

Biology I

Ms. Connor



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What do I need for class?

- 2 plastics pocket folders
- Chromebook & charger daily
- Pens and pencils

Class Expectations

Prompt & Prepared: Come to class on time and with all of your necessary supplies. Don't forget your mask!

Operate with Respect: Respect yourself and others. Respect our class time and our materials.

Do Your Best: Be responsible for your learning; work hard and do your best. Don't be afraid to ask for help.

Course Description

This course begins with a consideration of the living condition and discussion of the unique properties of living organisms that set life apart from the non-living. It continues with molecular and cellular biology, from which it moves logically into reproduction and genetics. An understanding of genetics gives meaning to organized variation, evolution and methods of scientific classification units dealing with microbiology and plant and animal phylum. **Scholars should expect daily warm ups and exit tickets in addition to 2-3 homework assignments a week. Within each unit, there will be 1 to 2 mastery checks to ensure all students are on the right track for mastery (>80%) on the unit test.**

10 Units of Study

- Unit 1: Organic Compounds
- Unit 2: Cells
- Unit 3: Cellular Reproduction
- Unit 4: Cell Physiology
- Unit 5: DNA & Protein Synthesis
- Unit 6: Biotechnology
- Unit 7: Genetics
- Unit 8: Evolution
- Unit 9: Ecology
- Unit 10: Characteristics of Life

“A MIND IS LIKE A PARACHUTE. IT DOESN'T WORK IF IT IS NOT OPEN.” - Frank Zappa

What do I need for class?

Biology ends with a cumulative EOC -- this means you will be assessed on all of the material since the beginning of the semester. To be successful, it is highly recommended that you use a **1 binder** to hold all of your class materials. You can leave this binder in room 400. You will also need **writing utensils** for note taking and a working **computer with internet access** to complete Canvas assignments.

Work & Attendance

- Biology moves at a quick pace and there are activities and labs that are hard to make up. Please make every effort to be in class on time, every day. Your attendance and participation counts!
- If you are absent, it is your job to get notes and assignments you missed.
- Honor timeframes and due dates. --turn your work in on time!
 - Packets are always due the day of a unit test
 - Pay attention to Canvas assignments and their due dates

Tips for Success

- **Don't be too quick to dismiss your mistakes** as "stupid". The pros keep track of their mistakes and learn from them.
- **Ask for help.** Do this earlier rather than later. Smart students ask for help. Use our Remind for the quickest response.
- **Make a habit to regularly check Canvas and Powerschool!**
- For official grades, please continue to check Powerschool. *Families* - If you need assistance accessing the parent portal, please contact the school.
- **Keep open and honest lines of communication** with your teacher – if something is going on, let her know!
- **Develop good study habits** – Ms. Connor can help you in this area. All you need to do is ask (tip #2)!

How will I be graded?

Your assignments will be broken down into three major categories:

1. **Prepare:** Smaller assignments that allow students to practice new learning. (i.e. warm-ups, exit tickets, checks for understanding)
2. **Rehearse:** Assignments that provide students with feedback on progress towards mastery of standards (i.e. mastery checks, labs, unit packets, mini-projects)
3. **Perform:** Cumulative and/or formative assessment that measure mastery of one or multiple standards (i.e. Unit tests and projects with rubrics)

Please note: Late assignments will be accepted for a grade until the end of the next unit (maximum grade of a 80). After the end of the next unit, the highest grade for late work will be a 50%. **A grade of zero will be assigned if no reasonable attempt is made for the assignment.**



Scan here to learn more about CMS new grading policy.