Introduction to Biology
Welcome to Marine Biology! This is a semester course that will provide you with a strong foundation in marine science. In this course we will cover oceanography, fundamentals of biology, and study the many life forms living in the marine environment. This course is designed to serve as a life science elective. It will better equip students to both enter the work force and succeed in post-secondary education.

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 (1.5") with lined notebook paper and labeled dividers for the following sections (Bell Ringers, 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 Marine 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.
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.
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.  
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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.  
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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__________
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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:
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