

Advanced Placement Biology

Instructor: C. Austin / Room 222

Grade Determination

- 9 weeks grade will be determined on a **TOTAL POINTS** basis and will be derived from:

Tests	Homework	Lobs
Quizzes	Classwork	Miscellaneous

In addition to the above, students have the opportunity to earn bonus points each 9 week grading period by completing optional activities, such as :

- **Bonus Test Questions:** For each test, one or more bonus questions will be asked. These bonus questions, if answered correctly, will replace missed questions from the test.
- **Review Flash Cards:** For each unit covered, prepare a stack of study cards for concepts & terms in that unit. Each flash card will include the question or term on one side with the answer or definition on the lined side. Your last name must appear in ink on each card. Cards are due on the day of each "unit" test. Point value: 10pts / bundle (Minimum of **50** cards / bundle / unit). Total value which may be earned each 9 weeks is 40pts.

Class Supplies Needed

- You will need to obtain the following supplies:

Required

3 Ring Binder (at least 2" rings)
Notebook dividers
Notebook paper (college rule)
Pencils
Pens (blue or black)
Highlighter pen

Optional / Suggested

Coloring pencils
Graph paper
"Whiteout" pen
Calculator
Index cards (3" x 5")

General Information

- ❑ Textbook, binder (with paper & dividers), writing implement, highlighter, & correction fluid should be brought to class daily.
- ❑ All tests and lab sketches must be completed in #2 pencil only. Coloring pencils can be used to clarify sketches.
- ❑ Assignments are due on the dates stated will be collected at the beginning of the period.
- ❑ When absent, you have 1 week from the time you return to turn in missed assignments for full credit. After one week, the assignment will be penalized 50%. Any missed assignment not made up will receive a "zero".
- ❑ Work that is **one** day "late" due to circumstances other than absence will be penalized 25%. After that, no late work will be accepted for a grade.
- ❑ The AP Biology course requires 12 laboratory exercises. These labs are part of the national AP Biology exam. Additional labs beyond the 12 required labs will also be offered. While these labs are not directly part of the curriculum, they are designed to supplement the lecture coverage of various topics. Dissection labs are planned.
- ❑ Tuesday and Thursday are "make-up" days. Missed labs and/or tests may be completed after school (3:00-4:30pm) on those days.

One final note:

The Advanced Placement Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory course taken by students during their first year. A college biology course differs significantly from the usual high school course with respect to the textbook used (*Biology* by Neil A. Campbell is a college-level text, hence its size and weight.), the range and depth of topics covered, the laboratory work done, and the time and effort required.

Students should be prepared to spend a great deal of time reading and studying the information presented in this text so that we can cover the required material in the time allotted. It is recommended that students spend a minimum of 1 hour of study time each night. As there are 55 chapters and only 34 weeks available, some chapters will be covered by student self-study only. Students are expected to be responsible for their own learning. Students who do not wish to invest this type of effort should NOT be enrolled in AP Biology.