Biology
2019-2020

Hillcrest High School
Biology Department

Website: Canvas

Introduction to Biology
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:
A (90-100%)  B (80-84.99%)  C (70-74.99%)  D (60-64.99%)
B+ (85-89.99%)  C+ (75-79.99%)  D+ (65-69.99%)  F (0-59.99%)

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
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.
**Introduction to Honors Biology**

Welcome to Honors Biology! This is a full year, rigorous 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 prepare you to succeed on state and national exams and will serve as a foundation for advanced courses in Biology (AP, IB, introductory Biology in college).

**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

**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 Honors 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. Extra credit may be offered to the entire class at the instructor’s discretion.

- **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 5% 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 25% of your grade. Labs allows 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 for 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 Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(92.5% - 100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>(89.5% - 92.49%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>(86.5% - 89.49%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>(82.5% - 86.49%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>(79.5% - 82.49%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>(72.5% - 76.49%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>(69.5% - 72.49%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>(62.5% - 66.49%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>(66.5% - 69.49%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>(59.5% - 62.94%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>(0% - 59.49%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I will be grading the assignments,

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**

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 get in contact with your teacher, please email them directly.

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.