



Mrs. Tabitha Campbell
Honors Biology Syllabus 2023-2024

Boerne High School

Email: tabitha.campbell@boerneisd.net

Room number: D138

Conference Period: 6th Period (11:40 - 12:10 B days)

Course Description

In Biology, students will conduct field and laboratory investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical-thinking and scientific problem solving. Students will study a variety of topics that include: structures and functions of cells and viruses, growth and development of organisms, cells, tissues, & organs, nucleic acids, genetics, biological evolution, energy transfer in living organisms, homeostasis, and ecosystems. Students at the Honors level will be required to demonstrate higher order thinking skills, which will enable them to be successful with the deeper level of thinking later in high school and in life beyond high school. This will help with our goal of making sure they are college, career, or military ready.

Required Materials

- Pencils and pens (not red please)
- 2 notebooks of your choice (composition or thicker spiral)
- Looseleaf Notebook paper
- A folder with 3 holes to hold any loose papers in binder
- Sharpie Marker
- Colored Pencils or markers
- Glue Stick
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Pencil pouch for binder
- Binder to keep everything in
- Dividers for binder

Grades

Students are also responsible for checking their own grades. I will make every attempt to grade as quickly as I can, to help you know what grade you realistically have in my class. Any missing assignments will be in Skyward as "M" and a grade of "0" to help reflect an accurate depiction of what their grade will look like if they do not turn those assignments in. This is the same for missing tests/labs. Tests will need to be made up during tutoring time before or after school if they miss my class for that day. Some labs will have the same requirement, depending on which lab it is. I will notify students upon their return if they must make up the lab if they were absent that day.

Students must make sure they keep up with any assignments so they're not trying to make up work at the last minute for grade checks. This is extremely important!

Grading Guidelines

In accordance with district policy, Major grades: Tests, Projects, and Formal Lab Reports will account for 50% of the Quarter's average, and Minor grades: Daily Grades, Lab Worksheets, Homework & Quizzes will account for the other 50%. As I give assignments, I will let students know if it is classified as a major or minor grade.

Behavior

Immaturity will not be tolerated. Students enrolled in my Honors Biology courses are expected to be role models for other students in the school. Act like the mature young adult you are.

Classroom and Lab Expectations

- Students will obey all safety regulations and codes
- No abusive language, foul language or inappropriate gestures
- Absolutely NO food or drink in the lab. Drinks with a lid (such as a water bottle), and "non-messy" snacks will be allowed in the classroom portion of the room
- Students will get along with each other and function as a collaborative team
- All school and BSD rules/policies will be enforced

Technology

Technology is an important part of this course. Students are expected to appropriately use technology in the pursuit of the learning outcomes as outlined in this document. Students are encouraged to bring their own devices to class (tablets, laptops, etc.) and use them in accordance with the district guidelines and my instructions. We do have chromebooks for use in class, but there aren't always enough to go around. Computer resources are also available throughout the school for use outside of class time. Computers are available for student use before school and after school in our library and available at the Boerne Public Library outside of school hours.

With this being said, the usage of technology policy is a privilege that may be lost if deemed necessary. I have 3 Major rules:

1. Cell phones MUST be turned off and put in backpack. If student would prefer to put them on the charging station or in the phone caddy to reduce the temptation to be on it, they are welcome to do so.
2. Be SMART; this is a privilege not a right (this includes your own device not hindering your work).
3. AirPods or headphones of any kind need to be put in bag while in class - NOT in/on ears.

If any student does not comply with the rules, the consequences will be as follows. The first offense will be a warning. The 2nd offense will result in confiscation of the device. If it continues, I will contact home to get assistance with eliminating the issue. If the behavior continues after that, the student will be written up, and the device will be turned into your AP and from that point it is out of my hands. This is not my goal so let's make this a great year by respecting the privilege.

Corrective Consequences

1. Warning
2. Parent phone call or email
3. Office referral

*Severe Clause: Student may be removed from a lab if their behavior breaks safety rules. Removal from lab results in a zero for that lab. Recurring removal for additional refusal to follow rules will result in non-participation in lab activities. This is an extremely serious offense.

Absences

Students are responsible for work and notes missed when they are absent. All materials for the class will be uploaded on Google Classroom as a reference or in the event of an absence. Students should check the "What Did I Miss?" bin for copies of what they missed. I will not hunt you down to give you missing work. Any questions about missing work need to be addressed before or after class or before or after school. Please do not interrupt class to ask for missing assignments.

It is especially important to meet with Mrs. Campbell to make up any tests or labs.

- If you know you are going to be absent beforehand, you should request your make-up work before the absence.
- You have one additional day to make up work for each day you are out, before it is counted late.
- If an assignment is scheduled BEFORE an absence occurs, the assignment is due on its original due date, or whenever the student returns to class.

Goals

This class is not just about Biology. You should expect to learn about different things, such as responsibility, organization, punctuality, study skills, and so much more!

This is not an easy class for some students, but please understand that when I push you, there is a reason why. My goals for you are to gain a love (or at least a like) of Biology, as well as some of the skills necessary to be successful in high school and life.

I will be in contact with parents/guardians. This is not a bad thing! I like to form relationships with the parents as well because we can work together to help you be successful. I love to share the great things you are doing in my class, as well as working with your parents or guardians to see how we can collaboratively help you.

I look forward to a wonderful school year with you!

Go Greyhounds!!

Mrs. Campbell