

Course Syllabus: College Prep Biology
Mrs. Ledford Room 12.107
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Class Website: www.mrsledford.com

Course Description:

This is a two-semester introductory biology course. During the first semester, the concepts covered include the nature of biology, ecology, biochemistry, cell biology, and genetics. During the second semester, topics such as evolution, classification, a survey of kingdoms, and life processes within the kingdoms will be covered.

Textbook:

Biology by Miller & Levine (2002)

REPLACEMENT COST: \$55.97

Units Studied Fall Semester	Units Studied Spring Semester
The Nature of Life (Ch. 1)	Genetics (Ch. 11-14)
Ecology (Ch. 3-6)	Evolution (Ch. 15-17)
Biochemistry (Ch. 2)	Classification (Ch. 18-34)
Cell Biology (Ch. 7-10)	Kingdom Survey Life Processes

Materials:

- Notebook (3-ring binder, at least 1-inch) **Please bring to class every day!**
- Notebook paper
- Pens (blue or black ink) and #2 pencils (for tests)

About the Gateway Exam:

All students must demonstrate knowledge of the Gwinnett County Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS) Curriculum. Students will be provided a booklet listing each of these AKS by course at the beginning of the school year. Ninth graders enrolling in 1998-1999 and beyond will need to pass the Gwinnett County Gateway Exam over the AKS before graduation. The Gateway Exam will measure students' ability to write effectively about the science and social studies AKS covered in ninth and tenth grades. The exam will be administered in the spring of the tenth grade year. Students will have several opportunities to retake the exam if they are not successful the first time.

Grading:

Keeping a notebook is required in this course.

Notebooks will be checked periodically throughout both semesters. It is very beneficial to you to make sure you keep your notebook organized—you will be able to locate your notes and study guides easily when it comes time to study!

Tests/Projects	25%
Labs/Activities	25%
Daily Work (classwork, homework, quizzes)	25%
Benchmark Midterm	5%
Performance Exam	5%
Benchmark Final	15%

The state End of Course Test in Biology will count 15% of the spring semester grade.

Gwinnett County Grading Scale:

This scale is used to determine your letter grade for the class.

A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 74-79 D = 70-73 F = 0-69

Classroom Rules:

- **Come to class prepared!** This means bring your book, notebook, and a pen or pencil everyday.
- **No food or drink in the classroom or during lab.**
- **Be respectful of teachers, students, and property.** This includes doing as you are asked.
- **Late work will not be accepted!** Students are responsible for any work missed. It is the student's responsibility to ask for work missed, and to make it up after school within the allotted time for makeup work. See me to make an appointment for makeup work. **Note: If an assignment was given before an absence, the student must be prepared for that assignment on the day they return.**
- **Stay in your seat until the bell rings!** Packing up your bag early or standing at the door before the bell rings is not acceptable.

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to do their own work! Students will learn far more and be much more successful by learning to be honest and by developing their integrity. Cheating is unacceptable and will result in a zero on the assignment, as well as disciplinary measures. Students will sign a statement on all work submitted stating that they neither gave nor received unauthorized assistance on the assignment. Discussions in class will define acceptable authorized assistance. Some assignments will have special circumstances for that assistance, and students are expected to pay attention to those circumstances and will be held accountable for those instructions.

Science Fair:

All science students have the opportunity to earn up to 5 points on their final average by entering a project in the PHS Science Fair. If you are interested, you will need to attend a mandatory meeting on _____. The PHS Science Fair will be held on _____.

The teacher reserves the right to adjust the syllabus, policies, and/or grading as necessary.

Biology AKS (College Prep, Honors, Gifted)

A - Characteristics of Science

1. Evaluate the importance of curiosity, honesty, openness, and skepticism in science (GPS)
2. Design and conduct scientific investigations (GPS, HSGT,ACT) (SCBI_A2005-1)
3. Apply standard safety practices for all classroom laboratory and field investigations (GPS, HSGT) (SCBI_A2005-2)
4. Use technology to collect, observe, measure and manipulate data and findings (GPS, HSGT,ACT) (SCBI_A2005-3)
5. Use valid critical assumptions to draw conclusions (GPS, HSGT,ACT) (SCBI_A2005-4)
6. Apply computation and skills necessary for analyzing data and developing conclusions (GPS, HSGT) (SCBI_A2005-5)
7. Communicate scientific investigations clearly (GPS, HSGT) (SCBI_A2005-6)
8. Read scientific materials to establish context for subject matter, develop vocabulary and to be aware of current research (GPS, HSGT) (SCBI_A2005-7)

B - Academic Knowledge

9. Analyze the relationship between structures and functions in living cells (GPS, HSGT) (SCBI_B2005-8)
10. Analyze how biological traits are passed on to successive generations (GPS, HSGT) (SCBI_B2005-9)
11. Examine the relationship between unicellular and multicellular organisms and the increasing complexity of systems (GPS, HSGT) (SCBI_B2005-10)
12. Evaluate the dependence of all organisms on one another and the flow of energy and matter within their ecosystems (GPS, HSGT, CE) (SCBI_B2005-11)
13. Evaluate the role of natural selection in the development of the theory of evolution (GPS, HSGT) (SCBI_B2005-12)