

## Advanced Placement Biology

Instructor: C. Austin / Room 222

### *General Information for Students & Parents:*

The course of study in the Advanced Placement biology course at Wharton High School will follow that proposed by the Advanced Placement Biology Committee. This committee states the following concerning this course:

"The Advanced Placement biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course usually taken by biology majors during their first year. After showing themselves to be qualified on the Advanced Placement Examination some students, as college freshmen, are permitted to undertake upper-level courses in biology or register for other courses for which biology is a prerequisite. The college course in biology differs significantly from the usual first high school biology course with respect to the kind of textbook used, the range and depth of topics covered, the kind of laboratory work done by students, and the time and effort required by students.

Only those students who have successfully completed a first course in high school biology and high school chemistry can take the Advanced Placement biology course. It aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology."

At Wharton HS, we will attempt to follow as closely as possible the course outline recommended by the Advanced Placement Biology Committee. This includes not only the topics listed but also the laboratory exercises recommended. The AP Biology exam will include questions relating to these laboratory exercises. This course will involve more time and effort than other courses. The textbook is an advanced one and requires excellent reading skills. A test similar to the Advanced Placement Exam will be given at the end of the course and this exam grade will be included in the course grade.

**Wharton High School**

*Advanced Placement Biology*

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