

U G H S
Unity Grit Helpfulness Self-Respect

UNION GROVE HIGH SCHOOL
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Kellie J. White

Room #: 226

Year: 2021-2022

Course Name and Code: AP Biology 5654.0A, 5654.2A

Textbook Used: Campbell Biology 11th Edition

Supplementary Texts or Special Materials:

AP Biology Investigative Labs: an Inquiry Based Approach

AP Biology Lab Manual. New York: The College Board, 2001.

Bozeman Biology - http://www.youtube.com/user/bozemanbiology?feature=results_main

Khan Academy - <http://www.khanacademy.org/>

Materials Needed

Loose-leaf paper, graph paper, pens (pencils on test days), highlighters, binder, calculator, lab notebook (gridded composition notebook preferred, but any bound notebook will work). Colored pencils recommended.

Course Description: It is our expectation that students receive an experience in AP biology equivalent to that of a college biology course – complete with lab work. Students will be asked to perform college-level work and be assessed in a like manner. The development of critical and independent thinking will be emphasized. Biology is a dynamic and ever-changing field of study. There is much to explore in a seemingly short school year. Discussions and reflections are essential to learning the complex themes within AP biology. For this reason, attendance is critical for success. Hands-on activities are also a staple of the course. Most students learn through experiencing activities that are relevant to the material. Reading in the text is very important in order to relate discussions and labs to the material being covered. All students are encouraged to read the chapters to be covered ahead of the discussions so that they can be active participants.

Course Outline and Content: This AP biology course is organized around 4 Big Ideas:

Big Idea 1: The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life.

Big Idea 2: Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce and to maintain dynamic homeostasis.

Big Idea 3: Living systems store, retrieve, transmit and respond to information essential to life processes.

Big Idea 4: Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties.

Unit divisions:

Semester A:

Unit 0: Introduction to AP Biology

Unit 1: Chemistry of Life

(Ch 2-5, 8 -sections 8.4 and 8.5 only)

Unit 2: Cell Structure and Function (Ch 6, 7, 11)

(signaling examples from Ch 43, 45, 48, 49)

Unit 3: Cellular Energetics (Ch 8 (8.1-8.3), 9, 10, 40.2 & 40.3)

Semester B:

Unit 4: Cell Cycle & Genetics (Ch 12-15, 23)

Unit 5: Gene Expression & Regulation (Ch 16-21)

Unit 6: Ecology (Ch 51-56)

Unit 7: Evolution (Ch 22, 24-26)

Special Assignments and Projects: Students who take the College Board AP Biology exam in May will complete a final exam project in the spring, which is assigned after spring break. Students who do not take the CB AP Biology exam take a traditional final exam. The fall final exam is a traditional exam for all students.

Classroom Rules and Discipline Procedures: All students must adhere to the rules and expectations outlined in the Henry County Schools student handbook and the Union Grove High School student handbook addendum. All students are

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expected to contribute to the learning environment in a positive manner. Please be polite to each other, respect others and their property, and allow all students equal opportunity to learn in a distraction-free setting.

Hall Pass Policy: Students are required to utilize and display the standard issued UGHS pass at all times while out of the classroom, failure to do so will result in disciplinary consequences. Students are also required to fill out the Google form prior to leaving the classroom and document their return time on the same form. Teachers will not give out hall passes during the first ten minutes or last ten minutes of class. It is the teacher's discretion to allow or deny a hall pass request.

Chromebook Policy: It is an expectation for students to have their charged Chromebook with them every day. Failure to do so will be regarded as "not being prepared for class."

Communication: It is vital that each student checks Google Classroom **daily** for important class assignments, updates, study material, and announcements.

Make-up Policy: Students will be given one day for every *excused* day absent to make up their work. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain make-up work (Check Google Classroom first). Make-up tests and tutoring will be scheduled during IF or before/after school. Failure to complete the work within this time frame will result in a 0 on the assignment.

Grading System:

GRADING SCALE:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 74-79

D = 70-73

F = below 70

GRADING CATEGORIES:

80% of the grade is comprised of:

40% Assessment Tasks (ex. tests and projects)

40% Practice Work (ex. labs, classwork, and quizzes)

20% Comprehensive Final Exam

Late Work Policy: Students are given ample class time to complete work. **When you are in class, you are expected to be on task.** Late work will be penalized 20% for each day late. Please watch the whiteboard and/or Google Classroom for specifics on due dates of assignments throughout the semester.

Labs: Investigative labs are an important component of the AP Biology course. At least 25% of class time must be spent conducting laboratory investigations. There are 13 total labs in the current College Board laboratory manual in which students will complete at least 2 inquiry-based laboratories per big idea. Students will conduct additional supplemental laboratories to deepen understanding of concepts.

It is very important for students to learn how to communicate laboratory experiences. Students will learn to do so through the lab journal, formal lab reports, poster sessions, and peer review. Students will also be expected to take quizzes over the concepts covered in laboratory activities. **Students will be required to keep all lab data and reports in a separate laboratory notebook that will serve as evidence of completion of the labs in the course.** Please follow provided lab reporting guidelines carefully.

Lab safety guidelines will be strictly enforced! Every student will receive training in topics related to laboratory safety. All students must sign and adhere to a laboratory safety contract in order to participate in laboratory activities. Eating and drinking are never allowed in the lab area nor is it allowed in the classroom area (with the exception of water).

Group work: Science is a collaborative field. With this in mind, you will complete the majority of the labs, projects, and other activities within a group. Each student is expected to participate in every aspect of the work. **For example, students will not divide questions on a worksheet and then pool the answers; EVERY student will answer the question and then the group may discuss and agree upon a common answer, which each student will then write in their own words.** Credit will not be given if it is evident the students did not complete the work on their own.

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Academic Honesty Policy and Rule Violation: **I have ZERO tolerance for cheating and plagiarism.** Students who comprise the academic integrity of this course will receive a zero for the assignment, a UGHS four-step discipline will be recorded, and parents/guardians will be notified.

Examples of acceptable collaboration:

- Clarifying ambiguities or vague points in class handouts, textbooks, or lectures
- Discussing or explaining the general class material
- Providing assistance with lab set ups and equipment
- Discussing data that you and your partner observe and record
- Discussing assignments to better understand them

Now for the dark side. In order to help you draw the line, here are some examples of clear cases of cheating:

- Copying lab conclusions or assignment answers from another person or source, including retyping their answers, changing variable names, making slight word changes, copying ideas without explicit citation from previously published works (except the textbook), etc.
- Allowing someone else to copy your labs or written assignments, either in draft or final form
- Copying from another student during an exam, quiz, or midterm (this includes receiving exam-related information from a student who has already taken the exam)

Cell Phone/Electronic Device Policy: The cell phone/electronic device policy begins when students enter the designated classroom area. All students will place all cell phones/devices in the teacher assigned caddy. During this time, cell phones must be turned off. **Additionally, all smart watches or other electronic devices connected to the phone must be caddied until the end of class.** Cell phones/devices will remain caddied until the end of class. Students will NOT be allowed to take their phones/devices out of the room when they have a hall pass to the restroom, media center, etc. Students will be allowed to use cell phones/devices before first period, during lunch, and during class transition.

On Time Policy: In order to be considered “on time” to class, the student must be across the threshold of the classroom or designated classroom area by the end of the tardy bell.

Unit Repair Plan: In an effort to aid in student mastery, each UGHS student will have the opportunity to participate in Unit Repair. The Unit Repair Plan for AP Biology will only consist of test corrections of the multiple-choice portion of unit tests. Partial credit will be awarded for each corrected question that meets the requirements of the test correction protocol.

Special note on secured material: AP biology is governed by the AP College Board. Because of this, I am restricted in the material that I can send home with students. Quizzes and exams CANNOT leave my classroom. Any attempt at the students to remove them from the class and/or record information on these materials will result in disciplinary action. Students are welcome to review those materials whenever I am available. Purchasing an AP exam prep book may be beneficial in the absence of taking these materials home. See me for different options so you can choose one that works best for you.

Exam Exemption: To encourage and reward excellent attendance, each student may earn the right to exempt one (1) spring semester non-state required final exam. Each student must meet clear guidelines to qualify for this exemption. Please see our school website for all requirements and guidelines.

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Communication: Join my Remind – text @whiteapbio to 81010

Follow the link to the Google Form to acknowledge that you have read and understand all of the objectives, requirements, and expectations for AP Biology taught by Dr. Kellie White.

<https://forms.gle/EHQXC9w4BGfRjCT39>