

Grading Scale

A = 93 – 100%

A- = 90 – 92.9%

B+ = 87 – 89.9%

B = 83 – 86.9%

B- = 80 – 82.9%

C+ = 77 – 79.2%

C = 73 – 76.9%

C- = 70 – 72.9%

D+ = 67 – 69.9%

D = 63 – 66.9%

D- = 60 – 62.9%

F = 59.9% and below

Grades will be posted periodically in the classroom. A point system will be used to calculate your grade. Each quarter is worth 40% of your overall grade, with the semester exam being worth 20% of your overall grade.

Tests and Quizzes

Tests will always be announced with ample time prior to the testing date.

Quizzes will be both announced and unannounced.

Homework

Homework will be assigned during the course of the semester, depending upon the material being covered at that time. It is expected that students will spend an average of 20-30 minutes daily reviewing material covered in Molecular Biology class.

Laboratory

Labs shall be assigned when deemed necessary. Students are expected to conduct themselves properly and appropriately. Failure to do so shall result in disciplinary action. Written lab reports may or may not accompany labs.

Projects

During the course of the class, colorings, drawings and models will be made by the student to explain and describe certain topics that shall be covered. The student will be expected to be able to orally explain, to the instructor and class, his or her project.

Final Exam

A final exam will be given at the end of the semester over the materials and topics covered in class. This is worth 20% of your overall grade.

Make Up Work

All students are **RESPONSIBLE FOR COMING AND ASKING ME FOR MAKE-UP WORK!!!!!!!** This includes labs, test, quizzes, homework, notes, etc, basically **anything** missed while being absent. In general, I will work with you to see how much time you have to make up for missed work. You may ask me for

this work before or after class, **not during**. If an assignment was given while you were present, it is due the following day.

Late Work (subject to change)

All work that is turned in past the due date will receive partial credit. There will be no late work accepted after the date of the chapter test.

Attendance

Regular school attendance is basic to the success you will attain from this course. Daily instruction, labs, discussions, explanations, presentations and reports are important parts of this class and simply cannot be missed.

Class Procedure

1. You will be expected to be in the classroom, with appropriate class materials when the bell rings.
2. All students will be expected to be courteous (be quiet and listen) while the instructor or another student is talking.
3. All students are expected to be honest. That is, to do their own work.
4. All students will respect the property of others.
5. Students can leave class only if they have a hall pass.
6. No sound systems (ipods, cd players, etc) will be allowed in class. This includes CELL PHONES.
7. The instructor, NOT THE SCHOOL BELL, will dismiss students from class.

Class Preparation

Besides your text book you will need a few supplies to help you through this course. As with textbooks, random material checks will also be done to ensure you are coming to class prepared.

A. Pen/Pencil

It is imperative that you come to class with a writing utensil; pen or pencil will be fine. I will not have an endless supply of pens and pencils for you to borrow, be responsible bring your own.

B. 3-ring binder with dividers

Each day's activities should be stored in your notebook. There is a three hole punch in the classroom for you to use when we have extra class time. It is expected that you store only your chemistry papers within this binder, being organized is very important for success in this class.

Your dividers should be labeled as follows

1. Warm-ups (WODs)
2. By chapter, number and name

C. Scientific Calculator

In this class we will be doing many different kinds of calculations, it is important to have a scientific calculator that can perform higher functions than a basic calculation. You will need to have your calculator everyday just in case we need to do some figuring. You must learn how to use your calculator; knowing how to use different functions on it will make it easier for you to use.

Tips for Success

- A. Try your best, put forth a good effort, complete assignments to the best of your ability, and then ask for help.
- B. Be prepared every day.
- C. Keep your binder organized.
- D. Take good notes. Try to use the outline form that will be modeled in class.
- E. Turn in assignments on time. Obtain and turn in all make up work in a timely manner.
- F. Try to earn participation points by asking and answering questions during discussions, and having materials every day.
- G. **Study** your notes just 15 minutes a night. This will help you remember things much better than if you solely cram the night before a test.
- H. **Study** with friends; quiz each other on key concepts from discussions and lectures.
- I. Make flashcards for vocabulary and key concepts. Studying your vocabulary flashcards during commercials is a great way to learn vocab.
- J. Seek help as soon as you can.

Respect and Responsibility

All students have my respect and I expect the same in return. We are all here to learn and that must take place in the classroom. All of you are in high school and must act like it, meaning taking responsibility for actions, assignments and such. Act like the adults you are becoming.

Chapters to be Covered (Tentative)

Prologue – Biology and the Molecular Perspective

1 – The Chemistry of Life

2 – Energy, Life, and the Biosphere

24 – Ecosystem Structure and Function

25 – Change in Ecosystems

6 – Cell Structures and Their Function

3 – Exchanging Materials with the Environment

4 – Autotrophy: Collecting Energy from the Nonliving Environment

5 – Cell Respiration: Releasing Chemical Energy

8 – The Cell Cycle

9 – Expressing Genetic Information

13 – Patterns of Inheritance

14 – Other Forms of Inheritance

15 – Advances in Molecular Genetics

16 – Population Genetics

- 17 – The Origin of Life
- 18 – Diversity and Variation
- 19 – Changes in Species
- 20 – Human Evolution