

Biology
Course Syllabus
Chester County High School
2018-2019



Instructor: Mrs. Hatch

Class #: S8

Email: stephanie.hatch@chestercountyschools.org

Planning: 3rd period

School Phone: 989-8125

Class Description

Biology I is a laboratory science course that investigates the relationship between structure and function from molecules to organisms and systems, the interdependence and interactions of biotic and abiotic components of the environment, and mechanisms that maintain continuity and lead to changes in populations over time. Students explore biological concepts through an inquiry approach.

Class Objectives

- Teach students practical scientific skills, which they can use to investigate, study, and explain the world around them.
- Give students a deeper understanding of how biology impacts their daily lives.
- For each student to achieve proficiency of the Tennessee Standards for High School Biology.
- To encourage the spirit of scientific investigation and with it, the attitudes of accuracy in thought and work.

Topics to be Covered – visit the following web address to view more detail

https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/stateboardofeducation/documents/massivemeetingsfolder/meetingfiles4/10-20-17_III_J_Non-Substantive_Changes_to_Math_ELA_Science_Standards_Attachment_3_-_Science.pdf

BIOLOGY I: ACADEMIC STANDARDS:

BIO1.LS1: From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes

BIO1.LS2: Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics

BIO1.LS3: Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits

BIO1.LS4: Biological Change: Unity and Diversity

Materials Needed for Class

You need these items EVERY day in class. You may not use them every day, but you need to bring them to class EVERY DAY!!

- Pencil or pens
- 1 inch 3 ring binder with paper
- Highlighters (3 different colors) & colored pencils
- NO SPIRAL BOUND NOTEBOOKS!!

Classroom Expectations

- A. Be respectful of your teacher and your peers.
- B. Follow all instructions the first time they are given.
- C. All assignments should be completed in a timely manner.
- D. Be in the class working on your Great Start when the bell rings.

There are consequences for all choices—positive and negative!!

*Disrespecting the teacher, physically harming a student, OR blatantly destroying property will result in an immediate referral to the office!!

Grading Policy

A. Composition of Grade

The composition of your report card grade will be calculated as follows:

Tests, Benchmarks, and Projects Average	= 45%
Labs & classwork average	= 25%
Quiz average	= 30%

1. Tests

- You will be given at least a 3 day notice before a test is given.
- To be best prepared for taking your test, you will need to read your notes and complete any relevant assignments and study guide.
- Benchmark tests:
 - These tests will be a cumulative test covering material from the first day of school to that current day.
 - The goal of these tests is to better prepare students for the Biology EOC State Test.
 - Will be generally given at the end of each six weeks.

2. Quizzes

- Quizzes may or may NOT be announced ahead of time.
- Generally, quizzes will be given EVERY week.

3. Labs

- Failure to complete prior assignments related to the lab activity and/or absence on lab day could result in the student completing an alternative assignment covering the same content. (No homework = No fun lab)
- The grade on the alternate assignment will substitute as the lab grade.
- ***I must have a signed Lab Safety Contract for you before you can do lab work.***

4. Homework

- Homework is due at the beginning of each class.
- Assignments may include students completing website activities (Google classroom) for their grade.
- It is the expectation that ALL students complete all assignments in ALL of their classes.

B. How to Improve Your Grade

a. Correcting Tests and Quizzes (when allowed)

- When allowed each test and quiz may be corrected once within 1 week of original date given to improve your score. Half credit will be given on corrected items.
- You can only make corrections before school or after school unless prior arrangements are made.
- You must make arrangements with Mrs. Hatch at least one day in advance to correct a test/quiz.
- All notebook grades can be brought up to a 100. You must complete the work missed and resubmit.
- Tests which have received a zero may NOT be retaken. This includes zeros which were given due to cheating. *Any form of communication or copying of work from one student to another student during a test or quiz WILL be considered cheating.*

C. Make-Up Work

Make-up work is the responsibility of the student and follows the guidelines in your student handbook. A "Make-Up Work Notebook" is located in the classroom for you to check about the work you missed. Make-up tests and quizzes must be done before school or after school unless otherwise allowed.

Government Requirements in Biology

A. TN State Biology standards & support documents may be viewed at the following website:

<https://www.tn.gov/education/instruction/academic-standards/science-standards.html>

B. Biology is an EOC tested course.

C. ALL students must pass biology and earn their credit in the course as part of the TN Graduation Requirements