

Honors Biology Syllabus

Mrs. Evick

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In this class, you will learn the basics of biology in our world. In order to ensure that all of you gain this knowledge, you will need to be ACTIVE in your own learning! I believe that science is best learned through interactions of all kinds. Your first interaction will be with your classmates. Cooperative learning is the basis of all my classes. Together, along with the collaboration of other groups, you will investigate the many aspects of biology through experimentation, while honing your scientist skills (data analysis, experimental design, etc).

Areas of Study

- **Ecology and Biodiversity** – The similarities and differences amongst life on Earth and the interactions between organisms and their environment
- **Structure and Function** – The structure of cells allow for specialized functions and the survival of organisms as a whole
- **Matter and Energy in Organisms** – The flow of energy and matter throughout living and nonliving components of ecosystems
- **Inheritance and Variation of Traits** – The role of DNA in the passing of traits through generations and the variation that exists amongst individuals of the same species

I want this to be a fun and educational science class. Throughout this year, we will be learning in a variety of ways, always keeping you on your feet. For this to happen, I am going to need your cooperation to make this a successful experience for all of us. So here are the expectations and policies that must be discussed...

What is expected of you?

- **RESPECT** others and yourself in the classroom
- **HONESTY** and **INTEGRITY**
- Be **PROMPT** and **PREPARED**
- Be **SMART**, Be **SAFE**
- **ACT** and **DRESS** appropriately
- Be **PRODUCTIVE**
- **LEARN** and **LISTEN**

Failure to follow expectations listed will impact your grade and may result in a disciplinary action as identified in the Student Code of Conduct (see agenda).

What to bring to class

- 2 marble composition notebooks
- 1 ringed binder, at 1 ½ inches
- Something to write with
- Glue sticks (multipack to use throughout the year)
- Your iPad, charged and ready with apps loaded and functioning

Being prepared for class is part of your grade!!

How to make the grade

We will be learning and earning grades in a variety of ways. The following is how grades will be determined:

Tests

35%

Lab Analysis	25%
Products/Models	25%
Classwork	15%

- Your marking period grade depends on the following percentages:
93-100% = A 85-92% = B 75-84% = C 70-74% = D Below 70% = F
- **Late work:** Same as outlined in your Classroom Expectation handout (page 2). You are responsible for getting your work to me on time and complete. Use Schoology to submit assignments after school hours!!
- **Notebook and Binder:** A notebook is a requirement. You ***NEED TO BE ORGANIZED!*** You will have notebook checks periodically throughout class periods that will count as a classwork grade. This class will be much easier if you stay organized! All papers will come with holes to help you in this feat.

If you are not in class...

- Find out what you missed ASAP. **Access our Schoology site.**
- Homework assignments that were due the day you were out are to be handed in the day you return. Late work penalties apply, see Classroom Expectations list.
- Sports/field trips/early dismissals/ AC are not an excuse for not handing in assignments that are due. Late penalties apply!! Work that is due **MUST** be turned in if you are in school!
- You can only make up work if there is an excused absence (School Board Policy).
- Lab write-ups and projects *with due dates announced in advance cannot be turned in late.* If you are not coming to school, your project must somehow get to me – upload to Schoology, give it to a friend, however you want, turn it in on time or it will be a ZERO.
- If you miss a lab or a test, you must come see me to make arrangements to complete the task *within ONE weeks of the scheduled date.* I am not your mom. I will not nag you to make up work. **ONE WEEK to make up the assessment or you receive a zero.** Use Fridays during HR to your advantage!

The Technology Available

We will be using *Schoology* to compliment this class. I will have posted the notes or activities of the day/week, information about labs, etc. I will upload resources and other visual aids that will help you catch up when you are absent and give you access to review all the days' information. There are links on the website that you will see me use in class and also ones that will help you tremendously. You will have the app on your iPad and we will use it for everything!! PLEASE make sure your iPad is charged each day!

Remind, a text messaging service, will be used to alert students of upcoming quizzes, due dates, etc. Parents can join also. Parents, ask your student for the class access code if interested in receiving these alerts as well!

Grades will be available on *HomeAccess*. Schoology grades WILL NOT reflect your total grade for each marking period. You MUST check *HomeAccess* to know where you stand. This isn't just for parents but students too. I will not be checking on your grade all of the time. You will be responsible to track your own grades.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Late work will be accepted up to **ONE (1) WEEK** after the original due date for a reduced grade. You will lose 40% of the final grade on the assignment; so, in other words, you are starting with an 60%, whether it's 1 day or 7 days late. After one week, the grade defaults to a ZERO.
2. If you are in school and need to leave early for any reason, you need to see the teacher and turn in any assignments that are due that day before you leave. Otherwise, it's late!

3. Academic Challenge students need to see the teacher before you leave or when you return to get the information you missed in class. Also, the Late Work policy (#2) still applies.
4. Come prepared for class with your iPad charged and ready for instruction. Pack your charger daily in case you need to charge throughout the day.
5. Use evidence for support in ALL of your writing prompts or questions. Be sure to explain your reasoning using data gathered through exploration, observation, research, etc.
6. You must maintain an 85% average in order to stay in the honors program here at Cape.

Parent/Guardian,

I would like to have a way to communicate with you via email. When signing following contract, please write email addresses in the spaces provided. An open communication line between parents and teachers is vital to the success of a student. Never hesitate to contact me either – EMAIL IS THE BEST WAY. I check it constantly and will fire emails during class without a problem. If email isn't your method of choice, you can contact me here at school, 645-7711, extension 4100.

Student and Parent Contract

I want this to be an enjoyable experience in which everyone learns a lot and excels. What we need to make this possible is cooperation. Science labs can be dangerous places if common sense and communication are lacking. If there is failure to meet any of the expectations, we cannot participate in the interactive labs and exercises, the "fun stuff". I cannot put you as students at risk in an environment that could endanger your safety. You will also be required to sign a lab safety contract before allowed participate in any lab activities.

So please, do make sure you read and understand what is stated above. Sign the bottom. Take this home, have your parent/guardian read it, sign it. List email addresses in the spaces provided. Bring it back, hand in this sheet, and earn yourself full credit for the first grade for Honors biology.

I have read the above and understand the policies that are stated. I understand the format of the course and the student expectations as defined.

Student: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Email is my major form of communication. Please supply an email that will allow me to contact you easily. Write clearly and legibly please ☺

Emails

Student:

Parent/Guardian:

PLEASE turn over and complete Safety Agreement →