Biology Syllabus 2015-2016

Instructor: Ms. Bird

**CONTACT INFORMATION: **

CFA: 334-448-8780; email: <u>cbird@pcboe.net</u>; planning 2nd period (regular bell schedule 10:18-11:16 am.)

You can access my website at: msbirdsbiologyclass.weebly.com

PURPOSE

This life science course includes the study of cells, genetics, microbiology, zoology, human biology, and botany. Laboratory experiences and dissections are used during this course.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Pencil, paper, science notebook, notes/assignments for current and past lessons, TEXTBOOK. Students who have trouble keeping notes organized may benefit from using a spiral notebook for notes only and keep that in a 3 ring binder with other papers.

GRADING PROCEDURES

- 1. When absent, a written explanation excusing the absence must be presented in order to receive credit for make-up work.
 - *Make up work has a deadline of three days.
 - *Make up work must be obtained in the mornings from 8:25 to 8:50. Get a hall pass from me.
 - *Absences due to suspension are excused, but you may be given unique make-up assignments.
 - *Unexcused absences will receive a grade of zero for any and all assignments missed. NO

EXCEPTIONS!!

- 2. Assignments and due dates are always posted on the white board. Students should write these dates in a calendar.
- 3. Long range assignments due on the date of an excused absence will be due immediately upon the student's return.
- 4. If the student leaves school or is absent (excused) the day of a test, the student must be prepared to take the test the day he/she returns.
- 5. Late assignments will not be accepted.
- 6. Some assignments are graded for correctness and some for completeness. I will specify.
- 7. All assignments not turned in or missed due to an unexcused absence will receive a zero.
- 8. Notebook grades will be taken after testing. A list of items will be given for the student to include in the notebook. A title page should be made. The grade will be based on presence of the required materials in the correct order, labeled, and completed. BE ORGANIZED!!
- 9. All assignments are graded out of 100 points.
- 10. One tardy grade is assigned as 100 and 5 points is deducted for each tardy. Once per semester. Grades will be determined as follows:

90-100	Α	60%Major Assessments– includes: large content tests and large projects/papers
80-89	В	25%Minor Assessments– includes: small content tests, in-class assignments & l
70-79	C	labs, small projects
60-69	D	15%Participation – includes: bell ringers/exit slips, homework, notebook
59-below	F	checks, group work, tardy grade

Grading Sample:

Category average X Grading Factor = Total points
Major Assessments: 85% X (.6) = 51 pts
Minor Assessments: 88% X (.25) = 22 pts
Participation: 70% X (.15) = 10.5 points

Overall Grade in Biology: 83.5

Admin. Approval

Behavior Learning Goals:

Be respectful – to yourself and others

Be responsible – for your behavior, work, and materials Be resourceful – asking for help, coming for tutoring,

using materials to find answers, staying on task

Passes out of the classroom – You have to have a pass to leave. Go to the bathroom before class not during class. I will not allow a revolving door atmosphere with requests to leave the room. I will treat each request fairly based on frequency of requests, nature of request, timing of request, and behavior of student.

Tutoring in the morning 8:25-8:50 am.

- If you need help
- If you need make up work
- Sign up with me
- Get a hall pass
- Show up on the designated morning

Laboratory experiences—Using lab is a privilege. I must have a lab safety contract that is signed by parent/guardian and student before the student can use the lab equipment. The contract and rules are on my website. Lab safety instruction is provided in class and the contract is sent home for signatures. If an individual or a classes behavior hinders a safe lab experience, I will suspend lab privileges.

Study Guide The notes and other activities we complete should be used as a study guide. As we move through the material, I suggest ways the material could be presented on the test and suggest study strategies for the material. Students should make their own note WITHIN the class notes.

RULES

Follow these guidelines for respectfulness, responsibility, and resourcefulness in our learning community.

- 1. Bring all your materials every day.
- 2. Listen attentively while people are speaking; don't interrupt.
- 3. Raise your hand and wait for recognition before you begin speaking.
- 4. Do not engage in distracting behaviors: noises, movements, comments, etc.
- 5 .Do not use lotion, deodorant, sprays, creams or anything scented in class; no grooming.
- 6. Stay in your assigned seat or group
- 7. Don't get up and move around the room without permission.
- 8. Enter and leave the classroom without disrupting the learning environment.
- 9. Don't be loud.
- 10. Don't touch/take the things on or around my desk or computer workstation.

Consequences for misbehavior may

include: verbal reminders, student/teacher conference, parental contact, detention, parent conference, office referral. If detention is assigned, it will be before school from 8:25 to 8:50. At least 24 hours written notice will be given.

