



"A person who never made a mistake
never tried anything new."
- Albert Einstein

Teacher: Mr. Foley
Email: foleyc@issaquah.wednet.edu
Phone: (425) 837-6000 x6192
Office Hours: Posted in Classroom



BIOLOGY

CLASS OBJECTIVE

Welcome to the wonderful world of biology! Biology is the science of life and living organisms. In this class, we will study: cell biology, genetics, heredity, molecular biology, biotechnology, ecology, population genetics, and evolution – biology's most important theme. We will also engage in activities and laboratory exercises to apply the concepts and ideas that we learn in class discussion and lecture.

PRIME EXPECTATION

I expect that all of you will treat each other, your classroom, your lab, and your teacher (and all staff members) with respect. I will not tolerate any derogatory remarks about anyone. This can include insulting or crude comments due to someone's sex, race, skin color, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity, physical appearance (height, weight, etc.), economic status, disability, dress/clothing, speech (the way someone talks), etc. Breaking this rule will result in disciplinary action.

OTHER RULES

1. No eating in class. Drinks are acceptable **ONLY** when not in the lab. (This rule is subject to modification if waste is not properly disposed of)
2. No chewing gum in class
3. Raise your hand to speak in class, and don't create distractions or disruptions while others are speaking
4. Electronic devices are **ONLY** allowed, *with prior approval*, for education purposes only (if your device is used for any purpose I deem non-educational, it may be confiscated – **DO NOT ABUSE THIS PRIVILEGE**)
- ✓ Violation of any of these rules may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, detention

MATERIALS

In order to be prepared for this class, the following materials will be necessary: #2 pencils, blue or black pens, assorted highlighters, college-ruled paper, ruler, and colored pencils. A calculator (**not** your cell phone) will also be helpful.

Also, you'll need a spiral-bound, college-ruled notebook with **at least** 80 pages. In this science-class-only notebook, you'll keep track of all lecture notes, lab activities, homework, and classwork. Your notebook will be periodically checked for completion and recorded in Skyward, but it **will not have any direct effect on your grade**. A composition book (or any non-spiral notebook) is **not acceptable**.

GRADING

The purpose of a grade is to report to students and parents what a student's current level of academic proficiency is. All assignments, labs, quizzes, and tests are assigned point values and are weighted in your final grade as indicated below:

Assessments = 75% (65% unit tests + 10% semester final exam)

Labs & Projects = 25%

Assessments: Scheduled, announced tests will occur periodically to assess your acquired knowledge and understanding on biological concepts. Assessments must be completed during the class period as additional time will not be provided. Students who do not score at least 80.00% on a unit assessment will have **one** follow-up opportunity to earn up to that score. The opportunity will cover the same concepts but will not include the exact same questions. This voluntary option has **three requirements: (1) all work** for the unit must be submitted, **(2) you must complete a test corrections assignment** in the classroom (you *cannot* take it home), and **(3) the retake must be completed before the next unit test is scheduled** to take place.

Labs & Projects: These in-class investigations make up the other portion of your grade, so it is imperative that you participate fully with your group members. Each activity will have a series of follow-up and analysis questions that you will be expected to record and answer in your lab notebook. The graded portion of each activity will require **at least** one of the following: an experimental design, a data table, a graph, a conclusion, or an activity summary. Also, throughout the year, there will be occasions on which group projects are conducted. Each project will have a different set of criteria for grading, which will be explained at the time, but the scores for projects will be included in this category of your grade.

Quizzes: There will be frequent announced and unannounced (pop) quizzes throughout each unit to help you identify your current level of understanding. Your performance on quizzes will be recorded in Skyward, but they **will not have any direct effect on your grade**.

Homework: Homework will be assigned regularly, approximately 2-3 times in an average week. A typical homework assignment would require the average student spend 15 – 30 minutes completing it. Homework will be checked for completion and then reviewed in class on the day it is due. Your homework assignments will be recorded in Skyward, but they **will not have any direct effect on your grade**.

Semester Final Exam: At the end of each semester, there will be a multiple-choice exam that will include all material for that semester and account for 10% of your semester grade. If your score on the semester final exam is greater than your test score average for the semester, the difference – up to 10% – will be added to your overall semester grade.

The scale for grades is as follows:

B+	89.99 – 87.00%	A	100 – 93.00%	A-	92.99 – 90.00%
C+	79.99 – 77.00%	B	86.99 – 83.00%	B-	82.99 – 80.00%
D+	69.99 – 67.00%	C	76.99 – 73.00%	C-	72.99 – 70.00%
		D	66.99 – 60.00%		
		F	59.99% and below		

The overall grades in this class are not “curved.” In addition, if you happen to have a boarder-line percentage, your **semester** grade will not be rounded. For example, an 89.99% would be a B+, whereas a 90.00% would be an A-. Please, save yourself the time by not asking me later if I will give you an A- if your grade is an 89.99%. In order to be consistently fair to all students, I will not entertain any requests or pleas for special treatment.

SAFETY

Safety in a science classroom is must be everyone’s primary focus. Although science classes often use equipment or chemicals that could be dangerous if handled improperly, we will follow a set of safety rules to ensure their safe use. To that end, my primary goal in the classroom is to ensure the safety of every person in class, student and staff alike.

All students must adhere to the Issaquah School District science safety rules at all times and remain vigilant, especially while in the lab. Students who violate a safety rule will be removed from the lab and will not receive any credit for the activity. In accordance with district policy, non-compliance with safety rules may also result in further disciplinary action.

STUDENT WORK

Students will be expected to keep track of all lab activities, homework, and class work assignments in their science notebook. It will be updated in class on a regular basis.

All of the graded work that you produce will be submitted via turnitin.com. Work will therefore need to be typed in either MLA or APA format. Students without access to a computer at home can use the computers in the classroom or the school library. Your work will be evaluated based on rubrics that are posted on the class website. Be sure to use them as a guide to make sure your work is complete and done well. Due dates will be clearly identified on the class website and, unless otherwise specified in advance, the due time will 9pm – **sharp**. Any work submitted after the due date and time will be considered late. And yes – **9:01pm is late!**

Ungraded work, such as homework, will also have due dates specified and listed on the class website’s calendar. Although such work will not have an impact on your grade, its completeness will be recorded in Skyward on a scale of 0 to 3 (where 3 is 100% complete and 0 is missing). Science notebooks will be periodically checked and evaluated in a similar way on a scale of 0 to 5.

Only assignments with mathematical errors in grading or entry errors in Skyward are eligible to be re-evaluated. Any such re-grading must be done in the **quarter** in which it was due. I will not, *under any circumstances*, accept any assignments for re-grading after the end of the school day on the date a quarter ends. Additionally, scores earned on work are not subject to debate or haggling.

ABSENCES, TARDIES & HALL PASSES

If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to determine what you missed by checking the class website (especially the calendar) checking with a classmate, and updating your notebook’s table of contents. The following table should help you to determine your responsibilities for excused absences. ★ **IMPORTANT!** Follow the instructions below **before** asking me for help.

<i>When I was absent (excused) ...</i>	<i>What should I do?</i>
an assignment was due.	On the day you return, write “ABSENT” and the date of your absence at the top of your paper. Turn in your work to me <i>at an appropriate time</i> .
an assignment was assigned.	Check a classmate’s science notebook and update your own. If a handout was provided, go to the handout file and obtain one for yourself. Handouts are also on the class website and can be printed on your own printer. You will have as many days as you were absent to complete the work, after which the “Late Work” policy will apply.
a lecture took place.	You should review the PowerPoint on the class website and make notes in your science notebook. Also, check with a classmate to compare your notes to theirs and fill in any missing information. THEN, see me if you need extra help.
class work was completed.	Check a classmate’s science notebook and update your own. If a handout was provided, go to the handout file (or print it from the website on your own printer) and obtain one for yourself. If a textbook assignment was completed, check the calendar on the class website for details. You will have as many days as you were absent to complete the work, after which the “Late Work” policy will apply.
the class watched a video.	Check with a classmate to obtain any important information. Some videos may also be found on the class website, but if not ... you have missed the video!
a quiz or test took place.	You will have as many days as you were absent to make up the quiz or test. Be aware: if you were only absent on the day of the test or quiz, you will be required to make it up on the day of your return. It is YOUR responsibility to come to me to schedule a make-up date.
a lab or other group work was done.	If the lab activity is still available, you’ll be expected to arrange a time to complete the activity on your own time after school. If it’s not available, you’ll need to complete a written, replacement assignment in lieu of the hands-on activity.

- ✓ Instructions for turning in “Absent” work:

Write “ABSENT” and the date of your absence at the top of your paper and submit it to me *at an appropriate time*. If you fail to do this, *your work will be considered late!* (SEE: “Late Work” below)

Tardies: You are expected to be in class, seated, and ready to work by the time the bell rings. If you miss an in-class assignment, quiz or test (or portion thereof) due to an unexcused tardy, you will not be permitted extra time to complete the assignment. Also, if an assignment is due on a day that you have an unexcused tardy, your work is also late. (SEE: “Late Work” below) I will follow the school’s tardy policy to the letter.

Hall Passes: Since you’re in high school, I expect that you have learned what an appropriate time to use the bathroom is. As well, you should know by now how to come to class prepared. But, if you really need to leave class, you must turn over your cell phone during that time. Hall passes will not be granted during the first or last 10 minutes of the period, or while you’re still taking a test.

LATE WORK

In order for the graded work you produce to be the most useful for you as a learning tool, you must turn in work on the date it is due. However, you may turn in work, without penalty, by the end of the unit (the class period of the unit assessment). Beyond that, a 50% penalty will be assessed on work you may turn in late until the Friday before that semester’s final’s week.

Also, since students are given ample time to complete graded work, excuses such as, “My printer ran out of ink,” or, “My internet was down,” or, “I had practice last night,” **will not be accepted**. Grading late work is always a low priority and will only be scored after all other on-time work, perhaps not until the end of the semester. Keep this in mind if you plan on submitting late work.

EXTRA CREDIT

Extra credit is not available.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

I will strictly follow the school’s policy and district guidelines as it relates to academic dishonesty. I will pursue all incidents of academic dishonesty with swift vigor.

Cheating on tests and quizzes is a clear example of academic dishonesty. However, you should also be aware that copying another student’s homework or any other assignment is also a violation. Please keep your work to yourself – don’t believe that you’re “helping” a classmate by allowing them to see (or copy) your work. All students involved in academic dishonesty, those cheating and those *allowing* cheating, will suffer the same penalties.

CLASS WEBSITE & CONTACT INFORMATION

You can access information about this class on the web at:

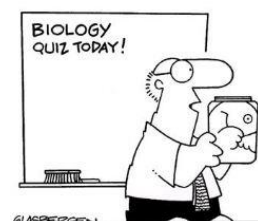
<https://www.ihsfoley.com>

On that website, you will find up-to-date assignment lists, PowerPoint lectures, homework, and links to useful websites. Please share this website with your parent(s)/guardian(s).

Although email is my preferred method of contact (see the top of this document), you can also reach me at (425) 837-6000, x6192. However, I will not be able to answer the phone during school hours as it would interrupt class time.



The school's new hall passes proved to be extremely effective in discouraging frivolous trips to the rest room.



"Class, who can tell me what I have preserved in this jar? No, it's not a pig or a baby cow...it's the last student who got caught cheating on one of my tests!"

(please tear at the perforation & return ONLY the portion below)

I/we have read and understand this biology information sheet in its entirety.

I/we understand that excessive absences undermine a student’s ability to learn effectively and the responsibilities of the student (as outlined in the table above) if an absence is necessary.

I/we know how to contact the teacher and/or where to find information about the class.

I/we am also aware of what is expected of my student in class and what the rules and policies are as well as the consequences for failure to adhere to said rules and policies.

I/we understand, this document acts as a contract for the class and that parents, students and the teacher will and must adhere to it. (If a change is deemed necessary, a notification will be posted on the class website)

As a parent/guardian, I will provide my student with all of the positive support that he/she needs to succeed in class.

(student name - printed)

(student signature)

(parent/guardian signature)

(date)

BIOLOGY 2019-20



ISSAQUAH HIGH

