



AP Biology

NHS Course #2010
IB/AP Biology #2021



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ABOUT

This course is aligned to the College Board AP Biology Curriculum Framework and is based on four Big Ideas, which encompass core scientific principles, theories, and processes that cut across traditional boundaries and provide a broad way of thinking about living organisms and biological systems. Twenty-five percent of instructional time is devoted to hands-on laboratory work with an emphasis on inquiry-based investigations. Investigations require students to ask questions, make observations and predictions, design experiments, analyze data, and construct arguments in a collaborative setting, where they direct and monitor their progress.

TOPICS

Unit One The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life.

Unit Two Biological systems utilize energy and molecular building blocks to grow, reproduce, and maintain homeostasis.

Unit Three Living systems retrieve, transmit, and respond to information essential to life processes.

Unit Four Biological systems interact and these interactions possess complex properties.

The laboratory experience is used to emphasize that biology and science is a process, which involves development and testing of a hypothesis, collection, analysis, and presentation of data with a clear discussion of the results.

ELIGIBILITY

The AP Biology course is equivalent to a two-semester college introductory biology course. Students will complete the recommended laboratories in the AP Biology Investigative Labs: An Inquiry-Based Approach. All students will take the Advanced Placement Examination in Biology in May, the fee for which is approximately \$93.00 plus a College Board Administrative Fee. Students who earn a qualifying score are typically eligible to receive college credit and placement in an advanced science course in college (subject to university credit and placement policy).

Prerequisites: Living Environment R or SI, Chemistry R or SI, and recommendation of science faculty.

