

Biology I
2014-2015 Syllabus
Montrose R-14 School
Mrs. Sisson

COURSE SCOPE

Biology I is a basic science course which all high school students must take, usually in their sophomore year. The course will cover such topics as cell structure and function, the basic chemistry of cells, environmental science, genetics and heredity.

TEXTBOOK

The textbook used for this course is Biology, published by Holt McDougal. For the ecology unit students will use the Nature Unbound books supplied by the Missouri Conservation Department. Each student is responsible for his/her book for the year. If the book is lost or stolen, the student is responsible for the replacement cost.

COURSE GOALS

By the end of the school year the students will have accomplished the following:

1. Learn about the characteristics of life.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of cell structure.
3. Compare and contrast the properties of the organic compounds.
4. Gain an understanding of how cells work together to form tissues and organs.
5. Be able to explain how different species of organisms play different roles in the environment.
6. Explain how various populations of living things interact in the environment.
7. Research the various ways in which mankind has affected the environment through agriculture, pollution, habitat destruction, industrialization, etc.
8. Learn about the structure of DNA and how it directs heredity.
9. Be able to complete punnet squares and predict the outcomes of the crossing of traits.
10. Gain an understanding of recent developments in the field of genetics and the impact on medicine and forensic science.
11. Practice skills such as measurement, observation, analysis, and data recording, and be able to apply those skills to the design of experiments

MATERIALS

The following materials will be needed each day in class:

- Textbook
- Pencil or other writing utensil (not red pen)
- A three ring notebook with paper in which they will keep all papers and notes.

GRADING POLICY

Students will receive grades for homework assignments, their science notebook, lab work, and tests. Tests, of course, will be worth more points than most assignments.

Accurate spelling, grammar, and neatness will be expected on all assignments, and will affect the grade on that assignment. Although students may occasionally work together on a project, no cheating will be allowed on individual assignments.

BEHAVIOR

Rules of behavior are as follows:

- Treat everyone with respect and courtesy.
- Come to class prepared with the appropriate materials and a good attitude.
- Do not do anything that will interfere with the learning process for anyone including you.
- Turn in your work on time, neatly done and complete.
- Follow instructions, and do not make up your own.

Students are expected to avoid the necessity of leaving the classroom to go to the restroom or locker during class time. They will enter the classroom quietly, be ready to work immediately, and remain seated until dismissed. No food or drink will be allowed in the classroom. Cell phone use will not be allowed in class.

Since this is a science class, there will be additional rules in regard to safety issues during lab activities. Students who break these rules will most likely lose the privilege of participating in future lab activities.

I have read the Biology I Syllabus, and I agree to follow the rules listed and to make the most of my time in Biology I class.

Student Signature

Parent Signature