

## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

Biology  
Nyshari Bacchus, BLS  
2024-2025

### **Contact Information:**

Phone:

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Teacher Page: <https://schools.scsk12.org/Domain/6485>

### **Course Overview:**

This course introduces the principles and concepts of biology. Emphasis is on basic biological chemistry, cell structure and function, metabolism and energy transformation, genetics, evolution, classification, and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate understanding of life at the molecular and cellular levels. Laboratory exercises reinforce lecture topics and include microscope techniques.

### **Textbook:**

“Biology” Levine, Joseph S. Miller & Levine Biology. Boston, MA: Pearson, 2010. Print.

### **Topics of Study:**

<u>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter</u>	<u>3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter</u>
Unit 1: Nature of Life  Unit 2: Cells  (Cellular Structures, Cellular Energy & Processes)	Unit 5- Ecology
<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter</u>	<u>4<sup>th</sup> Quarter</u>
Unit 3: Genetics  Unit 4: Solar System	Unit 6- Biotechnology

### **Biology Policies**

#### **Grade Policy:**

<b>Grade Breakdown</b>	
Class Participation- 5%	Grade set-up A: 90 – 100% B: 80 – 89% C: 70 – 79% D: 60 – 69% F: 0 – 59%
Projects/ Presentations/Lab Reports- 10%	
Homework- 10%	
Classwork- 35%	
Assessments- 40%	*Per Policy 5015, Memphis Shelby County Schools

### **Structure of Lessons:**

- 30% Lecture
- 20% Laboratory experiences
- 40% Activities, Inquiry based lessons, research
- 10% Assessments

### **Required Class Materials \*MANDATORY\*:**

- 3 ring binder
- Writing Utensil
- Note-taking Materials

### **Cell Phone Policy:**

- The district-wide cell phone policy will be applied in my classroom. Students who are distracted by their cell phone will have it removed by the teacher. It is my decision on whether to return it to the student at the end of the period, at the end of the day, or give it to the student office for a referral.

### **Late Policy:**

- Ms. Bacchus will accept late work up to 3 days after the assignment's due date. Late work submitted during this three-day late period will be docked 25% of the original full grade. Late work will not be accepted after three days and will result in a "0" for the grade.

### **Make-Up Policy:**

- As for excused absences, you have 3 **days** to make up homework that you missed. **MAKE-UP WORK IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY, NOT MINE!**
- Make-up work will not be provided to students who have cut class.

### **Cheating Policy:**

- The district-wide cheating policy will be followed in my classroom. Cheating will result in an automatic "0" on the assignment, class work, or test. The student will also be sent to the office for administrative redirection. Students caught plagiarizing work will also be given a "0" on that assignment. It is better to fail an assignment or test and get some points than cheat and get no points.

### **Role of the Parents/Guardians/Caregiver:**

- Parents/Guardians fill a very important role in their young adult's education. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to participate in their student's learning by checking for assignments and test dates, checking notebooks for assignments, and aiding students in projects and homework, and helping students study for assessments. I encourage parents to contact me to track student progress at any time.
- Class resources can also be found on the class website.

### **Major Assignments:**

- Class Work: Content assignments and homework should be completed during class or for homework.
- Labs: Interactive and engaging labs play a large role in science. I will be grading your laboratory procedures and lab safety during lab sessions. These are easy points if you can follow directions and be safe in the lab. All labs must be made up if absent unless Ms. Bacchus gives an alternative assignment. It is the student's responsibility to make up the labs.
- Formal Lab Reports: Throughout the year we will complete at least two formal lab reports.
- Quiz: All quizzes will be "open-note." Detailed notetaking is strongly encouraged.
- Tests: Tests will be given at the end of one or several chapters depending on the amount of information. I will always warn of a test at least 3 days in advance to give students time to prepare. I will not answer any questions on material or test concepts on the day of tests.

### **E-mail Policy:**

- As per the teacher handbook, I respond to e-mails within a 48-time frame. This time frame does not include the weekends. Students and Parents can sign up for the class Remind101 to receive updates on upcoming assignments and due dates.

### **Student Expectations:**

- Be on time.
  - o When students enter my class, they should take a seat and start working on their Warm-Up Question/Agenda.
- Be prepared when you arrive with the required materials
  - o Be Respectful
  - o Respect yourself and others.
  - o Listen to others, do not interrupt.
  - o Treat equipment and class supplies with respect.
  - o No eating/ drinking in class.
- Grades

- All work is due at the beginning of the class period or when specified by the teacher.
- Binder checks will be conducted weekly, and/or at the end of each unit.
- You may receive a 0 on work if: Your work does not have your name on it, your work cannot be read/graded, you leave incomplete sections, or plagiarism.
- Other
  - Students must turn in all cellular devices before being given a test. Failure to do so may result in less time to test, administration referral, etc.
  - All work must be completed in a black pen, blue pen, or pencil.

**How to succeed in my class...**

1. Be involved in class discussions and activities. An engaged mind is a learning mind!
2. Take good notes and review them often. Even looking at notes for 10 minutes a day can help!
3. Be diligent in studying and completing work.
4. Use class time to complete work, don't be a distraction to the other students or myself!
5. Take responsibility for your education and have fun!

PARENT SIGNATURE\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Concerns:

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