

# Honors Biology

2011-2012

Mrs. Amy Vohsing

*Everyone is gifted. Some blossom sooner than others!*

This biology course is a fast paced course designated for the serious science student. We will study all of life by analyzing the creation of a cell as well as the organization of the environment.

This class will contemplate and inspect 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. **Science novels will be required reading**

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 /PSL/ML	25%
Homework	25%	Reports/Ntbk	25%

\*will change quarterly/Check NC bulletin board (under individual course descriptions)

**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.

**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 (optional for vocabulary)**. The notebook does NOT need to be new or pretty (you can make your own dividers). It will be graded on completeness, organization and neatness.

**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 Honors Biology!! The subject can be a lot of work but also a lot of fun!! Welcome back to all of you! **Mrs. Vohsing ☺**

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

Field trips: Stream Ecology (local water testing) ....I am hoping to take you on more trips....

Speaker: Lifeline-organ donation

Monarch Release program Newark Catholic is an 'official' site for release of Monarch's! ☺

**WEBPAGE\***

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

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