



APEX Biology Syllabus

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Textbook: Biology by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt



Course Description:

Welcome to Biology and to Bonita High School! Simply defined, biology is the study of life, but the scope of what this means is absolutely tremendous! This year you will examine the living world on a broad scale, ranging from the planet as a whole, all the way down to microscopic cells. Observations, questioning, and experimentation are fundamental to biology and will be tools you rely on as you learn how to think and act like a biologist. The mechanisms behind concepts such as evolutionary theory and heredity will be investigated in depth. You will explore connections between structure and function, stability and change, as well as energy and matter, as you discover how they all interact within living systems. You will also use an assortment of methods to model, explain, and communicate the various processes that occur within and between living things. You will even be asked to consider the ethical questions raised by human's increasing impact on issues such as genetics and the environment. And on top of all of that, you will complete an extensive project each quarter that will showcase your collaborative, creative, and communicative talents.

Daily Materials:

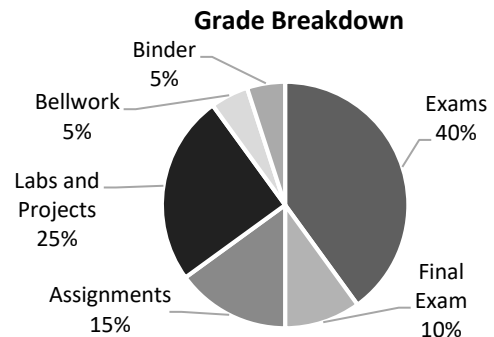
- 3-ring binder (1 inch) with 8 tab dividers
- #2 pencils
- Red correcting pen
- Highlighters/colored pens

Assignments and Projects

- Homework will be assigned **DAILY**.
- Anything that is not completed in class must be finished for homework, unless stated otherwise.
- Assignment information and due dates will be posted in the classroom and on the class website
- All assignments and projects will be collected at the beginning of the class on the day they are due
- Any digital assignments will be due before the start of the school day.
- All work should be neat, legible, and labelled with your name, the date, and class period.
- There will be designated area for no-name papers, which will be emptied after each chapter exam.
- **ALL LATE WORK WILL RECEIVE ½ CREDIT**
 - Late assignments will be accepted up until the chapter exam associated with the assignment.
 - Students who consistently submit assignments late, will lose their right to turn in late work. If this becomes the case, the student and parent will be notified in advance.

Grading Policy:

All grades and absences can be viewed online through Aeries. I will do my best to update grades at least once a week. ***It is your responsibility to check your grade for errors and/or missing assignments and get them turned in.*** If you believe there is an error in your grade, please see me with the name of the assignment and nature of the problem as soon as possible. The class is not graded on a curve, meaning every student can receive an A if they earn it. Grades are weighted as follows: Bellwork 5%, Binder 5%, Assignments 15%, Projects and Labs 25%, Exams 40%, Final Exam 10%.



100+	A+	87-89	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	59 or below	F
93-98	A	83-86	B	73-76	C	63-66	D+		
90-92	A-	80-82	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	D-		

Binder and Binder Checks:

You are required to keep an organized 3-ring binder (1 inch) for this class that will be turned in and graded at the end of each quarter. At the front of your binder you will need a tab for important documents, as well as a new tab for each unit we cover. Your binder will contain all of your notes along with completed assignments, projects, and labs. You will also be required to maintain a table of contents for each tab. It is ***your responsibility*** to keep track of your work and stay organized. Details about the different tabs and the overall organization of your binder will be discussed in depth during class.

Absences:

If you are absent, you have time equal to the number of days of school missed to make up the work for full credit. For example, if you missed Monday and Tuesday (2 days), you will have Wednesday and Thursday (2 days) to work on it and turn it on Friday. After that, it would be considered late. It is ***your responsibility*** to collect all missed work and turn it in time. If you miss a test or quiz it is again ***your responsibility*** to make arrangements with me to make it up during AIM, lunch, or after school. After one week, test and quiz scores will be recorded as zeros. Truants will receive a zero for all assignments, projects, tests, etc. that were missed on the day. *Missing class due to a school event is NOT AN ABSENCE, see me prior to the activity to get the work you are going to miss or else it will be marked as LATE.*

Academic Integrity:

I expect all students to maintain a commitment to themselves, their classmates, and to me, to uphold a high level of academic integrity. I have a zero-tolerance policy for cheating, or the intent or appearance of, on any assignments, tests, quizzes, or labs. This includes "sharing work" or "checking answers" when not specifically permitted to do so by the teacher. **ALL** students involved in cheating will receive a zero on the assignment in addition to further discipline appropriate to the offense.









APEX Biology Course Outline

	Unit	Chapters	Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)
Semester 1	1. Biochemistry	CH 2: Chemistry of Life	HS-LS 1-6
	2. Cells	CH 3: Cell Structure & Function CH 4: Cells & Energy CH 5: Cell Growth & Division	HS LS 1-1, 4, 5, 7
	3. Ecology	CH 13: Principles of Ecology CH 14: Interactions in Ecosystems CH 15: The Biosphere CH 16: Human Impact on Ecosystems	HS-LS 2-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
	Semester 1 Final Exam: December 21 & 22		
Semester 2	4. Human Body Systems	CH 28: Human Systems & Homeostasis CH 29: Nervous & Endocrine Systems CH 30: Respiratory & Circulatory Systems CH 31: Immune System & Disease CH 32: Digestive & Excretory Systems	HS-LS 1-2,3
	5. Genetics and Heredity	CH 6: Meiosis & Mendel CH 7: Extending Mendelian Genetics	HS-LS 3-2, 3
	6. DNA and Genetic Engineering	CH 8: From DNA to Proteins CH 9: Frontiers of Biotechnology	HS LS 3-1
	7. Evolution	CH 10: Principles of Evolution CH 11: The Evolution of Populations CH 12: The History of Life	HS-LS4-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
	Cumulative Final Exam: June 6 & 7		

Classroom Rules

Classroom Expectations	Consequences
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Be in your seat, ready to learn, with all materials when the bell rings.2. Treat your peers, classroom, teacher, and self with respect.3. Be aware of and follow all laboratory safety procedures.4. Personal use of electronics is not allowed unless I indicate otherwise.5. Clean up after yourself.	<p>First Offense: Warning Second Offense: Student/Teacher conference Third Offense: Call home and detention Subsequent Offenses: Office referral, administrative discipline, N/U citizenship grade</p>

Common Class Apps and Websites

 <p>Remind</p>	<p>Remind is a one-way text messaging app. Several of your other teachers most likely use it as well. With Remind, all personal information remains completely confidential. I will never see your phone number, nor will you ever see mine. I will send class-wide reminders, when necessary, to remind you of important dates such as “Test tomorrow,” “Make sure to bring signed permission slips on Monday,” etc. I will not send daily reminders about homework or due dates; it is your responsibility to record that information in class or obtain it from the class website. Remind also has a conversation feature that will allow you to contact me directly when you have questions. To sign up, text @apexbio18 to 81010. Failure to sign up could result in you missing an important reminder that could impact your grade. All announcements sent out on Remind will also be viewable on the class website.</p>
 <p>Quizlet</p>	<p>Quizlet is an online quiz program that will be used each day for recording vocabulary words as part of your bellwork. Quizlet allows you to make digital flashcards and play various games to help you study for weekly vocab quizzes.</p>
 <p>Google Classroom</p>	<p>Google Classroom allows you to receive, complete, and submit digital assignments. It also allows you to collaborate with your classmates and the teacher. Once the school year gets started, it will become the primary location to find class announcements, due dates, and resources.</p>
 <p>Google Apps</p>	<p>Some of the Google Apps we will use in this class include Drive, Docs, Sheets, Slides, Draw, and Forms. This collection of apps allows for easy collaboration with your classmates both in and out of the classroom.</p>
 <p>Google Sites</p>	<p>We will use Google Sites to build Biology ePortfolios throughout of the year. These will be scholarly science websites that will allow you show what you have learned in this course. They will also serve as study resources for you and your classmates and will be due the day before each chapter test. In addition, Google Sites will be a useful tool during quarter projects.</p>
 <p>Socrative</p>	<p>Socrative is a website that will allow you to take digital quizzes. It will be primarily used for weekly vocabulary quizzes, but may also be used for other quizzes and review activities throughout the year.</p>
 <p>Kahoot</p>	<p>Kahoot is a fun classroom quiz-game app that many of you may already be familiar with. It will occasionally be used as a way to help you prepare for an upcoming chapter exam.</p>
 <p>Padlet</p>	<p>Padlet is an online bulletin board website that allows for effective digital brainstorming. It allows contributors to add text, images, videos, and more. It will be used in both small group and class wide discussions and investigations.</p>

Your School Email Address and Password

Email = Full first name + first letter of last name + last 4 digits of 9 digit ID@busd.school

Ex) nicholausq1234@busd.school

Initial Password = 8 digit birthday (MMDDYYYY)

You may change your password from any school computer by following these steps:

Go to District website ->Technology ->Student Tech Portal -> Reset Password

Do not share your password. It is ***your responsibility*** to remember your password and keep your account secure.

Digital Citizenship Pledge

Mr. Queen's Classroom Technology Contract

The use of any technology, including but not limited to Chromebooks, iPods, lab equipment, or personal devices in Mr. Queen's classroom is a PRIVILEGE that comes with RESPONSIBILITY. In order to protect you and classroom technology, you must follow some important rules and procedures. These rules and procedures are to be followed in conjunction with the BUSD Acceptable Use Policy. Violation of the following guidelines may result in the loss of your technology privileges and/or further discipline.



1. I will only use the devices I am assigned or given permission to use.
2. I will not change any settings or add/remove apps and software without consent.
3. I will only use apps, software, and programs that have been approved by Mr. Queen to complete assignments and projects. When in doubt, I will ask.
4. When Mr. Queen authorizes the use of the Internet, I will not search for inappropriate material or visit inappropriate sites or sites that are not related to the task at hand.
5. I understand that I cannot browse the Internet freely for personal entertainment purposes, check my personal email, or browse my social media. This applies whether I am using classroom technology or personal devices.
6. I will make sure to give proper credit when using other's work found online and will not try to pass it off as my own. I realize this is a form of plagiarism and equivalent to cheating.
7. I will respectfully use the devices I am provided by handling them carefully and keeping them away from sinks, food, and drinks.
8. I will respect the privacy of other students by not using, modifying, reading, or deleting their files; I will not record, photo, or video other students without their consent.
9. I will log out, shut down, put away (in the appropriate location), and charge all devices (when applicable) before leaving the classroom.
10. I will NEVER remove a device from the classroom without consent.

Your class website and some assignments/projects will be visible to the public and other students. It is important that you protect yourself from bullies, cyber predators, and viruses by following these safety guidelines.

1. Never share personal information such as your full name, phone number, or address. If in doubt about the information you've posted, ask a parent, teacher, or administrative staff member.
2. Never arrange to meet with someone you met online without parental consent.
3. Make smart choices when posting/sending content - once it's out there it can't always be erased. Remember: ***you may be creating a digital tattoo that will be with you for life!***
4. Be wary of downloading anything that is FREE because sometimes it comes with spyware, adware, and/or viruses. This includes clicking on download links from unfamiliar websites and emails.
5. It is your responsibility to report bullying as well as inappropriate photos/comments/conversations (including those on websites of your peers) to a parent, teacher, or administrative staff member. You will remain anonymous.