



Biology
Course Syllabus - Mrs. Procell
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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 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

Nine *Cross-cutting Concepts* will be stressed throughout the year. These are interwoven with the *Science and Engineering Practices* that describe what scientists do to investigate the natural world and what engineers do to design and build systems. The practices explain and extend what is meant by “inquiry” in science and they will help you to build, deepen, and apply your knowledge of the *Disciplinary Core Ideas* and crosscutting concepts.

<i>Cross-cutting Concepts</i>	<i>Science and Engineering Practices</i>	<i>Disciplinary Core Ideas</i>
Patterns Cause and effect Scale, proportion, quantity Systems/ system models Energy and matter Structure and function Stability and change Patterns Cause and effect	Asking questions and defining problems Developing and using models Planning and carrying out investigations Analyzing and Interpreting Data Using mathematics and computational thinking Constructing explanations and designing solutions Engaging in argument from evidence Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information	Structure and Function Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems Inheritance and Variation of Traits Natural Selection and Evolution

Course Outline

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

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

Textbook and Materials

All students will use *Biology* by Prentice Hall. You will use this in class. You may also have one at home to complete your homework assignments.

Supplies Needed for Class:

- 1 to 1 ½ -inch three-ring binder with notebook paper (not spiral)
- three manilla dividers for notebook sections
- colored pencils (bring in when needed for labs, etc.)
- calculator (especially for labs)
- ruler (try to get one that hooks in your notebook so you can have every day)
- index cards with some 1-1 ½ inch rings to make flash card rings
- hole puncher!!
- pens and pencils (for diagrams) – every day!
- Headphones/earbuds to hook into laptop when needed for in-class animations/ tutorials
- Dry erase marker to keep in your pencil case for when we need it
- BRING YOUR NOTEBOOK TO CLASS EVERY DAY!

HCPS Grading Policy

Your grade will be based on assignments that fall into three weighted categories: Assignments in the Product category will make up 50% of your grade, Process assignments will account for 30%, and Practice Assignments will account for the final 20%. **Practice** assignments help you to **practice** skills and **reinforce** your learning. **Process** assignments will give a good indication of your **growth** toward an end goal, and the **Product** portion of your grade measures how well you have mastered the learning goals and standards. You will have many opportunities for success, so please don't sweat the percentages.

PRODUCT (50%) <i>Culminating Demonstration of Knowledge</i>	PROCESS (30%) <i>Addressing Specific Short-Term Learning Outcomes</i>	PRACTICE (20%) <i>Building Attitudes, Habits, and Skills</i>
Summative Assessments	Formative Assessments	Building attitudes, habits, and skills through practice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primarily completed in presence of teacher • Rubric aligned to standards • Accuracy graded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could be completed in presence of teacher • Could be aligned to Rubric standards • Accuracy graded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graded for completion and/or participation according to guidelines

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 following the designated HAC update (except for the last week of the quarter).* Students are only able to submit assignments that have an established due date within the grading window before the designated HAC update. This means that *previous assignments (from previous HAC updates) that were never*

turned in will not be accepted. Assignments 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.

All students are expected to follow the Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy explained in the planner. Copying assignments of any kind is not acceptable. This includes labs and assignments where students are traveling together to different stations or completing group activities. All students involved in incidents of academic dishonesty will have to bear the consequences described in the student planner, including the student who knowingly supplied answers. This will include, but may not be limited to, receiving a zero for the assignment, even if you were just the student who supplied the answers. During group or lab activities, be sure to take responsibility for filling out your own paper by discussion with the group and then individual formulation of answers. You are responsible for your own learning so be sure to ask for help if needed. Please understand that no extra credit will be given to make up lost points due to academic dishonesty.

Cell Phone Policy

- Students will place their cellphones in a teacher designated area (on *silent* or *off*) 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.

Tips For Success

In order to ensure your success, please try to do the following things: **participate** during class each day. You'll get something back. Make sure your assignments are legible in blue or black ink. Or type if you wish. Be in your seat and working on your warm-up or writing objectives before the bell rings. If the bell rings and you are not seated, you will be considered late, so be sure to get to class on time. Bring your materials with you every day. Please don't eat or drink in the room (except water). Place your phone in the phone pocket when you enter the room. You will not need it to determine the time because there is a clock. And please stay in your seats until I dismiss you. You might miss something important if you leave as soon as you hear the bell. It is your responsibility to find out what you have missed and to make the arrangements to stay after school to make up work right away. See me immediately when you return and expect to stay after school that very day. (Often the lab materials will go bad.)

Make-up work will be listed, and extra handouts will be found on the table in the back of the room. Please help yourselves. Copy the assignments missed into your planner and pick up any handouts you missed as soon as you return. Form a study group. Review notes each night. Make flash cards. And don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it.

Additional Information

Please assemble your **NOTEBOOK** in the following way:

- Make sure you have a three-ring binder for Biology with manilla dividers.
- Section I:** "*Notes, Classwork, Labs, Homework*" should contain all notes and assignments, graded or otherwise, etc. All assignments within section one should be in chronological order according to a **Table of Contents** that I will help you make. It is your responsibility to keep it updated. Even if absent. See a classmate upon your return.
Section II: "*Drills/Warm-ups/Objectives*" - Keep them in order by date.
Section III: "*Review and Miscellaneous*" should contain clean notebook paper and handouts you'll need to keep all year long.
- If you are ever absent, it is up to you to you borrow a TOC to bring yourself up to date. See me before or after class or school, but not during class for the table of contents.

OFFICE HOURS: I am available for help Wed – Fri after school by appointment. I won't know you need help unless you tell me, so don't hesitate to ask. Please ask! 😊

Biology COURSE SYLLABUS SIGNATURE FORM

Return to Mrs. Procell/ Biology

I have read the course expectations presented in this booklet and I understand them. I realize the syllabus booklet should be saved for future reference. Losing this syllabus does not release me from responsibility about knowing the expectations and taking responsibility for my learning.

_____	_____
(Print Name)	(Period)
_____	_____
(Signature)	(Date)
_____	_____
(Parent Signature)	(Date)

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