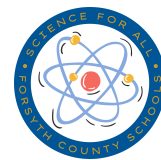


Forsyth County Schools

Honors Biology Syllabus 2023/2024



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Course Description (GaDOE): The Biology curriculum is designed to continue student investigations of the life sciences that began in grades K-8 and provide students the necessary skills to be proficient in biology. This curriculum includes more abstract concepts such as the interdependence of organisms, the relationship of matter, energy, and organization in living systems, the behavior of organisms, and biological evolution. Students will investigate biological concepts through experience in laboratories and field work using the processes of inquiry. Other topics and instructional methods specific to preparing students for the rigors of future honors science courses, Advanced Placement, and IB science courses are also included.

Standards: *Course Standards can be found at*

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Science-Biology-Georgia-Standards.pdf>

Required Assignments: *This class will have a variety of project-based learning, argument driven research and summative assessments. Be prepared to WORK IN GROUPS and INDIVIDUALLY on a variety of assignments. Literacy is an extremely important aspect of this class, so keep up on any required reading. Units to be covered include: 1. Intro to Biology, atoms, properties of water and acids and bases 2. Biochemistry 3. Cell structure and cellular transport 4. Energetics, enzymes, cellular respiration and photosynthesis 5. Cellular Reproduction 6. DNA and processes 7. Genetics and biotechnology 8. Evolution 9. Ecology*

Required Materials: *A 1 ½ inch binder, colored pencils, any calculator and highlighters, colored pens or pencils.*

Availability for Extra Help: *Extra help is available during instructional focus or Tuesday and Thursday morning from 8-8:20.*

Makeup Work: *Make up work is defined as work assigned during a student's absence, not work assigned prior to an absence. The student has five (5) school days upon returning to school to complete make-up work. The teacher has the discretion to grant a longer period to make up work if there are extenuating circumstances.*

Grading Calculations:

Course Average = 40% (1st Sem. Course Work) + 40% (2nd Sem. Course Work) + 20% (EOC)

1st and 2nd Semester Course Work = 75% Summative + 25% Formative

Grading Policy:

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 70 – 79

Failing = Below 70

Formative Assessments include, but are not limited to, homework, class work, labs, investigations, practice tests, rough drafts, and sections of projects/research papers/presentations.

Summative Assessments include, but are not limited to, unit tests, final projects, final essays, formal lab reports, final research papers, and final presentations.

Due to a state policy change, the EOC will count between 10-20% of the final course grade and will be determined by the BOE no later than November 2023. The exact percentage weight will be communicated at that time.

Learning Resources/Textbook(s): All learning resources, both print and digital, are meant to support and enhance the student learning experience in this class. Below are the names of the textbooks and websites that will be used

Updated May 2023 BDC

in this course. Some of the web-based resources require parent permission per federal regulations. Federal laws that guide parent permission requirements are as follows:

- **Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA):** The school is required by CIPA to have technology measures and policies in place that protect students from harmful materials including those that are obscene and pornographic. Any harmful content contained within inappropriate sites will be blocked.
<http://fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.html>
- **Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA):** COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under 13 years of age. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes.
<https://www.ftc.gov/tips-advice/business-center/guidance/complying-coppa-frequently-asked-questions-0>
- **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):** FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents the right to review records. Under FERPA, schools may disclose directory information in certain circumstances.
<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

Please review the resource list. Each website related to the curriculum resources is provided along with its privacy policies. Should you have any questions regarding these resources, immediately contact the course teacher via email or phone.

Name of Resource*	Hard copy/Website	Privacy Policy
McDougal Littell <i>Biology</i>	Class set of textbooks	Not applicable
Explore Learning	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	https://www.explorellearning.com/index.cfm?method=Controller.dspPrivacy
Newsela	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	https://newsela.com/about/privacy-policy/
USA Testprep	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	https://www.usatestprep.com/privacy-policy/#:~:text=In%20accordance%20with%20the%20Family,b%20USATestprep%20beyond%20the%20time
Pivot Interactives	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	https://www.pivotinteractives.com/privacy-policy
Discovery Education	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	https://www.discoveryeducation.com/privacy-policy/

*** The following resources are county approved. These resources may vary by school due to sequencing, pacing, curriculum design, and/or individual needs of students.**

Parent Initial for Approval **	Name of Resource	Website	Privacy Policy
	CK-12	https://flexbooks.ck12.org/cbook/ck-12-biology-flexbook-2.0/	https://www.ck12info.org/security/?_gl=1*1wdn6jj*ga*MTE3MDU1MDE1NC4xNjI4MDEwODEy*_ga_7PBE4L0PZZ*MTYyODAxMDQxMS4xLjEuMTYyODAxMTQ2OC4w&_ga=2.267027022.114123456.1628010813-1170550154.1628010812
	You tube for educational videos and clips: Crash course, Bozeman Science, TED ED	https://www.youtube.com/	https://www.youtube.com/static?template=terms

	HHMI biointeractives	https://www.biointeractive.org/professional-learning/educator-voices/effective-components-online-teaching	https://www.hhmi.org/privacy-policy
	Discovery Education	https://www.discoveryeducation.com/programs/science/	https://www.discoveryeducation.com/privacy-policy/
	BBC: The hidden lives of cells	https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x6agslv	https://www.dailymotion.com/legal/privacy?localization=us
	Gimkit	Accessed through classlink	https://nearpod.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360049188592
	Nearpod	Accessed through classlink	https://nearpod.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360049188592
	Edpuzzle	https://edpuzzle.com/	https://edpuzzle.com/privacycenter
	PhET	https://phet.colorado.edu/	https://phet.colorado.edu/about/software-agreement_v7.htm#:~:text=No%20personally%20identifying%20information%20is,this%20policy%20and%20applicable%20law.

**** The following resources are web-based resources that require parent permission. By signing the syllabus, the parent is approving these resources. Should you have any questions regarding any of these classroom resources, please contact your student's teacher via email.**

I, _____, have read this course syllabus and approve of its contents. I agree to allow my student to use each of the classroom resources listed in the learning resource section. I will support my student in following the classroom expectations outlined in this course syllabus. I agree that I am the person who is legally allowed to consent for my student, whose name is listed below.

Student's Name (Print)

Parent Name (Print)

Parent Signature

Date