Biology HONORS Syllabus
2019-2020 School Year
SIEGEL

I. Course Description and Requirements
This course will cover an in depth foundation in biology to prepare you for END OF COURSE (BIOLOGY EOC) Exam. This course includes laboratory work, study of specimens, projects, and a thorough understanding of scientific inquiry. Course content encompasses interrelationships of living things, levels of biological organization, cellular biology, biochemistry, genetics, and evolution. Students should be prepared to conduct projects and write a formal lab report. Instruction centers around inquiry based learning that is incorporated into class activities. Learning activities include teacher-lead instruction, group work, student seatwork, project-based learning, and lab exercises with both student-choice and teacher-choice grouping. Students can expect to start each day with a bell ringer assignment followed by learning activities and/or lecture. Students will often work independently from the teacher in order to achieve student autonomy expected of high school students. Classes are structured to utilize every minute for learning and assessing understanding. Real world application is a daily objective. Higher-level thinking will be incorporated into each lesson as well as use of technology when applicable to increase student achievement. Students are expected to participate in all activities and actively engage and ask questions during teacher-led lecture. Students are also expected to review and study the content covered in class outside of school daily.

II. Class Expectations
- Students are expected to be present and active members of the classroom each and every day.
- Students are expected to come to class prepared with all necessary materials and completed assignments to learn and participate in all lectures and activities.
- Students are expected to be respectful of the teacher, the classroom, and their peers.
- Students are expected to maintain a tidy workspace and clean up after themselves and their lab team.

III. Class Discipline
Students who are not acting present, coming prepared, and being respectful will earn one of the following consequences: (these may skip depending on the severity of the infraction).
- Warning in class
- Removal from class activity to another classroom
- Teacher/Student conference during or after class
- After school detention per parent contact
- Written referral and removal from class AND parent contact
Any student caught cheating on an assignment will receive a zero and referred to the Principal.

IV. Required Materials
All students must come to class each day with the following materials:
- YOU WILL NEED 1, 1.5 or 2 inch binder for our interactive science notebook
- Pencil pouch with the following inside:
  - Pack of pencils
  - handheld pencil sharpener
  - Pens (any colors)
  - Gluesticks
  - Colored pencils for coloring diagrams
  - Calculator for doing math during labs – yes it is science and we do math (usually won’t have Cellphones around Lab activities)

TURN OVER FOR REST OF SYLLABUS/MATERIALS
- 3 holes - folder in the binder for loose papers or ripped pages
- Lined sheets of paper pack (for notes)
- Notecard (any size) stack for vocabulary
- Ruler for graphing
- Headphones with compatibility for School laptops. (I will have some to lend out but as headsets not earbuds)

V. Assessment and Grading Plan
We will cover seven units over the course of the year. Each unit consists of 3 major summative assessments. The amount of minor assessments varies per unit. Students will have a quiz each week that will add up to a weekly formative grade. All DIAS are cumulative and are multiple choice. Labs that are intensive and require a write up will also count as a summative grade.

Minor Assessments - 40% - FORMATIVES (at least 3 per 1 summative)
- Classwork/Informal labs: Each unit is packed with engaging activities and practice to help master the content. These assignments range from 15-100 points, depending on the length and depth of the material.
- Daily quizzes: At the start of each day the students will complete a small quiz over content covered during the previous class period. Students who were absent the previous class period will not be expected to complete the Prime Time the day they return if it is over content they missed. Their grade on each day’s quiz will be added up for one weekly Prime Time grade of 25 points at the end of each week.
- Study guides: Students will be required to make study guides for each test to help them review the material each day and prepare for the unit tests. Study guides will be made off of the first sheet of each packet by answering the objectives and defining the vocabulary for each concept. Every concept study guide is worth 10 points. Students who make A’s on two tests in a row are exempt from completing study guides if they continue to maintain A’s on the unit tests.

Major Assessments – 60% - SUMMATIVES (at least 3 per quarter)

The final grade is calculated according to the following percent values:

1st semester grade = 50% of final grade
40% Q1, 40% Q2, 20% Midterm Exam

2nd semester grade = 50% of final grade
40% Q3, 40% Q4, 20% Final Exam
EOC is 30% of the overall final grade.

Students wishing to be exempt from the midterm or final project must have a semester average of an A or have received a 80% or higher on ALL DIAS that semester.

VI. Communication
I will regularly post on my canvas, updates, announcements, lecture notes, and assignments for students and parents to access. If you ever want to know something, check your notebook or canvas site first. Students and parents are also encouraged to contact me via email. I will respond to all emails within 24 hours during the school week and can respond in much more detail and speed than if you attempt to call. Students are also strongly encouraged to tutoring around lunch on Wednesdays, if they ever need help!

Email: smsiegel@volusia.k12.fl.us Please sign and return the bottom portion by ___Friday 08/16/2019___

STUDENT NAME & Signature: __________________________________________________________

Parent Name & Signature: ___________________________________________________________

Preferred Parent Contact Information: ________________________________________________