

Biology

Santa Fe High School

2018-2019

Instructor: Nicole Harris

Room: C 202

Phone: (409) 927-3245

Email: nicole.harris@sfsd.org

Tutorials: After School Mondays & Tuesdays from 2:50 – 3:35 pm.

Course Description:

This is an introductory level biology course designed to give students a familiarity with the major concepts, principles, and processes of biology. Topics that will be covered are outlined below. This class will reinforce these concepts with lab activities as well as investigative and inquiry based learning experiences. Students will also learn how to think critically and evaluate questions during group and individual research projects.

Required Materials:

- 1-inch binder

Classroom Expectations:

1. Be in your seat when the bell rings and work on your warm up.
2. Bring your Biology Binder and a writing utensil to class.
3. Be polite and respectful of yourself and others. This includes **no** cell phones, and no profanity.
4. Clean up after yourself.
5. Absolutely no eating or drinking in class. This includes gum, water is allowed at the student's desk.
6. Fidget tools are allowed in my classroom provided that the student is working, the fidget tool is not shared with other students, and does not become a distraction.

I also expect you to follow all school rules and policies in addition to the ones I outlined above.

Consequences:

- 1st: Verbal Warning & Redirect
- 2nd: Teacher/Student Conference (in hallway during class or after class)
- 3rd: Teacher Detention & Parent Contact
- 4th: Office Referral

Please keep in mind that consequences depend on the severity of the action.

Leaving Class:

SFHS follows a 10/10 rule. No students will be allowed to leave the room the first or last 10 minutes of class. You must sign out on the green pass, write your name on the white board under who's out, and leave your phone in the bucket hanging under the white board. When you return you must write the time you came back to class, place the green pass in the bucket, erase your name from the whiteboard, and retrieve your phone.

Grades

Grading is as per the school grading scale. I do reserve the right to give unannounced quizzes. Grades in my class will be weighted, meaning that some assignments are worth more than others. The grading scale is as follows:

9 weeks grading percentages:

Daily Assignments: 20%
Minor assignments: 30%
Major Assignments: 50%

Semester Percentages:

1st nine weeks: 40%
2nd nine weeks: 40%
Semester exam: 20%

Daily assignments - includes classwork, participation, and homework.

Minor assignments - includes small projects, quizzes, labs, and major project checkpoints.

Major assignments – includes tests, term papers, major projects, and some labs.

Extra Credit

Biology is a college preparatory class and as such there will be very few opportunities for extra credit. I expect you to maintain a satisfactory grade without extra credit so please do not ask. However, I do print out a weekly progress report. If you bring it back on the assigned day with a parent signature that will go in as an extra credit daily grade.

Unit Packets:

For each unit you will receive a packet from me. It will contain all of the work we will complete for that unit. If a student loses the unit packet, he or she is responsible for either reprinting, or copying everything by hand. Labs and Daily Assignments are expected to be completed when assigned. Daily checks will be made and weekly grades will be given. The unit packet will be turned in on test day. Packets are **NOT** accepted **LATE!** Completed packets enable the student to replace their lowest quiz grade with a 100. If a student does not turn in a packet or the packet is incomplete they will not receive the quiz replacement. Completing the packet therefore acts as **extra-credit** and it is in the best interest of the student to complete it grade-wise and for understanding of content.

Labs:

Laboratory experimentation and exploration are a large part of this course. It is vital that the students follow all laboratory procedures and safety rules/guidelines. Failure to comply with behavior expectations can result in removal from the lab activities and complete bookwork instead. A safety contract will be sent home and filled out by the student and the parent/guardian. These documents will be kept on file and are needed before a student can participate in any labs. Labs missed due to excused absences need to be made up during an agreed upon time with the teacher. You **cannot** borrow data. It is the student's responsibility to be sure these labs are made up and will be at the teacher's convenience.

Exams:

Exams will be over material we cover in class, supplemental material you are asked to read, and material covered in handouts, labs, or other activities. The test will range from multiple choice to essay questions. Quizzes may be given at any time covering assigned reading, previous lectures, homework, or lab procedures. Comprehensive final exams will be given each semester. Students should study daily to be prepared for exams and quizzes. ***The teacher reserves the right to administer a different make-up exam and/or quiz.***

Make-Up Work:

Students will be permitted to make up assignments and tests after an absence. The number of days allowed for make-up work to be completed will be equal to the number of times a class was missed. It is the **student's** responsibility to ask for their missing assignments and to turn their work in within the allowable time frame. If a student has a question about an assignment or what they need to do, he or she need to come to advisory or after school tutorials.

Missing / Late Work

When work is not turned in with the rest of class, the grade will be recorded as "missing and zero" in the grade book. Students will have 3 days to turn in the assignment. If no assignment is turned in within 3 days of the due date, the grade will remain a zero. If the assignment is turned in within 3 days of the due date, the grade will be entered as what the student **earned minus 25 late points**.

Test Corrections:

Test corrections will be allowed for all tests in the nine week period, with the exception of comprehensive nine-week and semester exams. With test corrections, students will earn half of the points lost on their

exam grade up to a grade of 70%. **This only applies to unit tests.** Test corrections must be completed in after school tutorials. Students have 5 school days after the original test grade is **posted** to complete test corrections.

Technology:

Students will have access to a student laptop in my room. Students will have access to their biology textbook online at pearson.texas.com. Their username is their student email address provided by the school. The password is sf followed by their 7-digit birthday. Students will also be expected to use Canvas. Their username is their student email address and their password is their 8-digit birthday. Canvas is where they will access and submit some assignments to.

Tutoring

I want each of you to have a successful year! Toward that end, I am available for tutoring after school on Mondays and Tuesdays. If these times will not work for you, we can make other arrangements. Please, do not hesitate to ask for assistance!

Signature Page:

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding the information in this syllabus. My goal is to equip each student with the tools needed to be successful in this course and beyond. **ONLY** the Signature Page should be signed and returned by August 24th, 2018.

Student: Please initial the following statements.

_____ I will follow the rules listed above and behave properly at all times.

_____ I understand the policy for absent and late work.

Sincerely,

Nicole Harris

Biology

Phone: 409-927-3245

Email: nicole.harris@sfsd.org

By signing below, both student and parent/guardian are verifying they have received and read the syllabus and understand its contents.

Printed Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Printed Student Name

Student Signature

Date