology allowed to be used in class. Your cell phone is optional under teacher discretion. Please make sure you bring your chrome book to class every day. Consequences will be given to those who violate the technology policy.

**GRADING POLICY**

Your semester (Final Course) grade is earned based upon performance in the following areas:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Practice Work**  **(40%)** | **Assessment Task (40%)** | **Exam: 20%** |
| **Science**  100.0% - 90.0% = A  89.0% - 80.0% = B  79.0% - 74.0%=C  73.0% - 70.0%=D  69.0% - 0.00% = F | **Class work, homework, formative assessments, diagnostics assessments, written reflections** | **Constructed response assessments, selected response assessments, reflective assessments, summative unit assessment, culminating performance tasks, projects** | **Milestone will count 20% of Final Grade** |

**\*I Do Not Give Out Extra Credit**

**EXAMINATIONS**

  Exams will be given during regular class periods and will cover material from the lecture, performance tasks, and laboratory. The date of an exam will be announced in advance. Exams will consist of a combination of diagrams, short answer and objectives (matching, multiple choice, etc.). If a student has a legitimate excuse for missing an exam, s/he must notify the instructor in advance. The instructor may, at his/her discretion, replace the zero on the missed exam with the grade received on the comprehensive final exam or a make-up exam. Student is responsible for communicating with teacher about making-up an exam

**QUIZZES**

**Quizzes will be given at the discretion of the instructor**. These quizzes will be either announced or unannounced; however, you can count on at least one summative quiz a week. **Summative** **quizzes cannot be retaken.** You will have practice quizzes (Formative quizzes) and reviews before taking the summative quiz. A quiz can be given at the beginning, middle, or end of a class period. Always arrive to class prepared to experience a quiz on current class content. If absent, the student must communicate with the teacher to take the quiz. Infinite Campus will show Missing until quiz is made up.

**Make-Up Work Policy:**

Attendance is mandatory!! **It is the student’s responsibility to obtain any make-up work while they were absent. The number of days allowed to complete make-up work will not exceed the days you were absent. Failure to comply with this procedure will result in a grade of zero being given for the graded assignments missed during an absence.** All make-up work should be labeled as such (Make-up), include date of absence on all make-up work. Please put your make-up work in my hands.

**Late Work/Missing work:** Credit for late assignments is at my discretion. There is an 10% deduction for each day it is late. Infinite Campus will show “Missing” until work is turned in. Homework is due at the beginning of each class.

**Grade Reports** Cumulative grades will be on Infinite Campus and progress reports will be available in Infinite Campus during the grading period. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to check Infinite Campus on a regular basis. Questions or concerns regarding grades may be emailed to the teacher or parents may call the teacher. Parents may also call the school and request a teacher conference through the counseling office.

**Cheating Policy:**

Cheating and plagiarism will result in failure of the assignment. It is expected that all work turned in by you is completely your own. If you are caught cheating, copying, plagiarizing or using any form of dishonesty to complete your course work, a grade of zero will be given for the work in question.

**Science Department AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING: Every Tuesday:**PLEASE REMEMBER – tutoring is NOT a punishment – it is a free and valuable service to help the students be successful and obtain individual assistance!  If you plan on staying for tutoring please notify me a day in advance. Academy for the Advanced Students please see the teacher if you need extra help.

*I have read and understand the guidelines in the Honors Biology syllabus.*

*Student Print Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Parent/Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

\*\*\*Please return this sheet with all signatures and information completed. Thanks!\*\*\*\*