

Biology
Mrs. Ferrier
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Course Description

The purpose of this class will be to provide you with a comprehensive, systems-based introduction to a number of core topics within the vast discipline of Biology—the study of life. It is a year-long course required for all students.

Topics discussed in this class include the following:

Scientific Method	Biochemistry	Cell Division
Lab Safety	Cell Theory	DNA & Replication
Evolution	Cell Structure & Function	The Human Genome
Ecology	Photosynthesis	Genetics
Ecosystems	Respiration	Genetic Mutations
Population Dynamics	Properties of Life	Bacteriology
Chemistry	Biological Organization	Energy & Enzymes
Biogeochemical Cycles	Classification	Reproduction

Text: Miller, Kenneth R., and Joseph S. Levine. Biology. Boston: Pearson, 2010. Print.

Required materials: You will need a 3-ring binder with lined paper and dividers for this class. You will receive a lot of handouts and will need to keep them organized. There will be binder checks throughout the year.

Chapter Readings: In addition to chapter notes and labs, you will receive regular chapter reading assignments. *It is very important for you to do the reading! Not only will it help you understand what is being discussed in class, but assigned readings are fair game for quiz and test questions.*

Class Rules

1. **Be Prepared:** Students should bring their binder, chromebook, and pen or pencil everyday. Homework will be due the day after it is assigned, late homework will be accepted at 50% penalty. Late lab work or projects will receive a 10% penalty for each day it is late. No work for a chapter will be accepted after that chapter's test.
2. **Be Prompt:** Students are expected to be seated and ready to begin at the class start time. Students who are tardy more than 3 times in one term will be written up for a discipline referral. This includes being tardy when returning from the break on lab days.
3. **Be Polite:** Students are required to raise their hand to ask questions or participate in class discussions. Respect the teacher and your fellow classmates at all times in both your speech and your actions. Remain in your assigned seat unless otherwise directed.
4. **Be Productive:** Students should remain on task during class time. This includes limiting off-topic conversations and not using cell phones or other electronic devices during class time. Phones and other electronic devices will not be permitted in the class unless explicitly directed by the teacher for educational use.

Lab Rules

- See separate lab safety contract

Schoology

I currently maintain a class schoology page that holds many of our class materials as well as supplemental links and study materials. This should automatically show up under your class list when you log into schoology.

Grading Policy

Student grades are a percentage of total points received for a combination of the following work:

- Homework, chapter tests, quizzes (some unannounced), lab reports, projects, binder checks, and participation/openers.
- Homework will be due the next class day after it is assigned, late homework will be accepted at 50% penalty. Late lab work or projects will receive a 10% penalty for each day it is late. No work for a chapter will be accepted after that chapter's test.

Grading Scale: A = 91 – 100%; B = 81 – 90%; C = 70 – 80%; D = 60 – 69%; F = 59 or below

Absences:

Excused absences will be given a make-up assignment and/or homework assignment. You will receive as many days as you missed to make up your work. Any work due on the day you were first absent, is due the day you return. You should always check schoology to see if there is any work that you need to make up. If you are absent during a lab, you will need to make it up during jacket time or study hall. Remember it is **your responsibility** to see me for making up assignments and labs when you have missed class.

If you have questions outside of class time, you may contact me through my school email address ferrier@freeport.k12.pa.us . Please be aware that I may not be able to provide an immediate response.