

## Syllabus for Burlingame High School Biology

Mrs. Johnson

Room C204

Email (typically the easiest and fastest way to reach me): [hjohnson@smuhsd.org](mailto:hjohnson@smuhsd.org)

Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday during lunch, or by appointment



Biology is the study of life. In order to further your knowledge of Biology you will learn through lecture, discussion, laboratories, observations, readings, group and individual projects, and library/internet research on specific topics. It is my personal goal to see all students take away new knowledge and appreciation for life processes and the environment. If you ever feel overwhelmed by the content, assignments, etc. please come and see me!

The course content is aligned with the California State Standards for Biology/Life Sciences, the standards can be found online at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/scbiology.asp>.

### In order to succeed in this class you need to:

- Be present and prepared for class everyday.
- Seek assistance
- Take the initiative to make up missed work, tests, or quizzes after an excused absence.
- Turn in completed work and always work to the best of your ability.

### Classroom Guidelines:

1. Respect yourself, others, and the property of others.
2. Be in your seat and completing the "Do Now" activity when the bell rings.
3. No food or gum in class at any time (water in a closed container is acceptable)
4. You are allowed 5 hall passes per semester. If you do not use them all then you will be able to turn them in at the end of the semester for bonus points.
5. Your lab stations and desks are to be cleaned (i.e. all lab materials put away) before class is dismissed. Failure to keep desks/lab stations clean will result in the loss of points.
6. Absolutely no cell phones, Ipods, or other inappropriate electronic devices in class. If these items are seen you will receive detention as per school policy.
7. Class is over when the teacher dismisses you- not when the bell rings.
8. Inappropriate behavior (i.e., talking, looking at other students' work) during tests/quizzes is not permitted and will result in zero points for all students involved.
9. There will be cautious and appropriate behavior at all times during laboratory activities. If you are found to be behaving inappropriately during lab activities you will be asked to not participate in the lab.

### Materials

- 3 ring binder to keep handouts and worksheets in (needs a biology section)
- Spiral bound notebook (this is what all class notes will be recorded in and you will be allowed to use the notes in this notebook on most quizzes), to be brought to class everyday.
- Lab notebook, can be purchased for \$2 in class. Bring this to class with you everyday.
- Pen and pencil
- Textbook: Biology by George B. Johnson and Peter H. Raven. Publisher: Holt, Copyright 2006.

You are responsible for the textbook that is issued to you. If the book is lost or damaged you will be required to pay a fee in order to replace the text. Please treat them with care!

## Assignments

- Late work is accepted for full credit if you have an excused absence.
- Late work that is turned in no more than 1 week from the original due date will receive partial credit for each day that it is late. Late work is not accepted more than 1 week after the original due date, no exceptions.
- For excused absences you will have one school day for each day of absence to turn in missing work.
- You will receive no credit for the work you missed if your absence is unexcused.
- **It is the students' responsibility to obtain missing work** when absent or to schedule a time to make-up tests/quizzes.
- If you are absent the day before a test, you will take the test on the scheduled test date. If you are absent the day of the test you will take the test the day you return to school, at a time determined by myself. **All test dates are announced several dates before the test is given.**
- Labs are very difficult to make-up. If you are gone on a lab day you are still responsible for completing the assignment, this might need to be done through obtaining a classmates data or completing a paper on the topic that the lab was addressing.
- Every student will be required to keep lab reports in their designated lab notebooks.
- If you know you are going to be absent for an extended period of time schedule a time to meet with me so that we can discuss assignments that will need to be completed.
- You should exchange phone numbers/e-mail with at least 2 classmates. If you are absent, or need help/clarification on a homework assignment they are the persons you should contact first.
- **If you lose worksheets, lab activities, or handouts you can download them off of the Biology website.**  
[http://bhs.smuhsd.org/bhsnew/academicprog/science/biology1\\_2/bhsbioframe.html](http://bhs.smuhsd.org/bhsnew/academicprog/science/biology1_2/bhsbioframe.html)
- Check schoolloop (<http://www.bhs.schoolloop.com/>) to keep current on what was done in class.
- I often post information on my personal class website you can reach the website through the school website, schoolloop, or the address is <http://www.quia.com/pages/scijohnson.html>

## Your work

**On the day of every unit test, you will turn in your completed worksheet packets** with all of your work for the unit. Points are awarded half for completeness and half for correctness. Because we all learn at a different pace, you have all unit to finish or correct your work, but your worksheets and any other required work **MUST** be complete the day of the test.

(Note: *some assignments will be collected or stamped daily*)

## Grading

Homework, class activities, projects, participation (described below), and labs account for 65% of your grade. Tests and quizzes (including the midterm and final) account for the remaining 35% of your grade.

90-100% A	Classwork/Homework: 30%
80-89% B	Lab Activities: 25%
70-79% C	Participation: 10%
60- 69% D	Tests and Quizzes: 35%
0- 59% F	

Each student begins with 50 participation points. It is the individual students responsibility to keep them. You can keep your participation points by showing up to class on time, with your materials, staying on task, participating in class discussions, following lab safety rules, and by avoiding inappropriate behavior. If you find that you have lost participation points it is possible to regain the points by demonstrating appropriate behavior. The loss or gain of participation points is done at the teacher's discretion.

**It is important to keep all of your work!**

The fall final will cover all material learned in the fall semester and the spring final will cover all material learned in the spring semester.

**Academic Honor and Integrity**

Please read the Burlingame High School's academic honor code and code of conduct policies as outlined in your student handbook. To summarize, please note the following:

- Respect each other- this means with words AND actions
- Respect the classroom- both the physical space and the community
- Do your own work and don't cheat.

**Examples of cheating are not limited to but include....**

1. **Copying another student's work, or giving out your work to be copied.** If an assignment is given out as an individual assignment, it is expected to be done individually. This includes class work, lab work, and homework.
2. **Plagiarism-** taking information from published sources and not giving credit to the author. For example, cutting and pasting information from an internet site into your assignment.
3. **Tests-** if you receive unauthorized assistance in any form while taking a test, or receive information about a test prior to taking it, this is cheating.

**Biology 1-2 Units of Study**

**Fall Semester**

Bioskills (Chapter 1)  
 Biochemistry (Chapter 2, 39)  
 Cell Structure and Function (Chapter 3, 4)  
 Cell Energy (Chapter 5)  
 DNA Structure and Function (Chapter 9,10)  
 Cell Reproduction (Chapter 6,7, and 43)  
 Common Assessment (District Wide Test)  
 Fall Review

**Spring Semester**

Heredity (Chapter 8)  
 Evolution (Chapter 12, 13, and 15)  
 Ecology (Chapter 16, 17, and 18)  
 Biotechnology (Chapter 11)  
 Circulatory and Respiratory (Chapter 38)  
 Immune System (Chapter 20, 40)  
 Nervous System (Chapter 41, 42)  
 End of Year Review

Please detach lower portion and return by: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, clearly understand the expectations of this class and agree to all of the above guidelines and procedures, including the Science Department Safety Contract that is provided on the website.

**Student:**

**Parent/Guardian**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's first and last name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Parent/Guardian Contact Information:**

Home phone number: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Work and/or cell phone number: wk( ) \_\_\_\_\_ cell ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Registered on Schoolloop (this will allow you to view student assignments/grades)? Yes No