Biology A
2021-2022
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Course Overview for Biology A

Biology A is a state tested course covering the topics of characteristics of living things, biochemistry, cell structures and processes, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, cell reproduction, DNA and RNA, genetics, biotechnology, evolution, and classification.

Course Objectives for Biology A

By the end of ***Biology A***, student will be able to:

- Describe the characteristics of life.
- Describe how organic compounds form the foundation of life.
- Describe the relationship between organic compounds to DNA.
- Explain how models show the process of cell division and DNA replication.
- Understand how critical thinking skills are used to solve genetic changes over time.
- Apply biotechnology concepts to real world biology situations.

Classroom Logistics for Biology A	
Monday	Assignments for the week will be posted using Google classroom. (modifications may be necessary during the week)
Monday through Friday	In-person learning. (subject to change)

💻 Course Communication for Biology A	
Class Announcements	All important classroom announcements will be posted in the Google classroom stream.
Email/Personal Messages	Email: rsnodgrass@wls4kids.org **Tips:** When writing an email, please follow the expectations below: ● Include your name(first and last), the class name, subject of the message

	(e.g., Heather Smith--ELA10--Essay) ● Be specific about what you need in the email. **Note:** It may take up to 24 hours to receive a reply back to you during the school week. Emails over the weekend will receive a reply back on Monday, so do not wait until the last minute to send a message if you need help or have an urgent question.
General Questions	If you have a question about the course or an assignment, I encourage you to post your question in the Google Classroom "stream." The stream is visible to the entire class community, so I encourage you to both ask and answer questions there. If a classmate asks a question and you know the answer, please jump in and help them out respectfully! Additionally, you can ask a question by going to my email.

💬 Participation Policy for Biology A

- Participation is expected and highly encouraged to reach your full potential.
- Frequent participation allows the student, yourself, to gain a broader sense of the content being taught in the classroom. Additionally, it allows me to see if you are understanding the material being presented to you.
- Participation may be assessed using interactives through various technology/online tools mentioned in the section below and through the use of classroom discussions via whiteboarding.

📚 Required Texts, Materials, Resources, and Online Accounts forBiology A

You will need the following for this course:

- Online ck12 Text:https://flexbooks.ck12.org/cbook/ck-12-biology-flexbook-2.0/
- etext (Miller and Levine classroom book):https://www.savvasrealize.com/community/program/eeb8860f-2b54-30dc-afbc-e4d6adfc9685/27/content/c19ef427-3ec4-3a10-b713-65595a863db5/6
- Resources
    - https://www.wls4kids.org/StudentResources.aspx
- Technology/Online Tools:
    - Chromebook, internet accessibility, Google suite for education learning platform (docs, forms, sheets, jamboard, classroom, peardeck, hangouts, etc), edpuzzle, ZOOM, ck12. The online/technology tools will be revolving to fit the needs and learning experiences of the classroom.
- Materials:
    - Pencils for work, green pen(s)/red pen(s) or colored pencils, paper (loose leaf or spiral), highlighter (any color), calculator (mobile phone calculator is not acceptable during test or quiz days)

🗓️ Schedule for for Biology A	
Dates/Week #	**Unit/Topic/Concept**
2 weeks	Characteristics of life
3 weeks	Biochemistry (protein, lipids, carbohydrates, and nucleic acids)
4 weeks	DNA
3 weeks	Cell division (mitosis and meiosis)
2 weeks	Genetics
3 weeks	Biotechnology

📝 Grading/Homework Policy for Biology A

Grading Policy:

- Classwork - work given inside/outside of class time which includes but not limited to participation (QOD), labs, activities, and projects.
- Test – formal and summative assessments include, but not limited to quizzes, tests, and exams.
- Test = 50%
- Classwork = 50% } 85% of the semester grade
- Semester Exam = 15% of the semester grade

93% - 100%	A	4.0
90% - 92%	A-	3.7
87% - 89%	B+	3.3
83% - 86%	B	3.0
80% - 82%	B-	2.7
77% - 79%	C+	2.3
73% - 76%	C	2.0
70% - 72%	C-	1.7
67% - 69%	D+	1.3
63% - 66%	D	1.0
60% - 62%	D-	0.7
0% - 59%	F	0.0

Homework Policy:

- Assignments will be due the following day unless stated otherwise by the instructor.

Late Work/Absent Work Policy:

- Late homework/classwork… a 10% deduction each day that the assignment/activity/lab is not turned in.
- Absent… it is your responsibility to check Google classroom daily to get your missed work. If you are absent one day, you have one day to make up for the missed work.
- Labs/activities(in-person or virtual) will be expected to be made up. Face to Face labs will have to be made up

on a later date or by doing an alternative virtual assignment at the instructor's discretion.

💡 Student Code of Conduct for Biology A

- Student Code of Conduct:https://go.boarddocs.com/oh/washlsd/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=AVQQ2R5D2D4F#
- Whitmer Student Handbook: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CSIg6CnjtUx-QpLUKaOg18ChzfR9UO6dC9sCpvtyRPI/edit
- Student use of computers and the internet:BoardDocs® Policy: po5514 STUDENT USE OF COMPUTERS, NETWORK, OR INTERNET
- ZOOM ground rules: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1KxgT0L_0IsqxQ4pIEZawQ893dp24e0KOqF6LJCtzk1M/edit#slide=id.p

🙋🏻‍♀️ Attendance Policy for Biology A

Attendance will be taken daily. Any tardies or absences will be handled based on WHS attendance policies.