



Biology I Syllabus

Mrs. DeVore

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a laboratory-oriented course that provides students with a fundamental understanding of and appreciation for the living world around them. A heavy emphasis is placed on student understanding of concepts/theories/skills related to our relationship with the natural community. Upon completion of this course, students will be equipped to be scientifically literate consumers of biological information and environmentally responsible citizens. Textbook material is enhanced through hands-on application of concepts and ongoing discussions of current issues in biology and their relationship to today's society. The method of instruction will be varied including lectures, demonstrations, laboratory investigations and dissections, videos, and class discussions, with special emphasis on collaborative learning. The following is a unit outline of the course:

Unit 1	Nature of Science <i>Scientific Method, Characteristics of Life, Basic Chemistry</i>
Unit 2	Humans & the Environment <i>Biosphere, Populations, Communities, Natural Resources, Pollution, Local Ecology</i>
Unit 3	The Cell <i>Cell Structure & Function, Cellular Respiration, Photosynthesis, Cell Growth & Division</i>
Unit 4	Human Heredity <i>Patterns of Inheritance, Protein Synthesis, Genes & Chromosomes, Genetic Engineering, The Human Genome</i>
Unit 5	Biological Evolution <i>Charles Darwin, Genes & Populations, History of Life</i>
Unit 6	Life Beyond Humans <i>Classification, Bacteria, Viruses, Protists, Fungi, Plants, Animals</i>

COURSE MATERIALS

Biology by Miller & Levine ©2006
1-2" binder with dividers
standard scientific calculator

blue or black pens and pencils
notebook paper

GRADING

Student achievement will be based on lab performance/reporting, collaborative and independent projects, and unit tests. The final course assessment will be a cumulative final exam. The final exam will contribute 10% of the final grade and the remaining 90% will come from quarterly grades. Student grades will be evaluated according to the school-wide grading scale that is distributed as follows:

100-93	92-85	84-77	76-70	below 70
A	B	C	D	F

CLASS WEB PAGE jdevore.wikispaces.com

I will periodically post review and practice activities on this page. I will also upload class documents, such as study guides, to this page.

MY EXPECTATIONS OF YOU

- Come to class on time and prepared with your daily materials. Be in your assigned seat and ready to work when the bell rings.
- Abide by all of the rules listed in the Iroquois Student Handbook. The Standards will be enforced at all times.
- Conduct yourself appropriately to create a positive learning environment in our classroom. Quietly listen to and follow directions the first time that they are given, and politely raise your hand if you would like to speak.
- Show care for property in the class by not defacing your book, desk, or any science equipment that is used. Students will be dismissed from class by the teacher, and only when work areas are clean.
- Consult the absence folder after any absences to receive the material missed in class. **YOU** are responsible for making up any missed work the day you return to school.
- A class binder is required of each student. **Bring the binder to class every day.** Binder checks will be given periodically to make sure that you are keeping up with the class and its assignments.

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY

Late assignments will not be accepted. If there is any concern that you cannot complete an assignment before its due date, you must speak with the teacher *before the assignment is due* to make special arrangements.

CHEATING POLICY

Cheating and plagiarism will result in no credit for the assignment. It is expected that all work turned in by you is completely your own.

HALL PASSES

Only 1 student will be excused from the room at one time. Students who are tardy to class will not be allowed pass privileges for the period in which they were tardy. It is important to take care of your personal needs between classes. You must have your agenda book signed in ink in order to leave the class. Failure to follow this procedure will result in loss of pass privileges for the remainder of the course.

TUTORING

Tutoring can be scheduled on an as needed basis. Students should make arrangements with the instructor as soon as a problem arises.

I look forward to an exciting semester!

Mrs. J. DeVore

Please sign below indicating that you have read and understand the course requirements. Detach and return to class no later than Friday, September 6, 2008. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 899-7643 x 1114 or jdevore@iroquois.iu5.org

Student signature

Parent signature

Parent email

