

Sophomore Biology

2011-2012

Mrs. Amy Vohsing

Everyone is gifted. Some blossom sooner than others!

We will study all of life by analyzing the creation of a cell as well as the organization of the environment. This class will study the theories of: ecology, cells, genetics, taxonomy, evolution, microbiology, plants, animals and anatomy. We will bring "current research" into the classroom through discussion, homework, projects and mini labs. Laboratory experiments, dissections and demonstrations will take place periodically through the year.

Emphasis will be placed on UNDERSTANDING and USING a scientific principle as well as rote memorization. Tests will include application questions which will test your knowledge of the concept studied.

My teaching philosophy is- Firm Fair & Fun!

Weekly Syllabus: I will post a weekly syllabus on Fri/Mon of every week on the NC bulletin board and progress book. The bulletin board can be found on the webpage under academics/individual courses. I will also post on Progress Book. This will have information on what we plan to cover every day, homework, vocabulary, test dates, and any updates on the grading policy. I have found this to be a valuable tool for those who want to work ahead or for those who are absent.

Interesting (I know this word is subjective☺) science articles will also be posted on the Bulletin Board & may be used to obtain extra points on examinations!

***Grading Policy:**

Tests & Quizzes	25%	Labs	25%
Homework/Current Events	25%	Mini-Reports/Ntbk	25%

*will change quarterly/Check NC BB Tests will be worth more throughout the year!

NO EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN!!

Grading scale: per school policy.

A	100-93	C	76-73
A-	92-90	C-	72-70
B+	87-89	D+	69-67
B	86-83	D	66-63
B-	82-80	D-	62-60
C+	79-77	F	Below 60

Test format: Examinations and quizzes will be objective style including multiple choice, fill-in, true-false, matching, labeling, short definitions, and short answer essay. You will be expected to **USE** the knowledge you have acquired in class and **APPLY** it.

Missed quizzes/tests: Please try not to miss any examinations. The examinations will be **DIFFERENT** from those given in class and may include an essay approach. They can be taken after school. It is **YOUR** responsibility to make these arrangements with me. **I will not hunt you down for make-up work.**

Homework: A variety of assignments will be due **ON TIME!** **ALL WORK** should be placed in the **BASKET** on my desk!

Labs & Projects: Grading scale may change to accommodate these activities. Labs are to be turned in **ON TIME.** A lab test will be given periodically through the year. There will be at least one project per quarter. If a lab is missed and cannot be made up, then extra homework will be given.

Technology: We will use the IVDL lab to view currently discussed science topics. Lap top computers will also be used to extend outside the classroom to tap into other scientific resources.

Notebooks: You will need a **three ring binder** to hold ALL of your work. ***YOU will be responsible for holding onto your work for the quarter in case there is a grade discrepancy.*** You will need **loose leaf paper (or computer paper)** to take notes, and **dividers (5)**. Try to also have some sort of **pocket and/or folder** for those items that don't have 3 ring holes and **index cards**. The notebook does not need to be new or pretty! You may make your own dividers. I grade your notebook on completeness, neatness and organization.

Notebook sections: Notes, Homework, Labs, Quizzes, and Tests

Plagiarism will be dealt with harshly!! **REFER TO ACADEMIC CODE!!**

I will treat you like young, respectful, Christian adults and will expect you to treat others the same way! There is NO excuse for rude or bad behavior.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year teaching Sophomore Biology!! The subject can be a lot of fun!! Welcome back to all of you! **Mrs. Vohsing** ☺ avohsing@laca.org

We are also matched with a class in Bulgaria through Worldwise Studies!-(Peace Corps) Pen-pal option

Field trips: Stream Ecology (local water testing).....I'm hoping for more.... ☺

Speakers: Monarch Release, Lifeline-organ donation

WEBPAGE* Go to NC homepage. Click on Academics...click on individual courses...go to Science.....click on Mrs. Vohsing's webpage!! ☺

NO EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN!!