

# ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY

SYLLABUS: 2013-14

Mrs. Lefavour

## Course Description:

Welcome! AP Biology is a **college level course** for able and motivated students. That means we will be investigating living things in the detail and depth, and using the scientific processes and skills, of an introductory college biology course. The general topics, and the themes that will run through them all, are listed below. My goal for this course is that you will find it challenging and rewarding!

CONTENT TOPICS	OVERARCHING THEMES
1. Chemistry of Life	I. Science as a Process
2. Cells	II. Evolution
3. Energy	III. Energy Transfer
4. Heredity	IV. Continuity and Change
5. Molecular Genetics	V. Relationship of Structure to
Function	VI. Regulation
6. Evolutionary Biology	VII. Interdependence in Nature
7. Diversity of Organisms	VIII. Science, Technology and
8. Plants and Animals	
Society	
9. Ecology	

## Commitment:

1. AP biology students need to understand and accept that AP biology will make unusually heavy demands on their time and energy. Successful students report spending an average of 7-10 hours of study time **outside of class** each week. Grading, class assignments and work load will reflect that of a college level course.
2. More importantly, to be successful in this class you must be committed to **learning**. That means asking yourself, "Do I really understand this?" If not (this will happen), then you must take extra steps (read it again, try to explain it to someone, read another source, ask for help, etc.) that may not have been needed in other classes. **These skills could be the most valuable thing you get from this class.**
3. Responsible conduct is a must. Class time will be used for learning.

## Expectations:

***Be respectful of others at all times.***

Treat your classmates, their ideas and questions with respect.

***Come prepared to learn.***

Attendance is critical to your success. The pace will be fast and you will want to stay caught up. If you must be absent, remember to get notes and the homework assignment from a class partner. It will be helpful to exchange phone/text/email info on day one.

***Be involved in learning.***

Ask questions! Always be thinking about your own understanding. Make a decision to use your classroom time to get work done and be involved in the activities and discussions.

### **Class Policies:**

1. No food, drinks (besides water) or electronics in the class please!
2. Be on time! That means be in seat when bell rings. If coming late, bring a pass.
3. Work missed due to excused absences must be made up within a reasonable time for credit. If you are absent, check with your classroom partner and online to get the assignments. Copy any notes from another student.
4. Other late work will not be accepted toward grade. Learn to plan ahead and meet deadlines.

### **Supplies:**

1. Text: Campbell. Biology, 7<sup>th</sup>/AP Edition (Bring it to class every day)
2. Lab journal
3. 3-ring binder, pencil/pen, ruler, calculator, colored pencils, highlighters

### **Grading:**

1. 60% Tests/Quizzes: multiple choice and essay questions similar to the AP exam.
2. 30% Lab reports: Most will be completed in the lab journal.
3. 10% Assignments

SCALE:	93 – 100%	A	78 – 79	C+
	90 – 92	A-	73 – 77	C
	88 – 89	B+	70 – 72	C-
	83 – 87	B	68 – 69	D+
	80 – 82	B-	60 – 67	D

### **The AP Exam**

The Advanced Placement Program of the College Board is designed to allow students in high school to obtain college credit based on their scores on the AP Exam given in May. This may make you a more desirable candidate for college entrance, allow you to satisfy requirements for higher level courses or even graduate earlier. Every effort will be made to make this course an excellent preparation for the AP Biology Exam. However, you are the one who must make the choice to prepare yourself. I suggest you utilize one of the commercially available test-preparation books.

### **Teacher Contact**

To check your grade, go to the school website ([www.edmonds.wednet.edu/mths](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu/mths)) and log on to the Skyward Family Access link with your login name and password. Also, I will have information on a website for the class at

<http://teacher.edmonds.wednet.edu/mths/plefavour/index.php>

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (206) 300-4991 or (better) by email at [lefavourp@edmonds.wednet.edu](mailto:lefavourp@edmonds.wednet.edu). I am available for extra help during tutorial before school or after school by appointment. Lets work together to make this a great year!