

HONORS BIOLOGY SYLLABUS

WHEELER HIGH SCHOOL: 2017-2018

TEACHER: MRS. PHILLIPS (MAGNET BUILDING ROOM 515)

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PURPOSE

In this class, you will be introduced to the general and exploratory concepts of biology, **THE STUDY OF LIFE**. The content materials will take you into the interesting and challenging topics in biology, which will enable you to learn and understand the unique processes that support life in all living things. You will also explore the world around you that support these living things. To achieve the goals and objectives stated in the curriculum, you must constantly engage the scientific process to solve problems that relate to biological processes, environment, and daily life. This course is challenging and fast-paced, therefore, in order to be successful, you must constantly be engaged in critical thinking, reasoning, analyzing, studying, questioning. Mastering these skills will allow you to achieve higher standards.

TEXTBOOK: *Biology* (Glencoe/ McGraw- Hill, 2008)

☉ **Materials needed for this course**

1. Pen (blue or black) and several # 2 pencils (no gel or colored pens allowed)
2. A 3-ringed binder and folder
3. College ruled notebook paper.
4. Colored pencils, erasers, ruler.

☉ **Materials you must bring to class daily**

1. A pen and pencil
2. Textbook, ruler
3. Your notebook
4. All assignments due for the unit.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

PERCENT

Tests/Projects.....	45
Final Project.....	5
Homework/Classwork.....	10
Labs /Quizzes.....	20
Final Exam (EOC).....	20
(EOC– State Mandated “Benchmark” Exam)	

GRADING SCALE

A = 90 – 100
B = 80 –89
C = 74 – 79
D = 70 – 73
F = 69 – Below

- ☉ Tests will be announced and review materials will be given.
- ☉ Quizzes may or may not be announced.
- ☉ Homework and other assignments are due at the beginning of the class period. **NO LATE HW ACCEPTED UNLESS IT IS AN EXCUSED ABSENCE!!!**
- ☉ Lab reports or projects that are turned in late (disregarding an excused absence) will lose 10% of grade per day, starting with the day it is due. **Any lab handed in later than 3 days will not be accepted**

GENERAL CLASSROOM AND SCHOOL POLICIES.

All biology students are required to practice self disciplines, and maintain a positive, open, courteous, respectful and safe learning environment. The time spent in school is for learning, therefore, should only be utilized to attain the state and county standards. Your actions must always be directed towards achieving the goals of learning and becoming a better and contributing citizen of our society.

CLASSROOM RULES

- You should arrive in class and be seated quietly in your seat **before** the bell rings.
- Turn all assignments in on time.
- Bring all materials to class, do not ask the teacher for materials.
- Treat your teacher, classmates, and learning environment/equipment with respect.
- Listen attentively to the teacher during instruction times.
- Everyone in the class must take notes during lessons.
- **Always raise your hand to speak and wait to be called.**
- Obey all safety and school-wide regulations.
- Work hard and consistently at all times.
- Always ask questions to clarify things you are not sure of.
- **There should be no food, drinks, candy or hats in the classroom or during labs. Water ONLY is allowed on non-lab days. Cell phones must be put away at the beginning of class**
- No writing on tables, rolling in the chairs or sitting on table tops
- No make-up application or grooming is allowed in the classroom or lab.
- **Locker and restroom passes will be issued on a limited basis during my class. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY MEDICAL CONDITION THAT REQUIRES MODIFICATIONS TO THIS POLICY. (Bring a note from home and/or a doctor's note).**

MAKE-UP WORK:

After an absence, it is your responsibility to bring a written excuse and make up work within the allotted time. **Students are expected to make up all work missed within the period specified by the school (two days for each day absent).** Missing work will reflect a zero until the work is turned in and graded. All work (class work, homework, laboratories, quizzes, and tests) must be made up promptly, unless special arrangements are made with the teacher. It is very difficult to make-up missed labs, so make every effort to be in school during scheduled labs, unless in cases of illness. Students are responsible for obtaining notes and assignments from a classmate when absent. **(I encourage you to buddy up with someone in the class, and take their phone number. This buddy would collect any handouts that are given during your absence, you could also get class notes from him/her).** Make-up tests/quizzes will be given by appointment only, before or after school. You and I must agree on the time for the make up. Failure to show up for an appointment without prior notification will result in a zero grade. The bottom line is: **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR MAKE UP WORK!!**

LABORATORY SAFETY:

Lab safety is **VERY IMPORTANT**. We will go over lab safety procedures. Violation of lab safety regulations will be taken seriously. 'Horseplay' will result in serious disciplinary action.

TARDIES/ABSENCE FROM CLASS:

It is important that students attend class daily, and always report to class on time. No one is to leave his/her desk unless instructed to do so, or after the bell signifies the end of a lesson. Therefore, sharpening of pencils, writing down assignments from each day's 'Daily Agenda' and turning in assignments should be done as soon as you enter the classroom.

If you arrive late to class, you must have a hall pass from a teacher, administrator, or attendance office; otherwise, you will earn a detention. Students coming late to class and/or absent from class will be dealt with according to the appropriate school disciplinary policy. Parents/guardians will be notified if a student is habitually late to class and/or if absences are excessive. To achieve a good grade in this course, you must attend class, except in cases of serious illness, extreme emergency or religious holiday.

DISCIPLINARY POLICY:

To encourage appropriate behavior conducive to a positive learning environment, I will issue verbal warning the first time any student engages in inappropriate behavior. If this student continues to misbehave after the first warning, s/he will be disciplined according to the school policy, as well as a detention by me. All detentions must be served within two school days after the date of issuance. If a student displays a serious and/or chronic behavior or tardiness, the student will be referred to the administrator for further disciplinary action. Parents or Guardian will be contacted to notify them of the behavior and consequence.

COURSE OUTLINE:

1. Intro to Biology; Lab Safety & Equipment; Graphing/ Analyzing Data
2. Basic Biochemistry
3. Cell Biology
4. Cellular Energetics
5. Cellular Reproduction and Genetics
6. Molecular Biology
7. Evolution and Classification
8. Ecology (including a short unit on Plants)
9. Animals (brief...mainly Animal Characteristics and Behaviors)

Plagiarism

Cheating will NOT be tolerated on this class. Plagiarism is the use of another author's or student words or ideas without giving credit/ citing sources. It is a form of cheating. If any portion of your work is plagiarized or copied, a zero will be given for the grade, referral to an administrator and the act entered into the student's permanent discipline record.

Computer Use:

ONLY for academic purposes. No games played or new programs should be installed, no defaults changed. Any misuse will lead total loss of computer privileges during class.

Remind account- Please join this ASAP, as I will send class reminders and other information. On your phone, enter 81010. Text this message: @2c2944. To use Remind via email: 2c2944@mail.remind.com

Join our class: www.usatestprep.com- I will give you a sheet with instructions as to how to join this class. There will be many assignments and practice tests using this site, so join ASAP.

Daily Agendas will NOT be posted on the blog. Write down assignments & due dates EVERY SINGLE DAY

SAP Pass-Will be discussed in class

Students: Please detach this page and bring to class tomorrow, after you & your parent/guardian signs below.

Dear Parent(s) and /or Guardian:

Attached to this letter is the Honors Biology syllabus and other relevant information your child will need to be familiar with while taking the course at Wheeler High School. Please take some time to review this document. This document has already been discussed with your child, and s/he will be held responsible for meeting the objectives of this class, and maintaining a disciplined environment in my class. This course is a fast-paced one and will require extra time, independent reading, and personal commitment to achieve success. I am asking that you help me remind your child of the need to stay focused and on task. My goal is to help your child achieve his/her best in this course and be ready to take more advanced classes. I cannot accomplish this task without your help!

Please feel comfortable to ask questions, seek clarification on assignments, or inform me of any needs that may hinder or slow down your child's progress. You may reach me at Wheeler via e-mail at susan.phillips@cobbk12.org or by phone (770)-578-3266. **Please note- e-mail is my preferred mode of communication.**

Thank you so much. I look forward to getting to know your child and being a part of his/her education.

Sincerely,

Susan Phillips

PLEASE LIST BELOW SUGGESTIONS THAT MAY HELP FACILITATE YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION.

Kindly sign below that you have discussed all of this information with your child and understand the procedures of my class.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Parent e-mail address: _____ Phone # _____

Student's name (Print): _____ Date _____

Student's e-mail address _____ Phone # _____

