

Hello AP Biology Student!

I just want to introduce myself since I will be your AP Bio teacher next year. My name is Tamara Litjen and we will be in room K-7. As you know the goal is to get you to a point where you will be successful in taking the AP exam next May. That way you can save time and money and of course gain lots of knowledge. In order for that to happen it is going to take a lot of effort on both of our parts. So the work starts now!

You will have a summer assignment. I have considered many options such as reading the text book (not good summer reading), packets of worksheets (that would probably get colored by your younger sibling), or using online sources. Being that you are part of the technology generation I am opting for choice number three. The best source I have found (and former AP students agree) is Bozeman Science and taking notes. The average length of a lecture is about 17 minutes, but you may find that you need to go slowly and listen a couple of times. You will keep notes in a composition book with at least 80 pages (100 is even better); it should last the entire year. Write your name on the front cover with a Sharpie. The notes will be in the order given in the list below. These notes will be graded when you hand them in on the first day of school. You will be taking a biochemistry test on the material covered in these lectures. We will be doing activities and labs in addition to the notes you will have taken.

So, here is the list of lectures you need to cover this summer:

Website: Bozeman Science AP Biology (under videos)- 11 Lecture Videos

*The New AP Biology Exam- A Users Guide (watch this lecture first, however you do not need to take notes on it)

1. Models and Representation
2. Using Mathematics
3. Scientific Questioning
4. Data Collection Strategies
5. Analysis and Evaluation of Evidence
6. Scientific Explanations and Theories
7. Scales, Concepts and Representations
8. Biological Molecules
9. Water- A Polar Molecule
10. The Importance of Oxygen
11. The Essential Characteristics of Life

Eleven lectures in eight weeks to accomplish the task. Very Reasonable in my opinion! So, do a thorough job when taking notes by including graphs and diagrams. These notes will be useful when reviewing for the tests especially the AP exam. Another incentive is that I will award 110 extra credit points, 10 points for each set of notes. These points will be added to the first semester grade.

You will also need to purchase a review book, Pearson Education Test Prep Series for AP Biology Campbell Biology Programs by Fred W. Holtzclaw and Theresa Knapp Holtzclaw. Make sure it is 2017 or newer. You will need this book every day.

You can reach me by email over the summer if you have a question or concern. My email address is tlitjen@rialto.k12.ca.us. I will be busy and doing things during my summer break, so if I don't get back to you right away don't stress, I will when I can.

Get lots of rest over the summer, you are going to need it especially if you are taking multiple AP courses. It is all doable and I am confident you can get a 3 or more on the AP exam if you don't poop out and keep your focus.

Materials needed:

1. Composition book
2. Computer for Bozeman lectures
3. Pearson Education Test Prep Series for AP Biology Campbell Biology Programs by Fred W. Holtzclaw and Theresa Knapp Holtzclaw

See you in August!

Mrs. Litjen