



EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY

Biology Syllabus – 2019-20

Instructor Information

Course: Biology

Credit: Year-long (1 credit) – for both Biology A & B

Location: Room 1606

Instructor: Mr. Meier

Phone: 952-746-7760 (*main school line*)

Availability: Before & after school (*day dependent – check with me*)

Email: bmeier@eagleridgeacademy.org

Website: meierscience.net (*Planbook link provided*)

Please feel free to contact by any of the options listed to the left...I am happy to help in any way I can, at any time I am able! I will attempt to respond to email as soon as possible, it's usually fairly quickly. **Remember, I'm here to help YOU succeed!**

Textbook

Provided Text

- Miller and Levine, *Biology*, Pearson, 2010 (*paper copy provided*)
- *Online textbook availability pending – login required*

www.pearsonsuccessnet.com

- Other readings will be provided as needed

Online Textbook Login

User Name _____

Password _____

Course Overview

Biology is the “study of life.” This is a very, very broad area to cover, but one where it is vital to gain a basic understanding. Over the course of the year we will study many important aspects of biology with one goal in mind: to **provide a strong foundation of biological ideas and principles**. This foundation will help in many ways, including future science courses (*also non-science courses!!*) in both high school and beyond. It will also provide knowledge into current events and important issues facing society today (*genetics, cloning, stem cell research, and antibiotic resistance, just to name a few*). This foundation will help to provide informed personal decisions in a world that is continually becoming more science-guided.

Biology is an introductory laboratory class where hands-on activities, group work, and written lab reports are an integral part of the learning. Students can expect additional learning through lecture, small group and class discussion, and independent work.

Biology will include instruction on the following topics:

- Scientific Method
- Basic Chemistry
- Classification
- Ecology
- Cells
- Energy Processes
- Genetics
- Evolution
- Zoology
- Human Body Systems

The course content for biology is set by the State of Minnesota science standards. For information about the standards, please visit the MN Dept of Education website on academic standards at education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/stds/sci/.

Students enrolled in biology are required to take the MCA Biology test in May 2020. More information will be provided at a future date. During the year, time will be spent reviewing important content and discussing test strategies.

Required Materials

- Three-ring binder of at least 1 ½" with Dividers (*for portfolio*)
- Loose-leaf paper and/or notebook (*for notes*)
- One NEW **quadrille-ruled composition notebook** (*for lab work*)
- Calculator (*minimum of scientific, can be graphing as used for math*)

Portfolio Organization and Expectations

Three-ring binder will be divided into multiple sections for student work. Student work should remain in portfolios through the end of the year. *Portfolios may be checked throughout the school-year for credit.*

- Daily Questions
- Notes & Study Resources
- Homework & Assignments
- Labs
- Quizzes/Tests
- Latin/Greek

General Class Expectations

- Come to class prepared & on time *every day*
- In school uniform following the dress code as set in the Student Handbook
- Record all assigned work (including due dates) from designated location (*whiteboard, website, etc*)
- Follow laboratory safety rules and adhere to the Safety Contract
- All other expectations align with the Student Handbook and include:
 - Laptops may only be used for note taking
 - No food, drink, candy, or gum is allowed in the classroom (*plain water is okay on non-lab days*)

Classroom Management

- Discipline will be handled within the classroom as often as possible for minor disturbances
 1. The student will be asked to stop their behavior
 2. If the behavior does not change the student will be moved within the classroom
 3. The student will be removed from class and sent to an administrator
- Laboratory discipline will follow conditions outlined in the Science Safety Contract
- Additional discipline will follow the Student Handbook

Attendance & Late Work

- Tardy & Unexcused Absence follow expectations as set in the Student Handbook
- For Excused Absence, it is the ***student's responsibility to obtain & complete missed work***
 - Homework is due as set in the Student Handbook
 - Exams must be made up within **one week**, scheduled on an individual basis
- ***Late work is accepted for up to half credit until the content quiz or assessment***
 - ***Work not completed and turned in by that point will be entered into the grade book as a zero***

Test Access & Review

Review of material from previous tests (both quizzes and assessments) can provide valuable opportunities for student self-reflection, questioning, and learning. It allows time to address topics where mastery of content was not met at the time of testing. For most tests, class time will not be provided for this review. Students will have the opportunity to review test material outside of class time to better direct their focus to their specific needs.

- Test questions and answer sheets will not be returned to students in class
- Instructor will keep major tests and corrected student answers through the end of the school year
- **Tests will be available for review only after ALL students have completed the test of interest**
- **Testing materials may not be removed from the classroom**
- **Technology (phones, computers, etc) is not allowed while testing materials are present**
 - **Students are encouraged to bring their notes and other class resources. Textbooks are available in the classroom for use, as well.**

Grades

- Weighted based on assignment type
 - Assessments & Quizzes 35%
 - Lab Work 35%
 - Homework & Readings 20%
 - Latin/Greek Terminology 10%
- Semester grades broken down based on Eagle Ridge grading policy
 - Quarter 1 (Q3 for S2) 40%
 - Quarter 2 (Q4 for S2) 40%
 - Semester Final 20%
- Quarter & Semester letter grades based on Eagle Ridge grading scale policy

Grade	GPA	Percent (%)
A	4.0	93-100
A-	3.7	90-92
B+	3.3	87-89
B	3.0	83-86
B-	2.7	80-82
C+	2.3	77-79

Grade	GPA	Percent (%)
C	2.0	73-76
C-	1.7	70-72
D+	1.3	67-69
D	1.0	63-66
D-	0.7	60-62
F	0	Below 60

- Grades will be posted on Infinite Campus and updated weekly

Academic Honesty

Eagle Ridge Academy seeks to nurture absolute respect for intellectual property. Any willful misrepresentation of another's work or ideas as one's own: cheating on an assignment or test or plagiarizing will result in a zero on the assignment for the first occurrence, a pillar referral, and parental contact. Further occurrences may result in the failure of the course.

2019-20
Biology
Eagle Ridge Academy

Statement of Understanding

By signing this contract, the parent and the student acknowledge they have read the syllabus for Biology at Eagle Ridge Academy and that they *understand* and *agree* to the commitment necessary to be successful in this course.

Please complete the information below and return this statement of understanding to Mr. Meier by ***Tuesday, September 3.***

Parent or Guardian

Preferred Contact Method? Phone Email Both

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Student Name (Print)

Student Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian Name (Print)

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date