

Welcome to BIOLOGY!

Disclosure Document – Mr. Miller

Course Description

Biology is life—literally! In this course students will learn about the variety of living things around us. They will examine how they are affected by living things and also how they affect the world around them. Through the use of scientific experimentation and procedure, students will become skilled in problem solving methods. The following are the main areas of study:

1. Cells (both plant and animal)
2. Ecology
3. Evolution & Change
4. Genetics/Inheritance
5. DNA & Protein Synthesis
6. Kingdoms of Organisms

Course Information

GOALS: The goal of this class is to learn about the basics of biology and to have fun learning science!

GRADING: Students will be graded on 2 categories of work: formative work and summative work. The class will operate with smaller units and more frequent assessments. Students will be given a list of objectives for each unit which they can use to track their progress and achievement.

- **Formative Work: 50% of the grade**
 - Includes: Notes, assignments, bell-ringers, quizzes, pre-tests, lab reports and other types of assignments designed to teach or reinforce learned concepts.
 - There will be two type of formative assessments – quizzes and skills assessments. These assignments are able to be retaken or redone to improve a student’s proficiency.
- **Summative Work: 50% of the grade**
 - Includes: Tests, projects, written summaries and other work designed to measure final proficiency.
 - Summative work cannot be amended or resubmitted. This means no retakes or re-dos.

GRADING SCALE: Midterm and trimester grades will be issued based on the following scale. Earned points will be added together, then divided by the total points possible to determine a percentage.

A's	100-93%	A	B's	89.9-87%	B+	C's	79.9-77%	C+	D's	69.9-67%	D+	F	59.9% or less
	92.9-90%	A-		86.9-83%	B		76.9-73%	C		66.9-63%	D		
				82.9-80%	B-		72.9-70%	C-		62.9-60%	D-		

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS: You are old enough to know what proper behavior for a classroom is. Please act accordingly. Things to do:

- Be respectful to each of your peers. Be respectful of the teacher and listen at all times.
- Come to class prepared to learn and willing to work.
- Be responsible by turning in work on time, studying and making up missed assignments.
- Clean up your lab station and keep your seating area clean.
- Follow BEHS school policies.

Please, do not:

- Consume food or drinks in class (water is ok).
- Use distracting items in class: cell phones, ipods, ipads/kindles, books, other homework etc.
- Intentionally harm or misuse any of the lab equipment/class materials/animals, or horse around during labs.
- Act inappropriately or use offensive words towards another student or the teacher.

LATE WORK AND DEADLINES: All work will have an initial due date. There will be a late work deadline just before midterm and just before the end of the trimester. Assignments from the first half will be accepted up until the midterm late work deadline and from the second half up until the final midterm deadline.

CLASS WEBSITE: www.behsscience.com All of the class notes and other helpful links will be posted online. Check it out and use it to help you review.

STUDENT CITIZENSHIP: All students will receive a citizenship grade at midterm and the end of the trimester. Student citizenship will be based on the student's behavior and the number of "strikes" a student receives. All students begin their citizenship with an S. Common ways that students can receive strikes:

- Tardy to class
- Turing in work after the due date
- Using electronics in class – phone or music
- Being off-task or horsing around
- Defiant behavior
- Rude or inappropriate behavior to others

Citizenship grade scale:

H: Excellent participation and 4 strikes or fewer.

S: 4 strikes or fewer

N: 6 strikes

U: More than 8 strikes

EQUIPMENT: Students need to have a binder/notebook dedicated to Biology. A folder with pockets will be helpful in addition to the notebook. Please bring these materials and writing utensils to class daily.

GROUP WORK: Working in groups is a privilege. Students will be assigned to work in partners and in groups for some assignments. Each student is expected to communicate and contribute to their group.

MAKE-UP WORK: If you do miss class, **it is your responsibility** to find out what was done in class that day. To know what you missed, check the calendar on the class website. All work that is missed during an absence is expected to be completed within the same amount of time as was missed. EX: If you miss 4 days, your work is due 4 days after you return from absence. If you know you will be gone, please pre-arrange your absences to stay caught up with the class.

BEE TIME: Any student who would like to come to Bee Time for any reason (extra help, work make-up, etc) can refer themselves by going to the class website and filling out the form.

STUDENTS with ACCOMODATIONS: Students, please come see me before or after school so we can discuss how I can help you succeed and meet your accommodations.

Science can be a challenging subject for many students. A regular study routine, like 10 or 15 minutes daily, is the best method to learn the information. Help is available! If you are falling behind or are having a hard time understanding what we are learning about please come get help before/after school or during Bee Time.

Contact Information

I'm excited to be your teacher for this trimester! Parents, please contact me with questions or to get an update about your student. Students, please use the resources on my website and come see me for additional help.

Email: andrew.miller@besd.net

Work Phone: 435-734-4840 ext 2412

Website: www.behsscience.com