

Biology

Classroom Procedures and Expectations

2018-2019

Bastrop High School

Ms. Dollery (edollery@bisdtx.org) room 822

Phone: 512-772-7200

Google Classroom: 7t3geh

In this Biology class, students are held to high standards in regards to expectations and procedures. We will cover the topics that are tested on STAAR Biology EOC, a state mandated exam that will be passed by all students for graduation. This course will require a reasonable amount of work to be done outside of class. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with all due dates and seek help when necessary in tutorials.

In biology, students conduct field and laboratory investigations, use scientific methods during investigations and make informed decisions using critical thinking. This course is designed so that students learn about life at all levels- from the molecular level or biochemistry to the global level of the biosphere.

Biology Topics

- **Scientific Process/Safety**- safety procedures and symbols, disposal procedures, scientific methods
- **Biochemistry**- properties of water, acids/bases, structure and function of biomolecules-carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, nucleic acids
- **Cells**-cell theory, structure and function of prokaryotes and eukaryotes, cellular processes including obtaining and using energy, reproduction
- **Heredity**- Mendel, inheritance, genetic disorders, Punnett squares
- **Molecular Biology**-DNA, RNA, protein synthesis, mutations
- **Evolution**- Darwin, Wallace, evidence and processes of evolution
- **Plants**-evolution and classification, adaptations, reproduction, response
- **Animals**- structure and function of various groups (mammals, fish, birds, reptiles), adaptations, reproduction, response
- **Body Systems**- structure and function of and interactions between each
- **Ecology**- food webs, nutrient cycles, ecosystems, symbiotic relationships

Class procedures:

1. **ABSENCES:** If you are absent, it is your responsibility to attend tutorials for your make-up work. Your allotted time to complete and turn in make-up work is one day for each day of absence plus one additional day. Any tests, labs, or quizzes missed will be made up by attending tutorials or scheduling other arrangements with Ms. Dollery. All work not made up within the allotted time will be late and subject to penalties. All major assignments such as the projects, are due on their original due date. If you are going to miss that day, the assignment must be turned in when you return to class from an absence.

2. **ASSIGNED SEATING**: Seating is assigned and may change at any time based on class size, academic performance, special needs, behavioral problems or physical disabilities. If you have an issue with your assigned seat, you may speak to Ms. Dollery privately about it. I will decide if and when assigned seats will be changed.

3. **DISMISSAL**: Ms. Dollery will dismiss you from class. You must be in your assigned seat and quiet when the bell rings and the room must be in order (materials returned to their locations and all trash picked up) before you will be dismissed.

4. **FOOD AND DRINKS**: As per school policy, **only bottled water** is allowed in class. **NO FOOD OR DRINKS** are allowed in the science classroom. If food or drinks are seen in the classroom, they will be confiscated and thrown in the trash can. **Food or drinks are to be consumed in the cafeteria/bistro area.**

5. **GRADING**: 40% Daily grades: homework, quizzes, and activities
60% Major grades: tests, interactive notebook, and major labs

6. **HOMEWORK**: You may be assigned work that will need to be completed or finished outside of class. All work is assigned a due date. If it is not turned in on the due date, it will have points deducted for being late.

7. **LAB SAFETY CONTRACT**: Each student must have a safety contract signed by a parent or guardian in order to participate in lab activities. It is important that the parent or guardian and student read the lab safety rules and understand them. The safety rules will be strictly enforced throughout the entire school year.

8. **LATE WORK**: If you do not turn in an assignment on its due date, the work is late. Each day an assignment is late, the grade is reduced by 10 points, up to a maximum of 30 points. **After three days, the assignment will no longer be accepted to be graded.** Absences are subject to the absence policy.

9. **MAJOR GRADE RETESTS**: All students will have the opportunity to recover a failed major grade (major grade tests, labs and interactive notebook) to a maximum grade of **70** during a six week grading period. Students will need to attend a reteach tutorial prior to taking a retest for an exam. Students will have **3 days** upon receiving their graded test/project to complete their retest (tests)/corrections (projects/interactive notebook). Higher grade of the original and retest grades will be entered in the gradebook.
Failed daily grades cannot be recovered, this includes quizzes, homework, and activities.

10. **MATERIALS**: You will need to bring the following supplies to class everyday: **composition notebook and pen/pencil**. Color pencils, glue sticks, and a pair of scissors are useful to have at home to complete homework and projects.

11. **MAJOR LABS:** Each six weeks you will be assigned a major lab. Each major lab will have a complete write-up. Lab write-ups are assigned a due date for full completion after the experiment portion of the lab is completed in class. All major labs will count as a major grade. The late work policy applies to all labs. Zeroes on any major lab can severely damage your grade. **If you are absent on the day a lab is assigned, you are responsible for getting the lab instructions and data when you attend tutorials.**

12. **INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK:** All students will have and maintain a composition book as an interactive notebook for Biology. **This notebook is a major grade and spot checks will be conducted weekly and averaged for a major grade.** All notes, activities, vocabulary, and other materials will be written or glued into your notebook.

13. **ASSESSMENTS:** Assessments will be given throughout the course. Assessments could be in the form of quizzes, or major grade exams. **All electronic devices are collected by Ms. Dollery before an assessment is administered.**

14. **TUTORIALS:** Ms. Dollery is available in the mornings Monday through Friday from 8:00-8:35 am except for Wednesdays and afterschool on Monday and Wednesday from 4:15-5:00 pm. All other times are by appointment only and must be made 24 hours in advance. Please see the Google Classroom for additional times.

15. **CHEATING/PLAGIARISM:** BHS promotes academic integrity. Cheating on any assignment, whether it is a daily or major grade, will not be tolerated. Cheating on any assignment will result in a grade of zero and a parent conference. Cheating can be copying, giving someone the answers, or completing someone's work for them. **Any type of communication (talking, texting, signaling) during a quiz or exam is considered cheating.** Plagiarism on projects will not be tolerated. All sources used on projects must be cited.

16. **CELLPHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** Cellphone use during class is at the teacher's discretion. There will be times you will need your cellphone for digital activities. Other times, the teacher will need your attention to the concept, activity, or lab in class. **There is a posted visual at the front of the classroom that identifies when electronic device use is appropriate.** You only have 50 minutes for Biology, make those minutes count toward your success on the Biology EOC.

Biology Classroom Procedures and Expectations Contract

I, _____, have read and understand the class procedures and expectations of this Biology course. I understand the late work policy and will do my best to turn in all assignments on time and to the best of my ability. I understand that this course will require me complete a significant amount of work outside of class. I understand that my teacher has high expectations for me in this course. I also understand that in order to be successful in this course, I must put forth the effort necessary.

Student signature: _____ Date _____

Dear Parent,

I have read and understand the class procedures and expectations of my child in this biology course. I understand that this course will require my child to complete a significant amount of work outside of class. I also understand that in order for my child to be successful in this course, they must put forth the effort necessary.

Biology is a state mandated science course which deals with some controversial topics such as evolution and sexual reproduction. Please understand that I will present *scientific* information regarding these topics. If and when a student asks a question, I will openly, honestly, and scientifically answer his or her inquiry. Additionally, throughout the course of the year, I may show detailed slides or other graphics dealing with pertinent topics covered in class. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to a wonderful year! Please feel free to contact me at any time

Parent/Guardian Name : _____

Parent Mailing Address: _____

Parent phone numbers: _____

Parent email: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date _____

