Welcome to Biology! At the end of this year, you will be taking a state designed end of course exam to earn your biology credit. In order to succeed on this test, we will have to work together. As your teacher my responsibility will be to introduce the standards, design lessons around the standards to aid in your learning, use formatives to determine your understanding of the standard and then evaluating, with the help of summatives, your retention of the standards. Your responsibility, as the student, will be to come to class prepared with your notebook and writing utensils, keep an open, curious mind, ask clarifying questions, review the material nightly and give a 100% effort! The curriculum map for the class is on canvas. I anticipate a successful year if we both fulfill our responsibilities!

**Weighting of classes**

Each assignment will be awarded a certain number of points and will fall into one of three categories: **Diagnostics** will be weighted 0% and will be used to determine what is already known. **Formatives** will be weighted 40% of the nine weeks and **summatives** will be 60% of the nine-week grade. There is a 30% overall final exam that is added to the final grade as well.

**Grading policy**

You and your parents will be able to follow your grades by logging on to the Gradebook website. I will update grades weekly. Please view the county’s grading policy at the following link: [www.myvolusiaschools.org/vims/Documents/Secondary Grading Guidelines.pdf](http://www.myvolusiaschools.org/vims/Documents/Secondary Grading Guidelines.pdf)

**Formatives**

Formatives will consist of worksheets, hand-outs, video summaries, quizzes and hand on activities. Late work will be a 60% credit only and will not be accepted after the DIA Unit test.

**Summatives**

Short quizzes will be given after each section. The county DIA Assessment will be given at the end of each unit. The Curriculum map is on canvas. Labs will also be a summative grade. If you do miss a lab, you will have to write a two page report on the concept we studied. Our district has unit assessments that they have designed to mirror the style of the End of Course (EOC) exam. These tests will be given at the end of each unit and will be cumulative for that unit. If you earn a 90% or lower, you will be eligible to complete the canvas remediation portion for that assessment to improve your DIA assessment grade. The remediation will take place in class the follow day of the assessment. Most of the remediation is available at home except for
the last portion of the remediation. All portions must be completed for credit. Remediation must be completed the following week the assessment is given. If you are absent on the day of the summative, you will need to come into office hours the following Tuesday to take the test and Thursday for remediation if needed.

Absences

Since this class is getting students ready to take a state end of course exam that counts for 30% of their final grade, it is very important that the students are here every day. However, absences do happen. It is your responsibility to find out what was missed and how to make it up by asking prior to class starting or before school starts or at lunch time. You will have one day to make up work for every day missed. If you know that you will be out for more than a day, it is suggested that you email me to find out what is being missed and how to make it up. My email is sgsigler@volusia.k12.fl.us.

Teacher office hours

I am available for questions at the beginning of lunch on Tuesday and Thursday. Students can also make up tests, quizzes at this time. I am available by appointments as well. Please do not hesitate to contact me via email at sgsigler@volusia.k12.fl.us. I will answer as soon as possible.

Supplies

3 ringed binder or a section of a three ring binder

Paper

Pens/Pencils

Colored pencils

Foundations workbook

Textbook given upon request to keep at home
Rules for the Classroom

1. Be prompt.
2. Be positive.
3. Be prepared.
4. Be polite.
5. Be productive.

Consequences

Consequences for noncompliance with the above rules

Verbal warning

Phone call home

Referral

Severe clause: If misbehavior is harming another student, teacher or property, student will be immediately sent to the dean’s office on a referral

I have read and understand the following policies:

Please sign legibly and return this portion of the syllabus for a formative grade by Friday 8/19/19

Thank you,

Mrs. Susan Sigler

DeLand High School Biology

Print student name ___________________ Signature and date_____________________

Print guardian name ___________________ Signature and date_____________________