



Winthrop High School Course Syllabus

Grade 9: CP Biology



Year: 2023-2024

Teacher(s): Kristina Jones

Room: 317

Email: krjones@winthrop.k12.ma.us

Google Classroom: Block 1- **66kccnf**

Block 4- **mdd5sag**

Block 7- **2ohbjjt**

I. Course Description and Requirements

College Prep Biology explores six main topics through a variety of teaching methods such as labs, models, interactive websites, and class discussions. The 6 main topics are: The Chemistry of Life, Cell Biology, Genetics, Anatomy & Physiology, Evolution & Biodiversity, and Ecology. This course will incorporate scientific inquiry skills and introduce proper laboratory procedures and the use of instruments, equipment, and materials. All students will be expected to recognize common themes among living organisms.

Winthrop High School strives to ensure its graduates are able to become productive citizens of their town, their state, and their nation. To do this, the school in 2011 embraced specific learning objectives, on which students are evaluated quarterly. Taken together, they express a community vision for what we want our graduates to be, know, and do. Please refer to the [Vision of the Graduate](#) statement on the school website for more information.

II. Class Expectations

- Students are expected to be respectful of their teacher, the school/classroom space, and their peers. There is a zero tolerance policy against bullying and any incidents will impose an immediate corrective action by the Administration and Superintendent.
- Students are NOT allowed to have their cell phones out during class time. They are expected to be put away in their backpack. If a parent/guardian/sibling needs to get in touch with a student, they can contact the main office or my classroom phone.
- Students are expected to keep their personal electronic devices, headphones, tablets, etc away in their backpack.

- I will post a weekly calendar in google classroom that has the agenda for each day. There will be links to access any documents in the calendar. Students are expected to check the google classroom for updates and the weekly calendar for any work missed.

III. Class Discipline

Students who are engaging in disruptive/disrespectful behavior or using their phone during class time will earn one of the following consequences:

- Teacher Session (after school with teacher).
- Administrative Session (after school with admin).
- Please refer to page 41 of the [Student Handbook](#) for the disciplinary guidelines and levels of behavior.

IV. Required Materials

All students must come to class each day with the following materials:

- Pen/Pencil
- Charged Chromebook
- A 3 ring binder or a notebook and folder

** I will provide a folder for each student to keep in the classroom for classwork/lab notes.

V. Grades

Students and parents will have access to grading information and progress updates through iPass. You can access this information by going to the WPS website and clicking on Winthrop High School, then clicking on family information. Or you can click the links here: [iPass parent website](#) and [parent help guide](#).

Here is the breakdown of grade calculations for biology:

Quizzes- 30%

- There will be a total of **eight** quizzes: six unit quizzes, a midterm “exam”, and a final “exam”. Each quiz/exam is worth 100 points.

Homework - 10%

- There won't be any homework the first few weeks to help students get acclimated to their classes. Moving forward, if students don't finish their class/lab work during class time, they will be expected to finish it for homework. Students will have a majority of the class time to complete any assignments. If students manage their time accordingly they should be able to finish their work during class. Any assignments will be available on google classroom if students do not have a paper copy.

Classwork/Labs - 40%

- *Classwork*: consists of the “Do Now” question at the beginning of each class and any worksheets during the class lesson.
- *Station Activities*: Stations will be numbered around the room and there will be a specific task at each one.
- *Formal and Informal Labs*: Students will participate in various lab work throughout the year. Students will be graded on their participation in the lab and their lab worksheets.

Unit Projects – 20%

- *Unit Projects (2)*: Students will be expected to complete two unit projects during the year. A separate sheet with specific information will be given to students a few weeks before it's due. Students will have some designated classroom time to work on the assignment.

VII. Communication

I will regularly post announcements, lecture notes, and assignments on google classroom and the weekly calendar for students and parents to access. If you ever want to know something, check those resources first! Students and parents are also encouraged to contact me via email. I will respond to all emails within 24 hours during the school week, and can respond in much more detail and speed than if you attempt to call. Students are also strongly encouraged to come after school if they need any additional help.

I wish you all the best of luck this upcoming year!!

Name: _____

Period: _____

Syllabus Acknowledgement

I know this sounds like a lot of information and it can seem overwhelming, but the purpose of this is to outline the basic expectations of the class and create a safe learning environment for everyone. After the first few weeks you will start to adjust to the new environment and that initial anxiety will decrease significantly. Also, don't be afraid to ask questions or to come talk to me about any concerns. I'm here to help you.

I'm not just saying this because I teach it, but biology can be really fun and interesting. There are many different reasons why it's important and one of my main goals is to help you apply these concepts in real life. Don't feel intimidated by the material. Everyone has a different learning style and I will help you break it down in a way that you understand!

Remember, I was once a freshman student at Winthrop High School

— Ms. Jones

Please sign and return this page by September 5, 2023.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____