

Biology I Syllabus

Mr. Niedermeyer & Mr. Klaver

734-532-1082

Room 512

Course Objectives

Biology means the study of life. Our biology students will study what living organisms are, and the organisms' similarities and differences. Our students will investigate how all living organisms interact with each other and their environment. The students will also learn how scientists work with the scientific method so that they could look at a problem objectively, and make intelligent decisions concerning biological issues.

Units of Study

1st Semester:

Scientific Method
Life Characteristics
Chemistry of Life
Cell Function and Processes
Genetics

2nd Semester:

Classification of Living Things
Evolution
Ecology/Photosynthesis
Disease
Human Body Systems (Pig Dissection)

Materials (REQUIRED DAILY)

1. Planner
2. Three Ring Binder
3. Blue or Black Pen and Pencil
4. Colored Pencils

Textbook

- Title: Biology: The Dynamics of Life 2000

Grade Evaluation

Each 6 week card marking

Test/Quizzes	45%
Daily Work	35%
Organization	10%
Participation	10%

Semester Grade

1 st Marking Period	25%
2 nd Marking Period	25%
3 rd Marking Period	25%
Semester Exam	25%

Grading Scale (percents)

A	= 93-100	B-	= 80-82	D+	= 67-69
A-	= 90-92	C+	= 77-79	D	= 63-66
B+	= 87-89	C	= 73-76	D-	= 60-62
B	= 83-86	C-	= 70-72	E	= below 60

Grading Marks

√+ = 100%
√ = 75%
√- = 50%
√-- = 0-25%

Policies and Procedures

1. Organization Grade:

- Binder
 - i. Each handout is given a number.
 - ii. Handouts must be kept in order by number in your 3-ring binder.
 - iii. When binders are graded, points may be lost for pages missing or out of numerical order.
- Planner
 - i. The daily agenda must be copied word for word from the board into your planner every day.
 - ii. **Even when you are absent**, you need to write what you missed in your planner and this should help you to determine what exactly you missed.
 - iii. Please put the hour next to every entry.
 - iv. You may highlight my class in a color that distinguishes it from other classes.

2. Absences and Make-Up Work:

- **I do not accept any late work. Assignments need to be completed on time.**
- If you have a pink slip excusing your absence on the day you return to class, you may make up the assignments you have missed without penalty. If the absence was not excused, you will NOT receive credit for the assignments.
- You have the same number of days that you were absent to make up your assignments, but any assignments that were due on the day you were absent must be turned in on the day you return.
- When you return from your absence refer to the planning grid to see what was missed.
- When you have completed the make-up assignments, you must write "ABSENT" followed by the date(s) of your absence on the top of the assignments. If you don't, I will assume the work is late and late work is not acceptable.
- Tests, quizzes and labs will be written on the planning grid and should then be in your planner as well. It is YOUR responsibility to make up any test, quiz or lab that you have missed within the time frame allowed. If you fail to schedule an appointment the day you return then you will NOT be able to make it up.

3. Tardy Policy:

1st Tardy: Warning and loss of participation points

2nd Tardy: Warning or Write a “Plan to Arrive on Time” and loss of participation points

3rd Tardy: Counts as an absence

Process starts over with every third tardy counting as one absence.

4. Eating and Drinking:

- There is absolutely no eating or drinking in this classroom. I like to keep my room clean so it is a pleasant area to work in. Food and drinks will be confiscated.

5. Participation:

All of the following will constitute your participation grade.

- Answering the question of the day and participating in class discussion.
- Following classroom rules.
- Attendance: Being absent, tardy, or not in your seat when the tardy bell rings will cause you to lose your daily participation points.
- Having your materials with you daily and taking them with you when you leave.
- You must follow the code of conduct for clothing, headwear, and electronic devices. Any time that these items are brought to class, you will lose your daily participation and may be subject to the school-wide student responsibility program. (i.e. coats, hats, cell phones, and headphones)
- Participation can be made up with me after school by appointment. Please ask if I am available.

6. Distractions:

- Please do not be disruptive to others in class. Raise your hand to speak. Bringing materials such as combs, brushes, makeup, cards, games, magazines, etc. can lead to disrupting others. These items are absolutely not allowed in my classroom.

7. Hall Passes:

- You are expected to use the restroom, make phone calls, see your counselor or take care of any other personal business before class. Passes will be used sparingly.

8. Unacceptable work:

- Late work.
- Papers with no name.
- Papers turned into the wrong location.

9. Plagiarism & Cheating:

- Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated in my class. All parties involved will receive zeros for the assignment and their papers will be confiscated. For high stakes assignments such as tests or quizzes, a referral may also be written.

10. Dismissal:

- I will dismiss you from class every day when I see your area. Everyone must be in his/her assigned seat when the release bell rings. Please do not pack up things until 1 minute before the bell rings.

11. Quizzes & Tests

- On a normal scheduled week, we will have a weekly quiz on Fridays unless we have a unit test.
- It is important to realize that these are high-staked assessments. They constitute 45% of your grade and therefore need to be taken very seriously. You need to study for them and/or get help after school.

12. Bio-Bucks

- Bio-Bucks can be earned by anyone at anytime. They are given for a variety of reasons from doing an outstanding job on a lab to improving performance. They count for three points on any test or quiz. I decide when to give them, please don't ask.

******You are required to bring four things by Thursday, September 8th:**

- 1) **1-inch binder**
- 2) **Your planner**
- 3) **Package of colored pencils.**
- 4) **Pen or Pencil**
- 5) **Extra Credit: Box of Kleenex**

*******This will be your 1st graded assignment for this semester under the organization category.*******