



Biology – Semester 1 & 2

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is based on the Next Generation Science Standards; a college preparatory graduation requirement.

OPTIONAL TEXT: Biology – Miller & Levine – Pearson.

COURSE OUTLINE: Biology ***This syllabus will be subject to revision/change w/o notice***

A Session

UNIT 1: Ecosystems

UNIT 2: Carbon in Earth Systems

UNIT 3: Ecosystem Matter & Energy Flow

UNIT 4: Evidence for Evolution

B Session

UNIT 5: Inheritance

UNIT 6: Genetic Variation

UNIT 7: Structure/Function

UNIT 8: Climate Change

TEACHING METHODS: Lectures, videos, and internet research will cover the main concepts in the chapters, and students will be expected to take notes and participate in group discussions. Paper and physical labs will reinforce the concepts, as well as drawing assignments. Daily quizzes will be given to check understanding of the material. Unit tests will cover both lectures and lab material. Students will often work with partners or groups to develop cooperative learning skills. Students who miss lectures or homework assignments can access the daily class agenda at the website: <http://www.MathScienceClassroom.com>

GRADING: Grades in this class will be determined from the following, using a POINT SYSTEM.

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89.9% = B
- 70-79.9% = C
- 30-69.9% = D
- <30% = F

Grades are broken down as follows:

- ▶ Tests / Quizzes / Final Exam = 40%
- ▶ Warm-ups / Labs / Drawings / Classwork = 30%
- ▶ Homework = 20%
- ▶ Participation = 10%

LABS: Lab, group work, and drawings are a very important part of this course. You will be expected to conduct yourself in a proper manner during all classwork. **Anyone who plays during lab time will be removed from the class.** Labs must be written in the correct format and **must include an Analysis & Conclusion to receive full credit.** Students who miss a formal lab must make up the lab by doing an alternative assignment (see teacher).



HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS: Homework will be turned in on the due date to receive credit. Homework will include reading & answering questions from assigned text, and studying for quizzes and tests.

Assignments are due at the beginning of the period to receive credit. Do not copy homework. If caught, both people receive a zero on the assignment.

TARDIES AND ABSENCES: When the bell rings, class begins. You should be working on the WarmUp assignment at the moment the bell rings. **Be prepared:**—make sure you have all required materials (notebooks, pens, pencils, paper, etc.)

NOTEBOOKS: It is recommended that a well-organized notebook be maintained for the length of this course. All work should be kept in the correct section and in chronological order.

Notebooks should be brought to class daily. You should have these sections in notebooks:

1. General Notes
2. WarmUp
3. Outline
4. Labs/Worksheets
5. Homework
6. Tests and quizzes

CLASS RULES: Failure to adhere to classroom rules will result in loss of assignment points.

Be respectful at all times – To fellow students, the teacher, and your classroom

1. **Be prepared for class** - paper, pens, notebook, and **homework completed**.
2. **Do not leave your seat** without permission, unless previously arranged with teacher.
3. **No food, gum, or drinks allowed in class** (bottled water is the exception)
4. **Copying other student's homework is unacceptable.**
5. **Cell phones should be placed in wall pouch**, unless previously discussed with the teacher.
6. **Follow safety procedures** at all times. No messing around!

HOW TO SUCCEED IN THIS CLASS:

1. Don't let yourself fall behind in your studies. **Study each night** for as long as it takes you to complete the reading, homework, and all assigned material. Remember that daily class agendas, as well as most worksheets, lab assignments, etc., are available for you to review and download at: <http://www.MathScienceClassroom.com>
2. Do all assigned reading and written homework.
3. **Be organized.** Take good notes and work neatly and carefully during all labs and activities.
4. Absences are **no** excuse for not knowing the material. If you are absent it is **your responsibility** to find out what you have missed and schedule a time to make it up!
5. **LISTEN.** And if you don't understand something, **ask me to explain it.**
6. Come and get extra help if you need it. Check with me after class, or email me at:



Parents/Guardians:

- If you have ANY questions about how your student is doing, please contact me! Email is the easiest for me- mep9760@lausd.net
- **Please sign the weekly student grade sheet (progress report) and reflect with your student about what looks great and what areas can be improved upon. Returning the signed grade sheet will be a part of your child's grade.**
- Please ask your student what they are doing/learning in class. Ask them to explain/to teach you what they are learning.
- Please make sure you have provided the school with a valid email address that you check often. This should not be your student's email address. I will use this to communicate any questions or concerns that may pop up.

Suggested Materials for Success! Please bring to class every day:

- Pens (ideally, blue or black ink)
- Pencils and an eraser
- Coloring pens/pencils: We often draw concepts as an aid to comprehension and retention.
- Fully charged Chromebook/laptop AND charging cable.
- Headset/earbuds.
- Backpack/bookbag
- Textbook
- Post-it style sticky note pads
- Notebook paper.
- 3-ring binder to hold papers: This is very important.



FHS School Rules:

Please also see the information on the LAUSD website. All students are expected to take responsibility for their conduct and education and comply with the *FHS Code of Behavior for Students*. There are only 3 school/classroom rules:

Be Involved, Be Respectful, AND Be Responsible

- Food, drinks, and gum: If you have your own water bottle of water/gum and it is not distracting to the class it is okay. Quick sips from your personal water bottle as needed are permissible. If you chew loudly enough that others can hear you, and/or if you pop your gum, blow bubbles, leave your trash behind, spill water, etc. you will lose your privilege.
- Hats and hoods: You may wear an item on your head if it does NOT cover your ears. Most hats are okay because they don't cover your ears. **Hoods are NOT okay.**
- Grooming: Brushing your hair, looking in a mirror, putting on make-up, etc. are all distracting and are **not** allowed in my classroom. Absolutely NO "smelly" lotions, perfumes, etc. can ever be put on in my classroom!!! Others may have adverse reactions!
- Talking: Common sense should tell you that if the teacher or fellow classmate is addressing the class, you should not be talking. If you would like to share something with the entire class- raise your hand and wait to be called on.
- Cell phones and smart devices*: I enforce the LAUSD and FHS policies regarding electronic devices. There is a cell phone holder in the classroom to put your device (that has been turned OFF) during instructional time unless otherwise indicated during class time. *Wireless technology used to access electronic devices (iWatch, wireless earbuds, etc.) are included in the electronic device policy and should be OFF and NOT IN USE during instructional time.
 - o Note: If a student accesses their cellular device during an assessment, the student will be found in violation of the academic honesty policy and will receive a zero on the assessment, a U in citizenship on the semester report card, and have a comment of 'documented academic dishonesty' included on the semester report card.
 - o Students who choose to violate the school and classroom policies and use their cell phones/earbuds during class time will receive a referral to the AP office.

**Mr. Pomeroy will not assume any responsibility for loss, damage, or other financial matters. By signing the syllabus signature page, the student and parent/guardian/adult in charge understand the policies regarding cell phone use/abuse during class.

Sexual Harassment

All students must adhere to all LAUSD and FHS policies. The LAUSD Sexual Harassment Policy can be found here: <https://www.lausd.org/cms/lib/CA01000043/Centricity/Domain/383/BUL-3349.1-Sexual%20Harassment%20Policy.pdf>

Academic Honesty

All students must adhere to all LAUSD Policies. The LAUSD Academic Honesty Policy: https://www.fairfaxhs.org/m/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=344858&type=d



FAIRFAX HIGH SCHOOL

I read this syllabus. The student will abide by the rules for Mr. Pomeroy's Biology classroom.

SIGNATURE OF STUDENT

DATE

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

DATE