

Health Careers Academy High School Biology 2014-2015

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Course Objectives: This course is designed to provide students with opportunities to develop understanding of key concepts that will help students make sense of life science. Some questions to be answered include: "How is food, macromolecules, broken down and reused?"; "How and why do organisms interact with their environment, and what are the effects of these interactions?"; How do living organisms live and grow?; "How are characteristics of one generation passed to the next?"; "How can individuals of the same species and even siblings have different characteristics?"; "What evidence shows that different species are related?"; and "How is probability used to explain trends in populations in a specific environment?".

This course satisfies your life science laboratory science admission requirement for UC /CSU.

The course centers around four big ideas and eight science practices:

Big Ideas	Science Practices
1. From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes	1. Asking questions and defining problems
2. Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics	2. Developing and using models; Drawing, explaining, and interpreting representations
	3. Designing and implementing data collection strategies
3. Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits	4. Analyzing and interpreting data
	5. Using mathematics and logical routines appropriately
	6. Constructing explanations and designing solutions
4. Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity	7. Making predictions and justifying claims with evidence
	8. Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information connecting scientific concepts across the big idea.

The cross-cutting concepts that will be used to link the Big Ideas with practices are:

1. Patterns
2. Cause and effect: mechanism and explanation
3. Scale, proportion, and quantity
4. Systems and system models
5. Energy and matter: flows, cycles, and conservation
6. Structure and function
7. Stability and change

Student Expectations

- Show respect for yourself, your teacher, other students, and our school. Be courteous
- Follow directions the first time they are given especially when special safety rules are in force during labs
- Follow all school rules and class rules
- Be on time. You are tardy if not in your assigned seat ready to begin learning before the tardy bell rings.
- Attend class daily and take an active part in your learning (No personal grooming while in class)
- No gum, drink, food or candy. (Bottled water is OK)
- Bring textbook the second day of the week for your schedule (Tuesday or Wednesday)
- Stay in your seat until dismissed
- **Do every assignment to the best of your ability!**

Required Materials for Sciences Courses

- Textbook: *Biology*
- Class Binder (to be brought to class **each day**)
 - o 3 ring binder (1 inch or more)
 - o Dividers (5)
- College ruled binder paper
- Pencils or a mechanical with lead, and erasers
- Highlighters & sticky notes
- Whiteboard pens
- Colored pencils
- Calculator
- GOOD ATTENDANCE!**

REMEMBER: The number one required material is an active mind. I am here to assist your learning process. Active minds ask questions. Please take this to heart – your understanding and success is directly related to your efforts. Communication is key. Listening, discussing, and asking questions are encouraged. I am available for help most days before school, at lunch, and after school. *Please use me and all the teachers at HCA as a resource.*

Grading Policy

Determination of student's grade will be based on performance in the categories listed below.

Homework, Classwork, Interactive Notebook, Tests, Quizzes, Labs, Projects/Papers

Grades may be accessed on the Internet at www.jupitergrades.net.

Grades:

Progressive Grading

Semester 1:

- Unit 1- Biochemistry (20%)
- Unit 2- Ecology (30 %)
- Unit 3- Physiology (40%)
- Final- (10%)

Semester 2

- Unit 4- Cells and Cell Division (15%)
- Unit 5- Energy in cells (20%)
- Unit 6- Heredity (25%)
- Unit 7- Evolution (30%)
- Final- (10%)

Grading Scale for Biology in Collaboration with the Biology

A: 90-100%; B: 80-89%; C: 70-79%; D: 60-69%; F: Below 60%

Make-Up Policy: NO LATE WORK accepted after 3 days or at all if graded in class or stamped for completion

*Late work will be accepted and quiz/test make-up allowed only when student has an excused absence

*Work / binder must be turned in on the day of return from absence

*Any missed test/quiz must be made up within one week of test/quiz date (special cases to be considered)

Cheating: I regret having to include this section, BUT, I too take cheating very seriously. I will enforce HCA's Academic Integrity policy to the strictest of my capabilities. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Any form of copying someone else's work **OR** allowing your work to be copied on any type of assignment
- Any form of plagiarism
- Using unauthorized notes or aides on a test or quiz.

Students involved in cheating on assignments, quizzes, or tests will receive a zero grade along with having his or her parents contacted as soon as possible to discuss suitable consequences..

Homework will be graded as "Credit / No Credit." It will be checked at the beginning of class for completion. Homework is to remain in the binder until the Interactive Notebook is turned in at the end of each unit, at which time a grade will be given to the Interactive Notebooks. Certain other scored assignments will be graded and returned to students for inserting into their Interactive Notebooks.

Binder: The Interactive Notebooks is an ongoing portfolio of the student's work. All warm ups, reading guides, home/handouts, labs, tests/quizzes, are to be kept in the Interactive Notebooks until the end of each unit, at which time a grade will be earned.

How Parents Can Help

Parents you can help by:

- Providing a quiet place and time to study
- Checking scores on their quiz/formative summary in their interactive notebook.
- Contacting me, the teacher, with questions
- Asking to see your student's homework and hear what they are doing in class
- Limiting television, telephone, and video game time, and social networking
- Providing class materials (contact me if this is a problem)

Parents: If you have any question please feel free to contact me. You can call me (209) 933-7360 or email me melizabeth@stockton.k12.ca.us . We can talk during my open period, before or after school. I am **very** happy to talk to you and you are welcome to visit the classroom in accordance with school procedures.

Please feel free to contact me at (209) 933-7360 ext. 39815 or email me melizabeth@stockton.k12.ca.us

This sheet is to remain in the front of your binder in a protective sheet.

Progressive Grading

In an effort to motivate and award students for continual learning throughout the semester, my class utilizes a progressive grade. What this means is that each unit will be worth more credit than the previous unit and the final will be worth a significant portion of your grade. This method of grading will accomplish two goals: 1) for slower learners or students who have a poor start to the year, there will be more chances to demonstrate learning by the end of the semester, and 2) students who learn quickly will need to continue to excel in order to earn high marks for the semester. These are the unit breakdowns for first and second semester:

Grades:

Progressive Grading

Semester 1:

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- Unit 3- Physiology (40%)
- Final- (10%)

Semester 2

- Unit 4- Cells and Cell Division (15%)
- Unit 5- Energy in cells (20%)
- Unit 6- Heredity (25%)
- Unit 7- Evolution (30%)
- Final- (10%)

Determination of student's grade will be based on performance in these categories:

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I have received the class expectations from Ms. Elizabeth. I understand the expectations and I agree to do what is expected of me in Biology. I understand that Biology is a course designed to prepare me for College and/or Career in the Medical Field. I accept that challenge and commit to giving my best to this class and my future. I will come to class every day and do my work the best I can – NO IDK. My copy of the expectations will be retained in my binder in a protective sheet.

Print Student Name

Student Signature

Home Phone #

I will encourage and support my Biology student to follow the rules of the class and do their best.

Parent Name

Parent Signature

Day Phone #

E-mail address

Date
