

AP Biology

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Room 64

The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious—it is the source of all true art and science.

A. Einstein

AP Biology is a fast paced, challenging course equivalent to taking a year of introductory college biology. Expectations are that you come to class prepared with enthusiasm and a curious mind. Prior preparation includes biology, chemistry & integrated math 3.



COURSE TOPICS: This course is designed around four big ideas: Evolution, Cellular Processes, Energy & Communication, Genetics & Information Transfer and Interactions.

INQUIRY INVESTIGATIONS: You will be designing & carrying out your own experiments, using lab techniques learned in class. Lab reports will include formal write-ups, group poster presentations, peer review & self-reflection.

As an AP Biology student you are expected to.....

- Spend 5-10 hours per week studying, doing homework, and reading for this class: review material **nightly** and do your homework at home.
- Complete reading assignments prior to class: there is a great deal of reading from your biology textbook that is expected & necessary to be successful in this course.
- Take notes from: lectures, reading, labs, activities: use Cornell-style notes, diagrams, concept maps, flash cards.
- Keep organized notebooks: this is useful while carrying out activities & investigations in this class.
- Use Study Hall for help, missed work, review, practice, and lab completion: you will be expected to use study hall often!
- Form a Study Group: this can help you a great deal in this course.
- Read Current Science: you will be reading articles & scientific papers that support the topics covered in this course. You will be asked to read, comprehend and discuss/analyze what you have read.
- Work Cooperatively & Independently: though you will be working in groups often, you will be expected to contribute your own ideas, thoughts and answers.
- Contribute to Class/Group Discussions: Being fully engaged will enable you to make connections between the curriculum and real world.
- Reflect on & Revise your work
- Study for & take the AP exam: you will practice writing responses & test-taking strategies for answering multiple-choice questions.