

# Fall 2017 Biology Syllabus

Teacher: Janine Kube

Room: G211

School Phone: (336) 476-1500 Extension: 7211

Email: [jkube@randolph.k12.nc.us](mailto:jkube@randolph.k12.nc.us)

Webpage: [kubesclass.weebly.com](http://kubesclass.weebly.com)

## **Biology (Course Number: 33202X0)**

Biology is the study of all life on Earth. Within this course, our study of biology will revolve around several interlocking big ideas: interactions between living things and their environment; biological molecules; cell structure; cell processes to maintain a stable environment, obtain energy, and to reproduce; the passing on of beneficial traits to future generations; changes in populations over time; as well as, the classification of and diversity of living things.

## **Prerequisite**

None

## **Learning Goals and Objectives**

The learning goals and objectives for this course are based on the NC Essential Standards for Biology which can be found on the attached sheet and through the link on the class webpage.

## **Pacing**

- Ecology – 4 Weeks
- Molecular Biology – 2 Weeks
- Cells – 2 Weeks
- Cell Energy – 1 Week
- Molecular Genetics – 1.5 Weeks
- Heredity – 1.5 Weeks
- Biotechnology – 1 Week
- Evolution, Classification, & Diversity – 2 Weeks

## **Methods of Learning**

This course will combine reading and writing assignments with hands-on discovery and reinforcement activities. Most of the activities will require students to work with another student or a small group of students.

## **Textbook**

Miller & Levine Biology. Copyright © 2014 by Pearson Education Inc.

## **Science Fee**

As with all science classes, there is a \$5.00 science fee, per county policy

## **Required Materials**

- Journal
- Three ring binder
- Pens and pencils
- Suggested but not required: colored markers, colored pencils, and glue sticks.

## **Class Webpage**

All materials such as: Power Points, class activities, and vocabulary quizlets can be found on the class webpage for Biology. You can also find the pacing guide, online textbook, related videos, and related websites on the class webpage.

## Assessments

Besides daily writing assignments and class activities; there will be short, daily, warm-up reviews based upon the prior day's topic. There will also frequent vocabulary quizzes and seven common unit tests. Exact dates for these unit tests will be announced during class, several days prior to the day of the test. Students will receive a study guide and will be able to participate in a review session prior to each unit test.

## Biology End of Course Exam (EOC)

At the end of the course, there will be a required state-made, multiple choice, final exam that will count 25% of the final course grade. The results of the EOC will be placed in your school file and included on your transcripts. Students must score a level III in order to be considered proficient.

## Grading Procedures

Grading of assignments will be based upon correctness and not just upon completion. Students can keep up with their class grade via Power School, which will be updated by the end of Tuesday, each week. Each Wednesday, students will receive an unofficial progress report, so that they can examine their progress and track their strengths and weaknesses.

## Category Weights

Various categories of assessments are weighted differently to reflect their levels of difficulty and to ensure students are held accountable for not only completing assigned work but also for actually learning the required concepts, as the class progresses. Category weights are as follows:

- Tests ..... 40%
- Quizzes ..... 25%
- Class Assignments & Labs..... 25%
- Warm Ups & Homework ..... 10%

## Grading Scale

- 90 – 100 ..... A
- 80 – 89 ..... B
- 70 – 79 ..... C
- 60 – 69 ..... D
- 0 – 59 ..... F

## Homework Policy

Homework is due at the beginning of the class and is not to be done during class.

## Missing Work Policy

Students that do not turn in assignments will be given a zero grade. However, students may turn in late work for a reduced grade. If students cannot find their copy of an assignment, they may go to the class webpage and print out another copy of the assignment.

## After-School Tutoring

Tutoring will be available, after school, on Wednesday afternoons. If you desire extra help, please speak with me to set up a separate tutoring session during a mutually agreeable time.

## Absence Policy

As per school policy, only 5 absences are allowed, whether they are excused or non-excused. All work missed, due to an absence, must be made up within 10 days, per county policy. However, it is strongly recommended that students make up the work as soon as possible so they can get back on track more quickly.

### **Tardy Policy**

As per school policy, the classroom door will be locked as soon as the bell finishes ringing. Students will then need an admittance slip from guidance before they can enter the classroom.

### **Lab Safety Policy**

While science labs can be a fun way to learn, they can also present some dangers when students view and treat lab time as a play time. We will be working with some materials that can cause harm if not handled properly. Therefore, when completing labs, safety comes first.

All students and their parent's/guardians must sign a Lab Safety Contract before any student can take part in a lab. Students are expected to follow all specified safety procedures and lab rules. Students caught "playing around" will result in students being removed from the lab setting and parent notification.

### **Restroom Policy**

No restroom passes will be allowed during the first and last 10 minutes of class. Students may request permission to use the restroom, but will need to leave their phone in the classroom.

### **Cell Phone Policy**

Per school policy, cell phones are not to be seen or heard during class, unless a particular lesson utilizes cell phones as part of the instruction method.

### **Class Rules**

1. Be respectful. If you want to be treated with respect, then begin by treating the teacher and other students in the class with respect. Limit class distractions. Treat the classroom materials with respect. Clean up after yourself and return all materials to their proper place. Remain quiet during school announcements.
2. Be responsible. Do your own work and take responsibility for the decisions you make.
3. Be Ready. Before each class, make sure you have your science journal and something to write with. If you do not have something to write with, ask the teacher for a pencil before the bell rings.

### **Teacher Contact**

Students may email me at any time during the semester. Students may also stop by right before and right after school. It is my greatest desire to do whatever I can to help you succeed in this class. Please feel free to email or drop by with any concerns you may have.