



Cold Spring Harbor Junior-Senior HS
Living Environment
Mrs. Christine Villanti
cvillanti@csh.k12.ny.us

Course Objective:

Students are expected to surpass the local and NYS standards in the living environment. This includes successful completion of at least 1200 minutes of laboratory work before being eligible to take the New York State regents exam in June.

Texts:

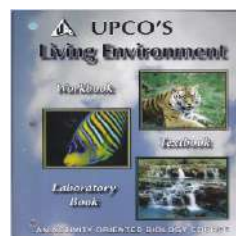
Biology

By: Miller & Levine

This will be used in class only. If you would like to take a copy home please see me.

UPCO: The Living Environment

This workbook will be used for readings at home and homework assignments.



Units to Be Covered:

- ❖ Scientific Inquiry and Laboratory Skills
- ❖ Similarities and Differences among living things
- ❖ Homeostasis in Organisms
- ❖ Genetic Continuity
- ❖ Reproduction and Development
- ❖ Evolution
- ❖ Ecology
- ❖ Human Impact on Ecosystems

Grades (summation):

Student Points Earned

Total Possible Points x 100 = numerical grade

* numerical grades are converted to a letter grade at the end of each quarter

* Point categories include tests, quizzes, laboratory assignments, homework, classwork and participation.

* The **final grade** will be an average of the marking period grades and the regents exam. The regents exam will count as 20% of the final average for the course, i.e., the same as an entire marking period.

Test Format

Tests will be given in the style of the Regents Examination. There will be some multiple-choice, some short answer, reading comprehension, graphing, data interpretation and some extended responses. Tests will be given at the ends of units.

**Science testing: any day except Monday for tests;
quizzes/questions- any day of the week**

Extra Help

Please see me to make arrangements. There is usually a review session the day before a test.

Course Rules and the Learning Environment:

In addition to the Cold Spring Harbor rules of conduct and policies, the following behaviors are also expected:

- ❖ Be prepared for each class. When the bell rings, you are expected to be seated and ready to learn. Make sure you have your homework and notebook out on your desk and a pen or pencil.
- ❖ Remember, you are here to learn, but also have the responsibility to allow others in the classroom to learn. Students **DO NOT** have the right to disturb other students, the teaching process, or the learning environment. Disturbances and disruptions will not be tolerated. It is imperative that you are quiet during presentations, lectures, demonstrations, etc. so that everyone can hear. You will get **one** warning!
- ❖ **Raise your hand!** Appropriate action will be taken if the normal tranquility of the classroom is interrupted.
- ❖ **NO FOOD/DRINK** is allowed on your desk or the lab bench. This is for your own safety!
- ❖ **Absolutely No Gum Chewing** in Class.
- ❖ **Communication Devices:** all **cell phones** must be turned off. **One warning!** It will be confiscated if it disrupts class. This includes texting! If you have any emergency, please let me know. We will make arrangements if necessary.
- ❖ **Laboratory Safety must be followed at all times.** No horseplay in the lab! Although you will be closely supervised, the surest way to have an accident is to fool around and not pay attention to instructions. This especially means no playing with fire, unauthorized experiments, or working without safety glasses! These infractions will cost you points and/or you will be asked to sit down and receive a Zero for that lab. No sitting on lab tables or vents in the back of the room. Your lab area must be clean at all times. You will be working in groups of two or three, so it is a group responsibility to keep the area clean. Your entire group will lose 5 points if I have to clean up after you. **Please read and sign the Safety Contract.** Keep a copy in your binder.
- ❖ In order to do well in the living environment, students should spend *at least* 20-30 minutes a day doing homework, preparing lab reports, studying for quizzes/tests, or reviewing notes.
- ❖ Students should make every effort to attend class regularly. If a class is missed, you should get the notes from a friend and seek help from me as soon as possible. Tests should be made up as soon as you return to school. **Miss a Day- Miss a Concept!**

- ❖ You will have the opportunity to practice the material covered in class through daily reading and homework assignments. Homework assignments will be checked regularly.
- ❖ If you miss an exam due to a legal absence, see me to make arrangements. Do not expect me to hunt you down. It is your responsibility. If you cut class during an exam, you will receive a zero for that exam. No Exceptions!
- ❖ If your homework assignment is not in class and open on your desk when I check it, you will receive no credit for that homework assignment. No Exceptions (even if it is in your locker and finished). Be prepared for each class. If you are absent, show me your completed work when you return. You are responsible to complete all assignments, even if you are absent. Call a friend in class, check the work for the week or email me. Try your best! See me if something serious occurs.
- ❖ There is No Extra Credit! If you complete your assignments, study hard for my tests and attend extra help when needed, you will do well. Do not fall behind! This is a demanding course!

Lab Grading Policy:

This is a laboratory course. New York State and the District require successful completion and documentation of 20-30 laboratory exercises or 1200 minutes for admission to the NYS Regents Exam in June. This Failure to complete this requirement will bar the student from entrance to the examination, and result in a loss of Regents course credit.

Lab reports are worth 10- 30 points each and are assigned specific due dates. The due dates are given when the lab is done in class, written on the board at the time of the lab, and/or verbally stated. On the day the lab is due, make sure your lab is stapled and ready to hand in. Your lab will be considered late if it is not handed at the start of the period. Remember to staple your lab before class starts. Should students miss the due date, students will receive a 10% deduction per day. Even if a lab report is 10 or more days late such that the grade is a Zero, the student must still turn in the lab report and keep it on file to meet the NYS lab requirement. Graded lab reports should not be removed from the classroom and are to be kept in the student-provided folder.

Note: Cheating is never acceptable! You will receive a grade of “o” if you use someone else’s answers in your homework or lab reports. This is a form of cheating called: “plagiarism.” Although you will be working in small groups for lab activities, your lab report must be in your own words!

Supplies:

- ❖ 1 (Living Environment) notebook or binder

- ❖ 1 lab folder
- ❖ 1 class folder
- ❖ Blue and/or Black pen (note taking and/or written assignments)
- ❖ Sharpened Pencils (exams/graphs/lab) at all times
- ❖ Optional—set of coloring pencils (yes, we will be coloring!)

Please return tomorrow. A copy is found on my website under “course syllabus- accelerated biology.”

I have read The Living Environment (Accelerated Biology) Syllabus and understand my basic responsibilities as a student in this course.

Student Name (PRINTED): _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____