Biology
2019-2020

Welcome to Biology! This is a full year course that will provide you with a strong foundation in life science. In this course we will cover levels of life from macromolecules and cells to food webs and ecosystems and everything in between. This course is designed to serve as a foundation for future science courses.

Class Objectives:
"The Biology Core Curriculum has two primary goals: (1) students will value and use science as a process of obtaining knowledge based on observable evidence, and (2) students’ curiosity will be sustained as they develop and refine the abilities associated with scientific inquiry.”—USOE Core Standards for Science

Required Class Materials
1. 3 ring binder with lined notebook paper and labeled dividers for the following sections (Notes, Labs, Assignments/Quizzes)
2. Pencils & Pens (blue or black)
3. $20.00 Lab Fee to be turned into the main office
4. Basic Calculator (optional)

Attendance/Engagement Policy
The Hillcrest High School attendance policy will be followed and enforced. Being present and engaged in class will most likely lead to your success in Biology. Try to schedule important appointments and activities so they don’t interfere with your class time. Simply coming to class is not enough. Come to class prepared to learn, complete the assigned work and pay attention to what your teacher is covering with you. Lack of student engagement often leads to student failure.

Grading System: No extra credit will be offered on an individual basis.
Grades will be based solely on student concept mastery. Grades are determined by a student’s accuracy on labs and assessments. These will determine the majority of a student’s grade.

Tests will count for approximately 60% of your grade. Tests are based on concepts covered throughout the unit and provide you an opportunity to show mastery of the subject content.

Quizzes will count for approximately 15% of your grade. Quizzes are based on concepts covered in the previous class period. There are no makeup quizzes or retakes. If you miss a quiz due to an unexcused tardy or absence, you will receive a score of 0. If you are excused the quiz will be excused.

Labs will count for approximately 15% of your grade. Labs allow for hands on applications of the material we cover in this course. Safety will always be a priority and will be practiced by everyone.

Assignments including homework and classwork will count approximately 10% of your grade. This is the practice that is necessary for you to succeed on assessments.

Grading Scale: Letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-84.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-74.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-64.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>85-89.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>75-79.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>65-69.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59.99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An Incomplete grade (I) may be given during the quarter. This indicates that a student has not completed sufficient work for their teacher to determine their grade. If the Incomplete is not resolved prior to the predetermined date, the Incomplete will turn into a failing grade.

Grade Notification/Parent Communication
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Hillcrest High School uses Skyward to record grades. Grades will be available online for your convenience and updated weekly. Students and parents will have access to Canvas where our daily schedule will be posted. Any information that is not posted to Canvas in a timely manner will be emailed to students and parents through Skyward.

If you need to contact your teacher, please email them directly. Teachers are available by appointment Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings between 7 and 7:45 am or after school between 2:30 and 3 pm. Teachers may be unavailable without a prior appointment.

**Late Work**
HHS Biology believes in allowing students to demonstrate proficiency. Some students may need more time and/or opportunities to demonstrate this proficiency. In line with this philosophy, there is no academic penalty for turning in late assignments. That being said, teachers may identify major projects (assessments) that will not be accepted late (i.e. science projects, final essays, etc.) End-of-quarter deadlines will be set and enforced to meet grade reporting deadlines.

**Make Up/Absent Work**
As part of demonstrating proficiency of learning, Students are also able to retake/redo assessments. Students may retake assessments as many times as necessary, but must complete all corresponding assignments before being allowed a retake opportunity. Students may also be asked to complete a homework/retake ticket before an assessment retake is available.

**Retake Policy**
If the first attempt on assessment does not reflect concept mastery, the student will need to prepare for a retake of that assessment. To be eligible to retake a test or quiz, you must have zero missing assignments relating to that unit. Students will fill out a retake form detailing how they prepared for the retake and must attend APP time before they can retake a test or quiz. It is the student’s responsibility to track their progress and come in during APP time for retakes.

**Academic Dishonesty**
Any student found cheating on a test or assignment will receive a grade of “0” for that test or assignment. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, copying another student’s work (with or without their knowledge), allowing another student to copy your work, or using materials during a test other than those allowed. Studying together can be beneficial, but the work each student submits must be their own even when working in groups. Plagiarism is not accepted.

**Note Taking Strategies**
Note taking is an invaluable tool that will be utilized in the classroom often. Notes will periodically be allowed to be used on quizzes or tests. Students notes will also be a primary source of study material in the classroom.

**Electronics Policy**
Electronic devices will only be used when the instructor directs students to use them for an academic purpose. Students who use them for non-academic purposes will have them confiscated or/and may lose privileges in the classroom.

**Academic Prep Period/Additional Help**
Academic Preparation Period is a specific time during the school day set aside for students to re-take tests, get extra help, review school rules, listen to announcements, and attend specified study halls. If a student needs additional help, they must set up an appointment to see their teacher before school MWF or after school at least a day in advance.

**Classroom Rules:** These are to provide a safe environment in which each student feels safe and can work to their full potential.
1. **Respect** your teacher, peers and their property.
2. Be seated and ready to work **before** the bell rings.
3. Bring required materials daily and give your **best effort!**
4. **No food or drink** (other than water in a closed container) for safety in the lab environment
5. No electronic devices or cell phones (unless directed by the teacher). Chromebooks may only be used as directed.
School Rules: Students are expected to follow all school rules during class. These include but are not limited to:
1. Huskies always remove hats and follow the dress code.
2. Huskies always eat lunch in designated areas and keep halls and restrooms clean.
3. Huskies always attend class on time, all the time, and never sluff.
4. Huskies always show respect to and expect respect from all adults.

Consequences
1st & 2nd offense: Verbal Warning
3rd offense: Written Warning with Student Signature (Student Contract)
At this stage, lab privileges, a new seat assignment or other privileges may be lost. Students may be placed on a student contract. If the contract is not followed, students may be placed in lunch detention.
4th offense: Parent Contact/Lunch Detention
5th offense: Administrator referral
Severe or repeated offenses may result in skipping steps. Violation of lab safety rules may result in the loss of lab privileges and points.

Materials Fee: This course has a materials fee of $20.00 which must be paid to the main office within the first two weeks of school. The fee is used to cover the cost of specimens and disposable laboratory equipment/supplies. If you qualify for a fee waiver, your teacher still needs a copy of your receipt from the office.

Any specific problems or requests not covered in this document will be handled individually at your teacher’s discretion.
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Your signature below confirms that you have read and understand the disclosure statement. Please detach this page and turn it in. Please keep the disclosure statement for future reference and contact me with any questions.

Student Name(print) _____________________________________________ Class Period____

I agree to help maintain a positive learning atmosphere in our classroom by following the class expectations below:

1. I will be respectful of teacher, peers, and all else in the classroom. Student Initials: _____
2. I will be seated and ready to learn in my seat before the bell rings. Student Initials: _____
3. I will bring my required materials everyday always give my best effort. Student Initials: _____
4. I will leave food and drink outside the classroom (except closed water bottles) for science safety. Student Initials: _____
5. I will keep my electronic devices and/or cell phone stowed away (unless I have permission from the teacher to use my device). I will only use chromebooks as directed. Student Initials: _____
6. I understand that copying tests, quizzes, labs or assignments constitutes as cheating and that I will receive a zero if I am cheating. Student Initials: _____

Student Signature: _____________________________________________ Date _________

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____________________________________________ Date _________

What is the best way to contact home (email, phone, letter)? ____________

Does your student have internet access at home? ________

*Optional - Any additional information/questions/concerns that you wish to include:

Teacher Signature: _____________________________________________ Date _________
Welcome to Zoology! This course is a half-year, rigorous course that will provide you with a strong foundation in the biology of animals.

**Course Description and Purpose:** The purpose of this class is to introduce you to the wide world of animals by studying the different invertebrate phyla and vertebrate classes in-depth. You will be responsible for learning the main characteristics of each and be able to identify them based on specimens. You will be expected to handle and dissect real specimens. We are also going to have a lot of fun in this class by observing preserved specimens in the classroom, as well as maybe welcoming visitors and/or taking field-trips to view live specimens. This class also serves as an excellent resource for current and future AP and IB biology students.

**Required Class Materials:**

1. $10.00 lab fee
2. 1-inch three ring binder, ideally with *labeled* dividers for the following sections:
   a. Notes
   b. Labs/dissections
   c. Assignments/Quizzes
3. Notebook paper
4. Pencil and pen
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Grading System: no extra credit will be given

- **Tests and Projects** - 60%. All tests may include concepts from prior tests. If your test score is below 80%, your test can be corrected, but only up to an 80% score. I will explain how test corrections work after the first test. Test corrections must be done within one week after the tests are handed back. APP time (see below) is the best time to make test corrections.

- **Quizzes** - 5%. Quizzes will be given once or twice a week at the beginning of class. They will cover the material from the previous days class and are a low-stakes way to see how well you are learning the material as we go.

- **Assignments/Activities** - 10%. These are given to help you understand important concepts. If allowed to work in teams, assignments should be individual and not copies of other students.

- **Labs and Dissection Guides** - 25%. Labs and dissections are an important and exciting part of zoology. Labs will be graded based on written work as well as safe and successful participation in the lab. It is expected that you will follow instructions, use equipment and materials correctly, and follow safety rules.

Grading Scale: Letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

- **A** (89.5% - 100%)
- **B+** (86.5% - 89.49%)
- **B** (82.5% - 86.49%)
- **B-** (79.5% - 82.49%)
- **C+** (76.5% - 79.49%)
- **C** (72.5% - 76.49%)
- **C-** (69.5% - 72.49%)
- **D+** (66.5% - 69.49%)
- **D** (62.5% - 66.49%)
- **D-** (59.5% - 62.94%)
- **F** (50% - 59.49%)

Grade Notification/Communication: Hillcrest High School uses Skyward to record grades. Student’s grades are available online at your convenience. Due to this online access, reports are rarely, if ever, sent home. I will contact parents/guardians quarterly using Skyward Messaging Center. Additionally, parents can contact me via email if they have concerns.

- **Note Taking:** Notes will be taken every day and should be kept in your 3-ring binder. You will receive a guided note sheet that includes learning objectives for the day and summary questions. Notes can be used on all tests and quizzes!

- **Late work:** Work is considered late if it is not turned in at the beginning of the period it is due. Late work is accepted until the current grading period (quarter) ends.

- **Make-up work:** Make-up work for an excused absence will be accepted with the possibility of full credit if turned in within one week of the student’s return. Prior to an absence, it is the responsibility of the student to contact me concerning work that will be missed because of the impending absence(s). Due to the nature of some assignments and in-class activities, make-up work may not be possible. However, an alternate assignment may be given. Sudden illnesses and family emergencies are the only legitimate reasons for missing a test without prior discussion and arrangements.

- **Attendance policy:** The Hillcrest High School attendance policy will be followed and strictly enforced.

- **Academic dishonesty:** Any student found cheating on a test or assignment will receive a grade of “0” for that test or
HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL

assignment. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, copying another student’s work (with or without their knowledge), allowing another student to copy your work, or using materials during a test other than those allowed. Studying together can be beneficial, but the work each student submits must be their own. Plagiarism is not accepted.

Classroom Rules: To provide a safe environment in which each student feels safe and can work to their full potential.

1. Bring required materials daily and be in your seat and working on the starter when the bell rings.
2. Respect yourself, others and their property, and the classroom materials.
3. Unless otherwise specified, food, drinks (other than water in a closed container) are NOT allowed in this class. It is extremely unsafe to eat or drink in lab, and spills can ruin expensive lab equipment.
4. ALL electronic devices must be silenced and kept out of sight during class unless directed by the teacher. The penalty for the 1st offense will be a warning. On the 2nd offense, the item will be confiscated and the student can collect it at the end of the period. On the 3rd offense, the item will be confiscated and the student can collect it at the end of the day in the Attendance Office.

Consequences: 1st offense: Verbal warning
2nd offense: Conference in the hall; potential contract/lunch detention
3rd offense: Parent/guardian and administrator contact

Severe offenses may result in skipping steps.

Getting Help/APP Time: The best time to get help is before you are desperate! The daily Academic Preparation Period (APP) replaces student support time this year. I expect you to use this time to get extra help from me or class tutors, make up tests/quizzes/assignments, or redo labs/quizzes/assignments. After and before school appointments must be scheduled with me at least one day in advance.

Materials Fee: Please note that this course has a materials fee of $10.00 which must be paid to the main office within the first two weeks of school. If you qualify for a fee waiver, Mrs. Davis needs a copy of your receipt from the office.

Mrs. Davis’s Zoology Disclosure 2019-2020

Your signature below signifies that you have read and understand the disclosure statement. Please sign this page and then turn it in.

Student Name: ______________________________________________________

Student Signature: ____________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____________________________________________

*Optional - Parent/Guardian email: _______________________________________

*Optional - Any additional information/questions/concerns that you wish to include: