Biology Syllabus 2016-2017

Instructor: Mr. Meyer

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**Class procedures:** You have all been in school for quite some time, so this is just a quick reminder of classroom etiquette. Be seated in your desk when the bell rings, raise your hand to speak, no one speaks when I am speaking. Come to class prepared and try to keep bathroom and locker passes to a minimum. Please use common sense and be respectful of your classmates and me at all times.

**Objectives/Goals:**

• Teach students practical scientific skills, which they can use to investigate, study and explain the world around them.

• Give students a deeper understanding of the how biology impacts their daily lives.

• To encourage the spirit of scientific investigation and with it the attitudes of accuracy in thought and work.

**Grades**

* Grades will be based on a weighted system:
  + Tests/Quizzes= 60%
  + Labs/Projects= 30%
  + Homework= 10%
* Quarters # 1 & 2- 45%; Semester Test- 10%

**Homework**

* Be forewarned: assignments have due dates and late work will be severely penalized.
* The best possible score a student will receive the first day (day its due) is 75%, and the second day is 50%.
* If student is gone from school because of health issues or school related functions, refer to handbook for make-up work.
* If students know they are going to be gone for health related issues or school functions they are to come get the assignment before they leave.

Extra credit

* You will receive one extra credit point towards your test for every section of notes you complete (so make sure you come to class prepared!!!)

Tests:

* Tests will be administered at the end of each chapter or unit. Students will be given notice of the next test date as soon as it is determined.
* During finals week of each semester, a cumulative, **open-note test** will be given that will count as 10% of your total grade for that semester. Each quarter grade will be 45% of your final semester grade.

**Course Outline: (This is tentative and may be modified at any time.)**

**Quarter #1 Quarter #3**

Chapters 1-2: Introduction to Biology Chapters 11 & 14: Genetics

Chapters 3-4: Ecology Chapters 12-13: DNA/RNA

Chapters 5-6: Environmental Science Chapters 16-17: Evolution

**Quarter #2 Quarter #4**

Chapters 7 & 10: Cell Structure & Function Chapters 18-19: Classification & History of life

Chapters 8-9: Photosynthesis & Chapters 20-21: Viruses, Bacteria, Protists &

Respiration Fungi

Chapters 22-26: Plants and Animals

Chapters 27-29: Animals systems and Behavior

Lab Write-up Format: Total Points-30

Several labs completed in class will be word-processed and handed in. They will be in 12-point Times New Roman font, single-spaced. Headings will be underlined. Sections of the lab are as follows:

Name (1pt)

Period (1pt)

Date (1pt)

Title (1pt)

Problem: (2pts)

Write a few sentences about what the lab is investigating.

Hypothesis: (2pts)

Write a few sentences about what you think the answer to the problem is and why. Hypotheses should always follow an if… then… format.

Materials: (2 pts)

List all of the materials necessary for completing the experiment. Include units whenever necessary.

Procedure: (5 pts)

Write out specific step-by-step instructions for testing your hypothesis.

Observations and Data: (5 pts)

Record all observations. Take “before” and “after” pictures of your lab set up. If possible, make charts or graphs to show the data more clearly. When making charts is not possible, write a few sentences explaining any patterns or trends you see in the data.

Conclusion: (5 pts)

Explain whether your data supports or refutes your hypothesis. Discuss why this occurred. Also, discuss any problems with your procedure or errors you may have made while performing the experiment. Finally, explain any further experiments that could be done that are related to this investigation.

Questions: (5 points)

Type each question as given to you by Mr. Meyer and answer them using complete sentences.