

BIOLOGY

Mrs. Sarah Sintich

Room H129

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<http://sintichscience.weebly.com>

Course Description: Biology is a one semester course that helps students understand the world around them. The goal of the course is to teach students HOW LIFE WORKS. In addition to the content taught from the Georgia Performance Standards, students will be involved in laboratory activities designed to investigate and have a hands-on experience with the content. Content covered in this course will be seen on the **Biology End-of-Course Test**.

Tutoring Available: Wed and Thurs 2:50-3:45

*** Please let me know ahead of time if you are planning on staying for tutoring**

Materials: ALWAYS COME TO CLASS PREPARED WITH THE FOLLOWING:

- iPad with stylus
- Hard cover three ring binder with 8 dividers
- Notebook paper / spiral notebook
- Pencil/pen
- Textbook: Holt Biology

You will not be allowed to leave class to get any materials. You might also want to get 3X5 note cards for vocabulary.

Grading Criteria:

35% Tests & Projects

25% Quizzes & Labs

10% Homework/Dailywork

10% Science Reading & Literacy

20% EOC Test

Assessments: Grading rubrics will be given to the students prior to completing the assignments. Students will be aware of what elements are required to receive an A, a B, etc.

Classroom Rules:

1. Respect yourself and others
2. Be prepared for class
3. Be on time.
4. You must participate.
5. No food, candy, drinks, or gum is allowed in the classroom.
6. Follow all safety rules
7. If an emergency alert or accident occurs, follow school policies and procedures.
8. If unsure, ASK!!

I reserve the right to conduct edible labs at various points throughout the semester. This will be the only time food is allowed in the classroom and all surfaces will be thoroughly disinfected before conducting the lab.

Policies and Procedures:

Entering the classroom: When you enter the classroom, pick up any handouts, find your assigned seat, have materials ready, read the board for the bellwork, and begin the assignment

Tardy Policy: You must be in your seat by the time the tardy bell finishes ringing. If a problem arises or you are getting help from another teacher, you **MUST** have a note from that teacher. Fourth, fifth and sixth tardies will result in detentions. The seventh tardy and beyond will result in a referral to an administrator.

Questions/Comments: Raise your hand and wait to be called on when wanting to ask a question. **DO NOT INTERRUPT OR TALK OVER THE LECTURER.**

Leaving the classroom: *You will not be allowed to leave the room the first and last 10 minutes of class unless it is an emergency.* Permission to leave the room will only be **given 5 times a semester.** The form at the front of the room must be filled out with time in, destination, and time out. The green hall pass lanyard will be your pass out of the room. Any additional passes will be granted with parent contact and/or a medical note. Detention will be given if student exceeds 5 passes. If you are found out of area, it will be reported to an administrator. Students are not allowed to use the bathroom during lecture and during or after tests/quizzes unless it is an emergency.

Notebook: You are expected to keep a notebook for the class: **General, Organization, Equilibrium, Energy, Information, Variation, Interdependence, Evolution**

Assignment Policy: Assignments will be turned in to the designated tray at the beginning of class. All work will be graded and returned to you as soon as possible. Assignments that are 1 day late will be given a grade of no higher than a 70, for 2 days late a grade of no higher than a 50. After 2 days, I WILL NOT TAKE LATE WORK and you will earn a grade of a 0 for the assignment.

Absent Policy If you are absent, look in the folder under the turn in tray for any graded work that was passed out. All class topics and assessments will be posted on the calendar on the front board and see me for any handouts/notes you missed. **You have 5 days from the day that you return to school to make up missed assignments, labs, quizzes, and tests.** If you have not talked with me before the 5 days, then you will receive a zero for any missed work. If you are present during any period the day an assignment is due, you must bring me the work or it will be counted as a zero. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ASK ME FOR MAKEUP WORK. You must have an excused absence in order to be eligible to make up assignments and tests/quizzes.**

When I am out: Your day will be business as usual, and you are expected to act accordingly. Your sub will have your activities to complete that day. **ALL CLASS RULES WILL BE FOLLOWED WITH A SUB.**

Working cooperatively: There are designated times when you will be able to work in groups or pairs. All work is not group work. While in groups, please monitor your volume and allow everyone to interact. If problems arise, you may be denied the privilege of working in a group.

An emergency alert: We will follow the schools policies and procedures.

Final exam exemption policy: Only juniors and seniors can exempt exams.

Homework: It is expected that every night you should be studying or reviewing what we discussed in class that day. There may not always be an assignment to complete, but **studying is ALWAYS your homework assignment.**

iPads: Use of the iPad is a privilege and proper disciplinary action will occur if misused. You must follow all guidelines set up by the eSmart Initiative (see student handbook)

Movies: Parents are allowed to have their child opt-out of a movie that is shown in class. Possible movies include: Gattica or Finding Nemo

Participation: Participation is a must in my class. I believe that a student is not learning if he or she is not talking about the subject

Tutoring: It is strongly encouraged to attend tutoring for review or extra help. **PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE SEMESTER TO WORK ON IMPROVING GRADES.** Starting strong will benefit you in the long run.

Behavior Policy: If a rule is broken, the following steps will be taken to correct the behavior.

STEP 1- Warning

STEP 2- Removal From Group/Class and Conference With Teacher After Class

STEP 3- Phone Call Home & Detention

STEP 5- Conference With Parent & Administrative Referral

Note: Depending on the severity of an offense some steps may be skipped to prevent further disruption of class. If a detention is not served, then two additional detentions will be given.

Electronic Policy: Phones and iPods

1st offense - Phone or iPod out or in use for ANY reason will result in having to turn in the device everyday for 1 week and a phone call home

2nd offense – Device will be taken up, turned into the front office (parent pickup or student pickup after 3 days), and detention or referral (depending on the type of use that occurred) with phone call home

3rd + offenses – Device will be taken up, turned into the front office, and referral with phone call home

Electronic Policy: iPads

Everyday apps will be cleared at the beginning of class. Random checks will be done to see if any unapproved apps have been accessed.

1st offense – Detention and phone call home

2nd offense – Referral, phone call home, and limited use of ipad in class

3rd + offenses – Referral, phone call home, and suspended use of ipad in class (alternate assignments will be given using the textbook and all notes will be handwritten)