



*The SEED School of Maryland*

## **BIOLOGY**

Course Syllabus 2019-2020

**MAJOR TOPICS OF STUDY: This course is divided into 6 units of study.**

<b>First Semester</b>	<b>Second Semester</b>
I. Structure and Function A. Structure of DNA B. Structure of Protein C. Hierarchical Structural Organization D. Feedback Mechanism	IV. Inheritance and Variation of Traits A. Mitosis & Cellular Differentiation B. DNA & Chromosomes C. Meiosis D. Inheritable Genetic Variations
II. Matter and Energy in Organisms A. Photosynthesis B. Cellular Respiration C. Carbon-based molecules D. Inputs and Outputs	V. Natural Selection and Evolution A. Evidence for Evolution B. Natural Selection C. Adaptation D. Changes in Environmental Conditions
III. Matter and Energy in Ecosystems A. Aerobic & Anaerobic Respiration B. Food Chain & Food Web C. Cycling of Matter D. Pyramid Models	VI. Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems A. Carrying Capacity B. Biodiversity C. Group Behavior D. Impacts of Human Activity on Biodiversity

### **GRADING POLICY:**

The following letter grades are issued at the Upper School, SEED School of Maryland

**A** 100% to 93% (4.0)

**B** 86% to 83% (3.0)

**C** 76% to 73% (2.0)

**A-** 92% to 90% (3.75)

**B-** 82% to 80% (2.75)

**C-** 72% to 70% (1.75)

**B+** 89% to 87% (3.25)

**C+** 79% to 77% (2.25)

**F** 69 & below (0.0)

The following percentage will be utilized in calculating a student grade:

#### **FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT**

Class work assignments (independent practice), 70%  
In class written responses (warm-up, journal reflection entries)

#### **SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS**

Tests, Projects 20%  
Major presentations Long writing assignments

#### **HOMEWORK**

Homework (and vocabulary) worksheets 10%

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**Quarter Grade**

**100%**

### **CLASSWORK/HOMEWORK:**

All class work assignments are due at the end of the period unless otherwise stated. This grading category include many types of assignments including (but not limited to) daily warm-up which will be checked and collected at the end of the time allotted, routine assignments completed in class, regular homework assignments, and class participation. Participation grades will be included in the grading policy, and they will be given according to the following system.

### **PARTICIPATION & BEHAVIOR: KICKBOARD**

“SEED Maryland will effectively measure school culture by consistently capturing student behavior data for all students. SEED Maryland leaders will ensure success by aligning behavior logic in Kickboard to the culture systems used at SEED.”

This chart contains behaviors that are recorded in Kickboard.

<b>Skills Strengths</b>	<b>Improvement Areas</b>
Compassion (+1)	Appropriate dress (-1)
Integrity (+1)	No homework (0)
Perseverance (+1)	Accepting feedback (-1)
Respect (+1)	Appropriate words (-1)
Responsibility (+1)	Contraband (-1)
Self-discipline (+1)	Disagreeing appropriately (-1)
Teamwork (+1)	Following instructions (-1)
Appropriate dress (+1)	Out of bounds (-1)
	Tardiness (-1)
	Using technology appropriately (-1)

### **ATTENDANCE:**

You are strongly encouraged to come to class every day so that you will successfully **pass the course and eventually finish High School**. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of the class period. Secure a pass from your previous teacher if you know that you will be late for class. Students who come late to class will be assigned **after school detention** from 3:15 – 4:00 pm. Repeated tardiness will result in a **referral to PYD** and a **call home to your parent or guardian**. Students who are absent will have the opportunity to make-up any missed work in as many days as they have a **valid, excused absence**, and will receive full credit for that work. If you are absent you must provide a note signed by your parent/legal guardian to the school nurse in order for your absence to be excused. Without a proper documentation your absence may not be excused and this will result in your inability to make up any work. You may lose course credit if you fall below 90% attendance.

### **MAKE-UP WORK POLICY:**

Students will have as many days as they have excused absence to complete missing work. Students on academic probation must attend **Coach Class** (3:10 PM – 4:00 PM Monday and Thursday). **Re-testing** is available to those who fail their weekly exam, and is scheduled the same time as coach class.

Sign-up sheets for re-testing will be posted on the Biology room door. No student will be allowed to re-test if their name is not on the list. Students who choose **not** to complete an assignment during class will not be given an opportunity to make-up that work. For example, if a student falls asleep in class or refuses to do the work, the teacher will grade the assignment as submitted. That grade earned stands, and the student will not have the opportunity to re-do the work for additional points.

### **LATE WORK POLICY:**

\* Assignments in the Homework Category must be turned in on time. Failure to submit work in this category will result in a "zero" grade.

\* Assignments in the Formative categories will be accepted late as follows:

- Up to 1 day – 20% reduction
- Two days late – 40% reduction
- Three days late – 60% reduction
- Four days late – 80% reduction

\* Students with special circumstances should work with teachers to determine alternate individualized due dates when appropriate. Extensions to original due dates are subject to teacher discretion.

\* Extensions for due dates should be requested **in advance** and must be **noted in** the comment section in **PowerSchool**. Asking for an extension on or after the due date is not acceptable practice.

### **CLASS NOTEBOOKS & HALL PASS:**

Students are expected to utilize their class notebooks to record homework assignments, project due dates, student life events and other information critical to their planning and organization. Teacher created HALL PASS, not a notebook or a piece of paper, will be used by students if they need to travel from one location to another with teacher permission. **Passes will not be issued the first 10 minutes of class or the last 10 minutes of a class period.**

### **LAB SAFETY:**

To avoid accidents, each student must be responsible for pre-reviewing and observing proper safety laboratory procedures. If a student needs clarifications regarding any aspect of the laboratory or classroom exercise, he/she must not continue until after consulting with the teacher and fully understanding the procedures enough to proceed safely.

### **TEXTBOOK INFORMATION:**

BIOLOGY by Stephen Nowicki ISBN 978-0-547-58666-3 Copyright 2012 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

### **INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Dr. MA Legaspi

Room 216

Phone: 410-843-9477 ext 720

Email: mlegaspi@seedschoolmd.org



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**BIOLOGY PROCEDURES**

**Before entering the classroom**

- Attend to your personal needs before coming to class.
- Come to class promptly with the least amount of noise.

**Getting the Teacher's Attention**

- Raise your hand quietly
- Wait to be recognized

**Entering the classroom**

- Exchange greetings with Dr. Legaspi
- Proceed to the assigned seat quietly
- Start working on the bell work/warm-up immediately.

**Leaving the classroom**

- Clean your area and dispose all trash properly
- Wait for the teacher to finish final instructions and dismiss the class
- Push in the chair under the desk and leave the classroom quietly

**Distribution of Worksheets and Handouts**

- Classroom helper may distribute handouts
- Each student will get a copy and pass the rest of the stack to everyone on the table
- Extra papers should be handed back to the teacher for placement in the absentee folder.

**Submission of Worksheets and Handouts**

- Pass the paper(s) toward the front of the room quietly.
- All papers not submitted when prompted will be marked late.

**Tardy**

- Enter quietly and sign your name on the tardy notebook
- Place the tardy pass on the teacher's desk
- Unexcused: sign the detention folder
- Try and catch up with work immediately.

**Returning from an Absence**

- Check Absentee Folder for missed worksheet.
- See the teacher after class to confirm missed activities.
- Arrange due dates for missed work and activities with the teacher.

**Getting the Class' Attention Quietly  
(Give me three)**

- 1 finger: eyes and ears on me
- 2 fingers: all should be seated and quiet
- 3 fingers: ready to listen and begin

**Getting textbooks/other materials in the  
room/ sharpening pencil**

- Raise hand quietly and wait for teacher approval
- Only one student is allowed to sharpen his/her pencil at a time
- Return to seat quietly

**CONSEQUENCES**

- Verbal/Written Warning
- Student-teacher conference
- Loss of participation points
- Detention
- Call home
- Parent/Guardian conference
- Write-up/Office Referral

- Positive phone calls or notes to parents
- Verbally citing student accomplishments
- Displaying student work
- Bonus Points/Surprises
- Recognition
- Recommendation letters for colleges, work and scholarships