# Reynolds High School

## Newcomer Biology

*Building Relationships for Academic Success*

**Instructor: Eric Wergeland** **Phone: 503-667-3186 x1150**
**Room Number: 200** **Email: ewergeland@rsd7.net**
**Credit: 1.0 Biology Credit (0.5 per Semester)** **2nd lunch**

## Required Textbooks/Materials:

- Paper, pencil, pen, section in binder for science, Chromebook
- Textbooks: What is Life? by Phelan Textbooks will be available in class as needed.

**Course Description**: **Biology is the study of life or living organisms.** Major topics that we will study are Energy, Cells and Development, Homeostasis, DNA and Genetics, Evolution, and Ecology, and Scientific Inquiry. This course is designed to support students new to the United States with developing both English language and knowledge of biology. Our focus will be on developing these skills through lots of practice with reading, writing, listening & speaking with your table and classmates.

**Course Requirements** – Each major unit in biology will end with either a final product or a quiz (sometimes both). I will help track with you your progress towards meeting the goals that we are learning. Your binder will help you stay organized and show what you have learned.

**Grading Policy Description** The purpose of assigning grades is to measure progress towards course objectives defined in the Next Generation Science Standards. I measure your growth in different ways. Assignments are placed into 2 different categories:

1. **Classwork and Homework** makes up **30%** of grade. This is the daily work in your binder that builds on what you know from day to day.
   - Daily work, notes, smaller labs, homework, smaller projects, and warm ups
2. **Mastery** makes up **70%** of your grade. This includes: **Tests/Quizzes, Major Projects or Labs** This is where you show what you have learned or what you can do on summative assessments.

**Grading Scale:** To pass this class you must earn at least a 60%.

Grade % Traditional: 100%-90% (A) 89%-80% (B) 79%-70% (C) 69%-60% (D) Below 60% (F)

A = Advanced Mastery B = Proficient at Class Standards C = almost proficient D = limited evidence of proficiency

## Retake/ Late Work Policy:

- To improve your quizzes or test scores, students are allowed to make corrections or retake the quiz as necessary. A retake must be completed within two weeks of our final test or quiz. You may have time in class for this or may need to do this outside of class.
- You **can** turn in late work but remember that daily work prepares you for the next day and for tests and quizzes. Falling too far behind may make it hard to do well on a final test or project.
  1. Late assignments *can be turned in* with no penalty until end the unit. After that, up to 70% is maximum.
  2. *If you miss a class, please check Schoology or with me for the work and complete it on your own.*
  3. Some assignments, usually labs, must be made up before or after school or during lunch.

## Course Schedule/Outline of Units:

This year we will cover the units listed below which are an introduction to basic Biology concepts.

| **Dates** | **Unit/Topic** (may be changed as needed) |
|---|---|
| **September** | Unit 1: Energy in Living Systems |
| **October** | Unit 2: Cell Biology |
| **November** | Unit 3: Homeostasis Unit and **Work Sample**: Daphnia Lab<br>End of Quarter 1: November 7th 2024 Semester 1 Conferences: Nov 25th – 27th |
| **December** | Unit 3 Homeostasis Unit and **Work Sample**: Daphnia Lab |
| **January** | Unit 4: DNA End of Semester 1: Jan. 22nd - 24th 2025, Frog Dissection Project |
| **February** | Unit 5: Human Genetics |
| **March** | Unit 5: Human Genetics - Finish<br>Unit 6: Evolution by Natural Selection Spring Conferences: March 20th – 21st |
| **April** | Unit 6: Evolution by Natural Selection End Quarter 3: April 10th |
| **May** | Unit 7: Ecology and Ecosystem Diversity |
| **June** | Unit 8: Ecology and Ecosystem Diversity<br>Final Exam/Project of Semester 2: June 9th – 11th 2025, (Last day for Seniors = June 4th) |

## **Class Expectations** (i.e. POWER)





1. **PREPARED** and **PUNCTUAL**: Come to Class and be on time!
2. **ORGANIZED**: Turn in assignments and homework on time. Get help from me <u>before</u> an assignment is due – after school, 1st lunch, or 2nd lunch (talk to me!)
   - <u>Keep all of your older work in your binder or at home by unit</u>. (do not recycle!)
3. **WRITE**: Listen and speak to others but do your own best work. <u>Copied work will not receive credit.</u>
4. **ENGAGED**: Most of the learning takes place in class, so PARTICIPATE 100%.
   - Use of phones in class will be determined by a Red or Green sign. Green means phones are allowed for academic use. Red means phones are off and in a bag off the table.
5. **RESPECT**: As we are all learning English and Biology together, please show respect to everyone. Listen respectfully to all voices. Talk when you are instructed to talk and listen when it is time to listen.
   - Be respectful of your classmates' space and belongings and of my room.
   - No food (drinks are okay in a sealed container) – not safe this year and we have mice!
   - Be safe during labs and clean up after yourself and others.
   - Shows respect by working hard in class as this is how we all improve and learn better together
   - Bathroom: 10/10 rule – must stay in class during first or last ten minutes of class. Planners are used for your hallway and bathroom pass.

**Repairing Relationships:** I look forward to working together as a class to create and maintain a safe and learning-focused environment. When we run into difficulty (and we will) I will check in with you, your peers, your counselor, and your family to see how we can work together to maintain our respectful classroom environment. Every day holds opportunities to grow, learn, trust, and build relationships.

I have read and I understand the course syllabus, class requirements, and student expectations. Student Name Printed: _____

Student Signature_____ Date_____

Parent Signature_____ Date_____

**Please have this signed and turn in by September _____. Then put in front of your science binder section.**