



Biology

Class Information



Welcome to Biology! This course entails an exploration of life (biology) on earth. Our studies will cover topics from the molecules that make up our genetic code to the ecosystems that support life on this planet. Use this handout as your guide for success in this classroom. **Keep** this document in your binder for reference throughout the year. This course covers the biology standards for the high school exit exam.

Student Conduct – respect and integrity

- You are expected to treat yourself, others, the teacher, personal property and school property with **respect**.
- Students will be marked tardy if they are not in their seat doing the reading, or answering the daily quiz or journal questions when the bell rings.
- No eating or drinking in the science rooms.
- Assignments are to be completed individually (not copied) and to the best of your ability.
- Class time is to be spent working on your science assignments. Activities such as socializing, putting on makeup, or doing another class's assignment are not allowed.
- Equipment gets broken from time to time. Students and their group members are responsible for the cost to replace broken equipment. It is your responsibility to tell the instructor. Attempts to avoid this responsibility will result in disciplinary action.

Participation

Tardies

Students are considered tardy if they are not in their seats **working when the bell rings**.

Lab and classroom participation

Class time is to be spent working on biology. Students are expected to participate actively in this class especially when we work in teams or groups. Everyone is expected to help when we are cleaning up as well.

Make up work

School policies regarding tardies and absences will be followed. If you are absent you have the same amount of time you missed to make up the work. This includes exams. You must make arrangements on your own time to make up exams and quizzes. For example, if you missed 3 days of school you will have 3 days to get your make up work in. If you had missed Friday, Monday and Tuesday you would have until the next

Monday to turn your make up work in (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday). Work turned in later will receive a **zero**.

For missed assignments check www.cusd.org/biology .

Discipline

In Class

- 1) I will remind you of my expectations, a warning.
- 2) You will be moved and requested to have a conference after class.

Beyond Class

- 3) A call home and/or removal from class for the period.
- 4) Call home and referral.

Assignments

You can expect homework on a nightly basis. No extra work will be assigned over holidays.

All work is due at the beginning of the period and should be turned in when you walk in the door. Work turned later than when the bell rings is considered late and will receive no more than **50% (an F)**. Work turned in more than one day late except in the case of an excused absence will receive a **zero**.

Written assignments must have your name, the date, and the period in the upper right-hand corner. If there is assignment title it should be centered across the top of the page. Assignments without the above information, *legible writing and complete sentences* will receive no credit.

Final drafts of lab reports and unit projects must be typed. The proper format for writing lab reports must be followed as well.

Journals must be kept in a separate spiral bound notebook. See materials list. These will be collected periodically.

Material s

You are expected to come to class prepared with the following items on a daily basis.

- 1) Textbook
- 2) Pen and pencil
- 3) Three ring binder with binder paper
- 4) Journal
- 5) Metric ruler
- 6) Calculator
- 7) Computer account *
- 8) Other helpful items would be scissors, colored pens and a glue stick.

* You must have a school computer account for this class. There will be some

assignments, which will come to you via email or be placed on the server. Other assignments may require the use of school computers. Your computer use policy must be turned in to Mr. Addison by the end of the first week of school.

Grades

Grades will be based on class work (includes participation points), homework, lab work, quizzes, journals, tests, research reports and group projects. Each assignment will be weighted by the number of points it is worth (e.g.. quizzes = 10 points, homework = 20 points, tests = 100 points).

Assignment points are based on a relative weight for the assignment. For example, in any given week you will have 4 homework assignments (4 X 20 pts. = 100 pts.), 2 class assignments (2 X 20 = 50 pts.), daily quizzes and journals (4 X 10 = 40 pts), a test or other assignment (60 pts). The total points for that week would be 250 points. **Your homework would represent about 40% of your grade; the other components would be about 20% each.** *Homework is worth a significant portion of your grade.*

Your grade will be calculated by the following formula.

$$\frac{\text{Students Total Earned Points}}{\text{Total Possible Points}} \times 100 = \text{Grade \%}$$

Scale

90 - 100% = A

80 - 89 % = B

70 - 79 % = C

60 - 69 % = D

59% and below = F

Course Components

Quizzes, Journals and Reading

At the beginning of each class you will take a quiz, make a journal entry or complete a reading. The quizzes will cover the previous class' material and/or homework. These will be worth around 10 points each.

Exams

There will also be vocabulary quizzes for every section (chapter). There will be an exam at the end of some chapters and all units. Exams will be worth around 100-150 points.

Labs and in-class projects

These assignments will generally be conducted in a group. All members are expected to

be active participants of their team. Cooperation here is one area you will earn participation points.

Homework

There will be homework every night in this class. It is due when you walk into class. An assignment is considered late if it isn't turned in at the beginning of the period. Late assignments will receive half credit. Assignments turned in later than one day late will receive a zero. Homework will generally be given 20 points.

Projects

One or more projects will be assigned during the quarter with values up to 200 points.

Instructor Contact

Feel free to contact me with your concerns. I can be contacted through:

Voicemail: 894-1900 ext. 37

E-mail: addisonp@cusd.org

Web: www.cusd.org/biology (Students who are absent can find nightly assignment updates here)

Snailmail: 509 N. Cloverdale Blvd., Cloverdale, CA 95425



As a student or parent/guardian of a student in Mr. Addison's course I am signing and dating this to indicate my understanding of the course and classroom expectations as outlined in this information handout, the course syllabus/outline, and the dissection/reproduction notification.

student's signature date

parent or guardian's signature date

student's printed name

parent or guardian's printed name