



General Biology
Course Syllabus 2021-2022
Ms. Barry- kristen.barry@hcps.org

Course Description

Biology is the study of life. The major units of study in this course will focus on the characteristics and chemical basis of life, cells and systems, the processes and transformation of energy within these living systems, DNA and the inheritance of traits, the uses and ethical aspects of applied genetics and biotechnology, evolution, the inter-relationships of cells, organs, systems, and organisms with each other and with the environment, and human impact on living systems and the environment. Throughout all of these units, we will reinforce the three dimensions of science learning: The Disciplinary Core Ideas, the Cross-cutting Concepts, and the Practices of Science.

Goals for Student Learning

Students will become proficient in the study of Biology in the areas listed above. Students will also be exposed to the following standards, concepts, and practices through their studies in this class:

NGSS: Next Generation Science Standards : <https://www.nextgenscience.org/overview-topics>

Disciplinary Core Ideas: *Structure and Function, Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems, Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems, Inheritance and Variation of Traits, Natural Selection and Evolution*

Materials

- Binder or notebook; folder for handouts optional
- Blue/black pens and/or pencils
- *Optional items*: flashcards, colored pencils, highlighters, sticky notes/tabs, etc.

Course Outline

This is a general overview of the concepts and topics for the year:

- *Introduction to Biological Systems/Biochemistry*
- *Cells, Systems, and Homeostasis*
- *Molecular and Applied Genetics*
- *Evolutionary Biology*
- *Ecosystems, Biodiversity, and Human Impact*

HCPS Grading Policy

** Extra credit will **NOT** be given for *non-academic* purposes.

PRODUCT (50%)	PROCESS (30%)	PRACTICE (20%)
Does it measure how well students achieved specific learning goals, standards, and/or competencies?	Does it provide feedback to students regarding growth towards the attainment of specific learning goals, standards and competencies?	Does it allow students to practice skills and/or reinforce content learning?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed in presence of teacher or at home• Rubric aligned to standards• Accuracy graded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed in presence of teacher or at home• Rubric aligned to standards• Accuracy graded	- Graded for completion and participation

Absent Work Policy

All assignments should be submitted on time. Students will be given the number of class periods equal to the number of lawful class periods absent to turn in completed make up assignments without penalty.

Late Work Policy

All assignments should be submitted on time in order to earn full credit. Any assignment, (*product, process, or practice*) will be allowed to be turned in late for one letter grade deduction from the grade a student earns on the assignment. In order to earn credit for late assignments, students must submit assignments by the end of the day on Wednesday (except for the last week of the quarter) following the designated HAC update. Students are only able to submit assignments that have an established due date within the grading window before the designated HAC update. Assignment that are turned in for late credit will be identified by a footnote in HAC to include a statement about the deduction of a letter grade due to the lateness of the assignment.

Grading Window	Designated HAC Update	Late Work Due Date
September 8- September 24	September 24	September 29
September 27- October 13	October 13	October 20
October 14- October 29	October 29	November 5 (Friday)
November 8- November 19	November 19	November 24
November 22- December 10	December 10	December 15
December 13- January 13	January 13	January 21 (Friday)
January 24- February 11	February 11	February 16
February 14- February 25	February 25	March 2
February 28- March 11	March 11	March 16
March 14- March 25	March 25	March 31 (Thursday)
April 1- April 22	April 22	April 27
April 25- May 6	May 6	May 11
May 11- May 20	May 20	May 25

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is taking responsibility for the quality and completion of one's own work. Academic dishonesty is taking someone else's work and claiming it as one's own. Students at Bel Air High School are responsible for knowing what is considered to be Academic Dishonesty and the subsequent consequences. More information can be found in the BAHS Student Planner.

Cell Phone Policy

- Students will place their cellphones in a teacher designated area as they enter each classroom. Teachers will review with students the specific location for each room. The phones will remain in the teacher designated area unless teachers explicitly tell students to take out the phones for instructional use.
- Cellphones will remain in the teacher designated area during bathroom visits, assemblies and trips to the nurse/counseling office/main office.
- Cellphones will be retrieved from the teacher designated area at the end of class at the direction of the teacher.
- School-appropriate cellphone use is permitted during class changes and lunch. Students are not permitted to make phone calls during school hours.
- If the cell phone policy is violated, it is a referable offense.