



## Forsyth County Schools 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.

**Standards:** Course Standards can be found at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Science-Biology-Georgia-Standards.pdf>

**Required Assignments:** A variety of assignments such as daily labs, articles, case studies, and project will be assigned.

**Required Materials:** 1.5 inch binder, simple calculator, scissors, ruler, pens/pencils, colored pencils, glue sticks (3-pack)

**Availability for Extra Help:** I am available most mornings starting at 7:30 am **by appointment**. Students are welcome to also come during IF on Wednesdays and Fridays.

**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:

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.

### 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.*

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**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 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

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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)	<a href="https://www.explorelearning.com/index.cfm?method=Controller.dspPrivacy">https://www.explorelearning.com/index.cfm?method=Controller.dspPrivacy</a>
Newsela	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	<a href="https://newsela.com/about/privacy-policy/">https://newsela.com/about/privacy-policy/</a>
USA Testprep	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	<a href="https://www.usatestprep.com/privacy-policy/#:~:text=In%20accordance%20with%20the%20Family.by%20USATestprep%20beyond%20the%20time">https://www.usatestprep.com/privacy-policy/#:~:text=In%20accordance%20with%20the%20Family.by%20USATestprep%20beyond%20the%20time</a>
Pivot Interactives	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	<a href="https://www.pivotinteractives.com/privacy-policy">https://www.pivotinteractives.com/privacy-policy</a>
Discovery Education	Digital supplemental material (accessed via ClassLink)	<a href="https://www.discoveryeducation.com/privacy-policy/">https://www.discoveryeducation.com/privacy-policy/</a>

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

*As a part of their participation in PSAT and/or SAT testing, students may be expected to utilize accounts created with the College Board via their official website. These accounts provide students with the ability to register for the PSAT and SAT assessments, as well as other program resources as offered by the College Board. Parents and students should review the College Board privacy policies and collaboratively create and manage this account. For additional information, please contact the PSAT/SAT Coordinator at your student's school, and visit <https://privacy.collegeboard.org/privacy-center/>.*

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