



Ruben S. Ayala High School - Science Department

Biology Course Requirements

Mr. Ullmann 2024-2025

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Room: S205

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Biology!. It is an exciting time in education as we begin to explore the Next Generation Science Standards. These standards push thinking further and allow students to become 21st century thinkers. This year we will have six-eight different units of interest broken over 2 semesters:

Semester 1

Basic Science skills, measurement, biochemistry, cell structure/function, photosynthesis/cell respiration, Mitosis/Meiosis, Homeostasis, and Genetics

Semester 2

DNA, biotechnology, protein synthesis, evolution, Ecology

Students should be able to clearly communicate what they have learned, especially in writing. You should be prepared for many presentations, group work, labs, and scientific debates/arguments.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Participate in experiments and activities in class
- Completion of assignments or activities given as homework
- Wear closed toe shoes and be PREPARED for lab days
- Be responsible for making up and turning in various classwork, homework, activities, tests, quizzes, and labs
- Have all the materials needed for class every day
- Be in your assigned seat and ready to learn **BEFORE** the bell rings

RULES:

1. **BE SAFE AT ALL TIMES!!:** Safety is a key component of successful laboratory experiments.
 - ⊗ Any/all students found participating in unsafe behavior will be immediately removed from the class and will face further disciplinary actions.
2. **Respect** all living and non-living things in this classroom.
 - ⊗ Treat others and their property how you would like you and your things treated.
3. **Follow** all safety rules and procedures.
 - ⊗ Both in the classroom and during a lab
 - ⊗ **You may eat snacks in the room during non-lab days only. If messes persist then no food will be allowed. No food or drinks on lab days. No exceptions!**
4. **Speak** at appropriate times with the respectful language and voice.
 - ⊗ Shouting across the room will not be tolerated.
 - ⊗ **Respect in words = NO cursing, NO put-downs, NO vulgar humor.**
5. **Do Your Own Work...**which means not cheating!
 - ⊗ Students caught cheating will immediately receive a **ZERO** and parents will be contacted.
 - ⊗ Cheating is copying another students' work **OR** allowing another student to copy your work.
6. **Ask Questions!** There is no such thing as a dumb question. (Please do not try to come up with any.)

MATERIALS:

Each day you should bring to class:

- Pencils/pens
- Lined paper
- Scientific or graphing calculator (if you have one)
- Notes/Notebook
- HW/CW – homework, class work (i.e. worksheets/handouts)
- **LABWORK**- labs in progress as well as those that have been graded and returned along with pre- and post-lab discussion notes (I will let you know what papers to bring during our labs)
- **STAMP SHEET**- This is how I will keep score of your homework. Sometimes your homework will be collected and other times it will be stamped on the stamp sheet for credit. Stamp Sheets will be collected every unit and grades will be inputted then. If you lose your stamp sheet you only can receive up to 50% on assignments.

COURSEWORK

Each unit of study will require a combination of vocabulary, lab work, worksheets, lecture & reading notes, online self assessments, and evaluation of progress by tests and quizzes. All tests will be announced while quizzes may be both announced and unannounced. You may dislike the idea of more frequent quizzes but it will help you greatly on the unit exams!

COURSE AGENDA

Students will be informed through weekly updates. It is the responsibility of the student to know all due dates for course work as outlined in the weekly update. It is hoped that this will assist the student in keeping up with coursework in an organized and timely manner. **AGENDA WILL BE POSTED EACH DAY IN CLASS. PLEASE WRITE DOWN WHAT IS DUE IN YOUR PLANNER BEFORE YOU LEAVE CLASS EACH DAY. It is your job to be academically responsible!**

GRADING – Grades will be based on accumulated points using the following scale:

A+ ≥ 98%	C = 73.00-76.99%
A = 93.00-97.99%	C- = 70.00-72.99%
A - = 90.00-92.99%	D+ = 67.0-69.58%
B+ = 87.0-89.99%	D = 63.00-66.99%
B = 83.00-86.99%	D- = 60.00-62.99%
B- = 80.00-82.99%	F ≤ 59.99%
C+ = 77.00-79.99%	

*Grades may be rounded up if no missing assignments are present, good attitude/participation is seen in class, and attendance is regular. Do not rely on this! Earn the grade you want to receive!

Grades will be determined by the following categories and weighted accordingly:

CP GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Assessments(Exams, Projects, Final)	40%
Quizzes	20%
Labs	15%
Assignments (homework, classwork)	20%
Notebook Check	5%

HONORS GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Assessments(Exams, Final)	45%
Quizzes/Projects	25%
Labs	15%
Assignments (homework, classwork, notebook check)	15%

- All students will take a final exam each semester.
- Grades will be posted online and will be updated bi-weekly. It is your responsibility to check your grade and bring to my attention any discrepancies immediately. This is one reason you should keep all old work. Mistakes can happen and your corrected paper is evidence to prove you turned in the assignment.
- Limited extra credit opportunities will be announced.

Notebook Checks

Notes/Notebook – in notebook OR on lined paper that is later stapled together IN ORDER BEFORE notebook check. Notes must have a title page (name, class room, teacher, period), and table of contents that is updated regularly with each page added (we will set up our notebook on the 2nd or 3rd day of class).

Notebooks will also be graded periodically on neatness, completeness, and organization. The first notebook check will be set up per instructions and will be announced. Other notebook checks may be announced or unannounced so always be ready! 😊

RENAISSANCE REWARD CARDS

One homework pass and oops pass will be accepted each semester. Both will allow you to turn in most assignments one day late. Larger assignments or projects may use 2+ oops or homework passes for one day past the due date.

Ullmann Dollars

Ullmann Dollars will be passed out periodically throughout the year. They are given for on task behavior, participation, teamwork, or any other constructive action that promotes learning at my discretion. Each dollar is worth 1 EC point on any assignment, project, quiz, or test. I will pass out Ullmann Dollars to begin your semester. Don't lose your Ullmann Dollars!!!

Bathroom Passes

To use the restroom you must use your Ullmann Dollars as a pass. **2 Ullmann Dollars is the payment to go to the restroom!** This is subject to change. You must think about using your Ullmann Dollars for extra credit or going to the restroom. Suddenly going to the restroom during passing period seems like a good idea...

Late work will only be accepted within the current unit of study for 50% credit.

ONLY EXCUSED ABSENT WORK ACCEPTED FOR FULL CREDIT.

- If you are absent and it is excused, it is **your responsibility** to turn in make-up work. GO TO MAKE UP FOLDER IN ROOM FOR ASSIGNMENTS OR TALK TO ME AFTER CLASS/OFFICE HOURS/EMAIL.
- Failure to complete missed work in a timely manner will result in a zero.
- Quizzes and Exams must be taken within 1 week of an absence. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO SCHEDULE MAKE-UP TESTS AND QUIZZES.
- Labs must be made up during make-up lab day. If long absences arise please talk to me about alternate assignments.
- Be aware that I am not always available after school. Please look at office hours written on board!

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND HONESTY ARE EXPECTED AT ALL TIMES.** Cheating in any form is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Students are expected to be familiar with the school's policies on what constitutes cheating and the repercussions that will follow violations of said policies.
- **BEGINNING CLASS.** Most days we will have a warm up that will be completed in your notebook. At this time I will check homework via the stamp sheet.
- The classroom is a shared environment. In order to maintain a productive, positive atmosphere. Each student will be expected to **SHOW RESPECT TO ALL PERSONS AND ALL PROPERTY AT ALL TIMES.** Failure to do so will result in a warning and then detentions and parent contact if the problem persists.
- **ALL CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES SHOULD BE PUT AWAY UPON ENTERING THE CLASSROOM.** A warning may be issued before in confiscation of the electronics. A property receipt will be issued to the student at the time of confiscation.
- Common courtesy dictates that **hats are to be removed indoors.**
- Students are asked to **remain in their seats until the dismissal bell has rung. DO NOT CROWD THE DOOR.**
- **TARDY POLICY:** Students are expected to be **in their seats** when the tardy bell rings. The school tardy policy as outlined in the student handbook will be enforced. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with this policy.

I look forward to an exciting and rewarding school year! Thank you!

The instructor reserves the right to make additions, changes, and deletions to the syllabus during the course of the year.