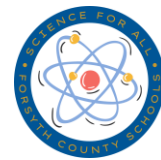


Forsyth County Schools

Biology Syllabus 2023/2024



Teacher Name: Rachel Collins

Email: rcollins@forsyth.k12.ga.us

Room Number: 371

Phone: 770-781-2264

EXT: 100371

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: *There will be at least 6 unit tests during the course as well as various performance based assessments that require writing, research, and creativity. The number of formative grades such as quizzes, homework, etc. will be determined along the course of the school year.*

Required Materials: *Writing utensils, colored pencils, 2 composition notebooks (one for each semester)*

Availability for Extra Help: *I am available before school by appointment only. Help sessions may be done virtually through TEAMS. IF can also be utilized for extra help.*

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

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