

Bear River High School
Biology Syllabus
Mrs. Frieden

Course Description

This school year we will ask ourselves “What defines a living organism?” To better answer this scientific question we will address a wide variety of biology topics that will help us better understand our question in depth. This is not a course that asks students to simply memorize information but to explain phenomena that we observe through practical application and use of scientific methods. The goal of this course is to guide students towards forming testable questions through observations and using data to develop a conclusion. Student success will rely upon student participation and effort. Students are asked to attend class on time and to be prepared to learn.

Homework Requirements and Policies

Assignments and homework are displayed in the classroom and our class site. Students will learn how to conduct proper experiments, record data and present findings in a well-structured lab notebook. These lab notebooks will be peer graded at the end of each quarter. Students will also be assigned long term projects and extra credit projects.

Assignments not finished in class are considered homework. The majority of classwork will be submitted as organized unit packets, allowing students more time to complete work. Unit packets will be collected on the day of the unit test or unit quiz (depending on length of unit). As such, late work may be accepted within 24 hours of the original deadline with a 30% reduction in grade. If a student has an excused absence, he/she has as many days as he/she was absent to turn in work. For long absences, please call the office ahead of time (if possible) for work to be sent home or arrange for an independent study contract at least 5 days prior to the absence. Students who are absent due to suspension will be given make-up work.

All written work should be in complete academic sentences and legible. All work should be original (written by the student and in the student’s own words). Any assignments, tests and/or exams that have been copied completely or in part from another source will receive no credit. Students who have given their work to other students to copy or to “check their answers” will also be given no credit. Cheating in any form will result in no credit, this includes communication during testing. These offenses listed above will be reported to administration and guardians will be contacted.

Students have the opportunity to makeup tests and labs one day a week during a set bruin time (weekday to be determined) and must be made up by appointment in advance. Students are given no more than one full week to make up a lab and are required to make up any test on the nearest bruin make-up date. If a student is absent on a review day and returns to school on the day of a test, he/she is required to take the test the day it is given. If the student is absent part of the day of a test, he/she is expected to make up the test during bruin time on the day of the test. IF A STUDENT IS ABSENT, IT IS THE STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY TO ASK ME ABOUT MISSING ASSIGNMENTS BEFORE OR AFTER CLASS. IF A STUDENT MISSES CLASS DUE TO A FIELD TRIP THEY ARE EXPECTED TO COLLECT THE ASSIGNMENT IN ADVANCE OR TURN IN ANY WORK IN ADVANCE THAT MAY BE DUE ON THE DAY OF THE FIELD TRIP.

If a student has a question regarding a graded assignment they have one school week from when the work was returned to request a review of the grade. To promote self-advocacy, students are expected to discuss their grade with me before or after class if they have any questions regarding their grade or assignments.

Behavior Expectations

1. Be Prepared
2. Be Kind
3. Be Courageous
4. Display Ownership

Students are allowed 4 bathroom emergencies per year. After the fourth emergency, students will be assigned a 15 minute detention with me after school. A student is tardy if they are not in their assigned seat when the bell rings. If tardy, the student will be asked to fill out the tardy log. After the third tardy guardians will be called and the fourth tardy will result in detention. All personal electronics are to be put away **and** turned off (mp3 players, cell phones, etc.) prior to entering the classroom. Electronic devices WILL be confiscated on the **first** violation, and are only returned through contact with administrative services. If I can see them OR hear them I will take them. This does not extend to school assigned chromebooks which students will be asked to bring to class every day. Racial slurs, hate speech, sexual harassment, outbursts and/or blatant defiance will result in immediate removal from the classroom. Students will be respectfully redirected if they become off task, however if the student fails to follow the prompts and becomes disruptive in class, they may receive a referral, detention, parent notification and/or in a rare event, suspension. Furthermore, students are expected to follow lab rules and to work safely. Any blatant defiance or failure to follow directions will result in a referral and loss of points for that lab in question.

DRESS CORDE WILL BE ENFORCED

NO FOOD, DRINKS OR GUM ALLOWED IN LAB CLASS

Grading Standards

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
Less than 60%	F

Tests/Quizzes	45%
Final Exams	10%
Assignments	45%

Grades will NOT be automatically rounded

As students are given many extra credit opportunities and extended time built into the homework packets, I will not automatically roundup grades.

AA passes will NOT be accepted for this course.

Questions/Information

I am usually available 15 minutes before/after school. As I am often preparing for courses before and after school I may not always be in the classroom for more than this period of time. Students are also encouraged to set up appointments or attend Bruin Time with me for additional help.

STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED to request work or additional assistance during my regular prep period. Parent conferences are scheduled by appointment only. These appointments are based on a direct request and only after the parent or guardian has received confirmation.

Name _____

Period ____ Date _____

I have read the provided syllabus and understand what is necessary to be successful in Biology.

Student name _____

(please print)

Signature _____

Parent/Guardian name _____

(please print)

Signature _____

The **BEST** way to contact GUARDIAN:

Phone or Email? _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Due Friday August 21st 2018