

# AP Biology Summer Assignment

Welcome to AP Biology! You have signed up for a challenging, yet extremely rewarding experience. The AP Biology curriculum is equivalent to 2 semesters of biology in college including an additional lab course. Therefore, this course is highly intensive and will require you to do a large quantity of work independently, at home. Please be aware that by committing to this course you are also committing to being on time, staying on task, and working hard.

Although this may seem overwhelming, we will definitely have a lot of fun! I am thrilled to be working with each one of you next year! I am committed to teaching this course just as you are committed to taking it. Therefore, keep in mind that I will not ask more of you than I am willing to give.

Your summer assignment begins here:

1. Email me at [spagnolettiscience@gmail.com](mailto:spagnolettiscience@gmail.com) with the following information ASAP. In the subject line, write your name and AP Bio. (ex. Ms. Spagnoletti – AP Bio)
  - Your first and last name (include the name you prefer to be called, if any)
  - Will you be a junior or senior in the 2016-2017 school year
  - Parent/Guardian's name
  - Parent/Guardian's cell number
  - Parent/Guardian's email
2. Read *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. Take personal notes as you read. Set them up in outline form – Chapter by Chapter. **This is mandatory! Your notes will help you with the assignments below.**
  - Note: These books have been purchased for you to use and you are responsible for them throughout the summer! Please **do not write in the margins or highlight**. Feel free to use sticky notes to make notations if you would like to. The books **must** be returned when your assignments are due. If not, you will be responsible for the cost of the book.

3. Complete the assignments below.

Prompt #1

Create a time line that begins with the removal of Henrietta's tissue sample and traces the scientific and medical breakthroughs that have been made possible as a result of HeLa cells. Explain how HeLa cells were used in each situation.

- Note: You can do this however you want! Create an electronic timeline, make a poster, a video, or write it as an essay. If you have another idea please contact me via email before starting.

Prompt #2

In the Afterward, Skloot summarizes the main issues and legislation surrounding the collection and use of human tissue samples. Using her summary as an outline, examine the evolution of laws concerning tissue research and **write a persuasive response** on the issue of whether or not people should be given legal ownership of, and/or control over their tissues.

- Note: Your response should be between 1 and 2 pages (**typed, 12 pt font, 1" margins**)

These assignments are due the first Friday after the school year starts (**9/2/16**). Do not procrastinate! If you do not complete these assignments over the summer you will begin the year behind track.

You were selected for this course because you have proven to your teachers that you are hard-working and capable. I understand this may make you feel intimidated, but don't be! If you want to succeed in this course, you will! I will provide you with the materials you need, but I can't do the work for you! I am here as a resource. Please feel free to contact me anytime throughout the summer with any questions or concerns. You can use the gmail account listed above.

Don't forget to enjoy your summer! Set aside some time for AP Bio, but take time to relax, enjoy the sunshine, and rest up for the 2016-2017 school year.

I'll see you again in August!

Ms. Spagnoletti