



OSBOURN PARK HIGH SCHOOL

THE BIOTECHNOLOGY CENTER
"Once a Jacket, Always a Jacket"



Osbourn Park High School

Biology 2019-2020

Ms. Bedford

Welcome to biology class, the study of life! Please read through the following syllabus, academic requirements, and classroom expectations. Knowing and understanding these procedures will help ensure your success in biology class.

Contacting Me

Please feel free to contact me with any questions that you have about this course at any point throughout the year. Email is truly the best way to get in touch with me, and I try to respond to emails on the same day that I receive them. If you ever need extra help with the material, we can schedule a meeting either after or before school. I will be available after school on Tuesdays this year, but students must be in the room with me by 2:20 in order to stay and complete makeup work or receive extra assistance. Unless prior arrangements have been made, I will be leaving by 3:00.

Email Address: bedforkm@pwcs.edu

OP School Phone Number: (703) 365-6500

Course Description

Biology is a recommended course in which students will explore and investigate biological functions and systems at the molecular, cellular, systematic, and environmental levels. Students will also be able to implement applications of biological processes to everyday situations.

Course Sequence

This course will be broken down into the following units of study:

Unit 1: Introduction to Biology	Unit 6: Nucleic Acids and Protein Synthesis
Unit 2: Biochemistry	Unit 7: Genetics
Unit 3: Cell Structure and Transport	Unit 8: Evolution and Classification
Unit 4: Cell Energy (Photosynthesis/Respiration)	Unit 9: Ecology
Unit 5: Cell Division	Unit 10: Diversity of Life

Course Textbook

Miller, Kenneth R. and Joseph S. Levine. Biology. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson, Prentice Hall, 2004.

Materials

The following materials are required so that you can stay organized in this course:

- **Writing utensils (pens/pencils)**
- **3-ring binder (1.5 inches is preferred, but you may remove materials as we complete units)**
- **Colored Pencils**

Grading Policies

Scale

A = 90-100
B+ = 87-89
B = 80-86
C+ = 77-79
C = 70-76
D+ = 67-69
D = 60-66
F = 59 and below

Categories

Assessments = 90%*
Classwork = 10%

**The assessment category includes tests, quizzes, labs, and projects. The tests are weighted heaviest, with each topic carrying a weight of 2. All other assessments will be weighted 1x.*

Academic Requirements

- 1) Unit Work:** You will receive a variety of assignments to be completed in class or at home. You must complete all homework and classwork assignments to the best of your ability as these are assigned to help you master the content and monitor your level of understanding.
- 2) Tests:** There will be a test for each unit, broken down by learning target. You will be informed of the dates for unit tests at the beginning of each unit. Retakes will be offered only after you have had remediation and must be completed before the next unit test. Additionally, unit reviews must be completed and turned in before the original test for retake eligibility.
- 3) Projects:** You will be asked to complete projects for several different units, and there will generally be one project per quarter. In order to complete these projects, you *may* need to purchase certain items (e.g., poster board). If you cannot obtain these materials, you are encouraged to speak to me, as I may be able to provide materials or assign an alternate project.
- 4) Labs:** Throughout the year, we will be participating in a variety of laboratory experiences designed to make biology coursework authentic and relevant. During laboratory activities, the most important consideration is always safety. In class, we will carefully review a list of lab safety rules and procedures. Both students and parents/guardians will be required to sign a lab safety contract before students will be permitted to participate in lab activities.
- 5) Quizzes:** Students will be assessed using a variety of assessment methods frequently. These methods include, but are not limited to, exit tickets, entrance slips, vocabulary quizzes, and learning target quizzes.
- 6) SOL Test:** The Virginia Standards of Learning test for biology will be given towards the end of the school year (mid to late May). We will be preparing throughout the year for this exam.

Classroom Expectations

As in all your classes, you are expected to follow the PWC Code of Behavior and OPHS rules. You are also expected to follow the lab safety guidelines/contract, which we will go over in class. Do not cheat- any student caught cheating will earn a score of 0% for that particular assignment/assessment.

Please note that late work will only be accepted up until the unit test from which the assignment was given.