

# APBIO

## AP Biology Classroom Policy 2018-2019

**Course Description:** AP Biology, similar to Biology, is a college preparatory, year-long science course that meets the UC and CSU lab science admission requirement. AP Biology curriculum will be presented faster, in more depth and require significant outside of class reading and group work. It will require lab work during Bruin Time.

The goal of the course is to prepare you for the AP Biology Exam given May 13, 2019.

**Skills Required and Developed:** Reading comprehension, problem solving, scientific writing, time management, communication, memorization, and laboratory safety.

**The AP Biology course underwent a major revision in 2013 and is now guided by four “Big Ideas.”**

**Big Idea 1:** The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life.

**Big Idea 2:** Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce, and to maintain dynamic homeostasis.

**Big Idea 3:** Living systems store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information essential to life processes.

**Big Idea 4:** Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties.

**Content Sequence:** The content of the course has not changed, but the style of exam questions has. To facilitate a deeper understanding of Big Idea 1 we will cover content as follows.

I) Pre Life and Biochemistry	Chapters 26, 2, 3, 4, 5
II) Prokaryotes and Cellular Energetics	Chapters 27, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18
III) Eukaryotes, Cellular Energetics, Cell Division	Chapters 26, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 19
IV) Genetics of Sexual Reproduction	Chapters 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29, 32, 41
V) Organ Systems – Animal/Plants	Chapters 40, 42, 43, 45, 48, 49, 35, 36, 39
VI) Ecology	Chapters 50, 51, 52, 53, 54

**Text Provided:** Biology AP Edition, Campbell and Reece, 11th Edition

**Additional Text Suggestion:** Your own AP Biology preparatory workbook. Check out the choices on Amazon.com, or look at them in person at a bookstore. Plan to spend about \$20.

**Lab Notebook:** Students are required to keep an AP Lab Notebook for the required AP Labs. All prelab, data collection and conclusions will be recorded in this lab notebook. The lab notebook will be provided for you.

**Teacher Availability:** I will be available during Bruin Time and before school after 8am.

**Classroom Behavior:** Because of the nature of this class, “goofing off” will not be tolerated. Unsafe behavior will result in removal from the classroom. Disruptive behavior will be dealt with in conjunction with an assistant principal. Please review the Student Handbook sections headed “Bullying,” “Dress Code,” “Electronic Devices,” “Sexual Harassment,” and “Academic Honesty.”

# APBIO

## Grading

Semester Grades Category Breakdown	
55%	Unit Tests and Quizzes
20%	AP Lab Reports
15%	All other graded assignments
10 %	Final Exam

Grade Scale	
90.0% +	A
80.0 - 89.9%	B
70.0 - 79.9%	C
60.0 - 69.9%	D
below 60%	F

**Extra grade point earned for C work or better.**

**Please Note:** I do not round grades. In order to earn an A in the class, you will need to score at least B's on the tests. If you cannot live with a B or C on your report card, you may not want to take this class!

**Unit Tests:** We will have 6 unit tests (3 'midterms' a semester). They will be scheduled on the website calendar. Each unit test will have an in class multiple-choice portion and a free response question and will be worth 100pts.

**Chapter Work:** This class requires a **lot** of reading and is vocabulary intensive. I expect students to keep up with reading and content; however, each student has a different way of best accomplishing this task. Chapter work may be completed in one of three ways: Chapter Notes, Chapter Reading Guide, or Chapter Questions.

**Online Quizzes:** I will utilize the Pearson Campbell Textbook Website as well as Schoology.com. Students will be provided information for generating their own logins.

**Late Work:** Generally, late work is not accepted. All homework, lab reports, and classwork is due on time, unless you have an excused absence. If you are absent the day an assignment is due, turn in the work the day you return. Speak to me about due dates for work missed when absent longer than 2 days.

**Bruin Time, Study Sessions, Vacation Work:** AP Biology requires extensive outside of class work. There will be many times throughout the year that students are **required** to come to Bruin Time to conduct a lab. There likely will be work assigned over Fall and Winter Breaks. We will have weekly review sessions starting in March and one weekend review session before the May Exam.

**Class Website:** You can access our class via the web at [www.schoology.com](http://www.schoology.com) using your BR student computer ID and password.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Jennifer Weir, AP Biology Teacher  
[jenniferweir@njusd.com](mailto:jenniferweir@njusd.com)  
268-3700 x4609

# APBIO

August 15, 2018

Dear Students and Parents,

After reading through the course description, students please initial and sign this commitment sheet.

\_\_\_\_ I understand that AP Biology will require substantial outside of class reading, preparation and studying.

\_\_\_\_ I understand that the purpose of this class is to prepare me to take the AP Biology Exam on Monday, May 13, 2019. The approximate cost of the exam is \$95.00

\_\_\_\_ I understand that I will be required to attend Bruin Times at the teacher's discretion to conduct labs and prepare for the AP Exam.

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student name printed

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parent/guardian name

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student signature

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parent/guardian signature