West Linn–Wilsonville School District

Science Department – Course Statement

Course Title: Organic and Biochemistry			
Length of Course: Number of Credits: Grade Level: Prerequisites: CIM Work Samples Offered in Course:	Year 2 11, 12 Chemistry None	Date of Description/Revision: 2002	
Course Overview			
Biochemistry is a course that investigates the chemistry of life. The emphasis of study and investigation will be placed on the following topics: 1) review of organic chemistry, 2) molecular components of cells – amino acids, proteins, enzymes, sugars, lipids, nucleic acids, vitamins, 3) catabolism – metabolic pathways, 4) cell function and control – biosynthesis, transport, hormones, and 5) replication – DNA/RNA. This course may be of special interest to those students considering a career relating to biology or medicine. Health field careers will be addressed.			
Essential Questions		Concepts providing focus for student learning	
What is the relationship between chemistry and life?			
What chemical systems are essential to life?			
 How will our knowledge of biochemistry affect our lives now and in the future? 			
Proficiency Statements			
Upon completion of course, students		will be able to:	
 Identify organic families in order to write appropriate names and structur compounds. 		o write appropriate names and structures for organic	
Understand basic organic chemical reactions.			
Identify biochemical families.			
Predict chemical activity based on chemical structure.			
 Learn the chemical nature of the cell, concentrating on: carbohydrate proteins, and nucleic acids. 		cell, concentrating on: carbohydrates, lipids, amino acids and	
Understand basic metabolic processes: anabolism and catabolism.		esses: anabolism and catabolism.	
Understand the nature and importance of genetic information.			
 Apply biochemical principles to nutrition, digestion, circulation, the nervous system, and the immune system. 			
Be aware of medical applications of		of biochemistry.	
Be aware of car	Be aware of career possibilities in the area of health and medicine.		

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General Course Topics/Units & Timeframes			
Semester 1			
A. Review of General Chemistry	5 weeks		
B. Organic Chemistry	31 weeks		
Semester 2			
A. Biochemistry	33 weeks		
C. Health Application and Body Systems	3 weeks		
Resources			
• Text: Introduction to General, Organic & Biochemistry, 6 th Edition, Harcourt College Publishers, 2001.			
Video Series: Howard Hughes Medical Institute			