

# Honors Biology Syllabus- Ms. Schaller

## **Course Description:**

This course is designed for the academically advanced student who desires a comprehensive background in biology to assist in future science studies. The course of study in Honors Biology includes an in-depth and accelerated approach to all the major themes essential to understanding life. This is often achieved through problem solving, laboratory experiences, and group activities. The text material provides the factual foundation necessary to understanding the principles of life discussed in the course.

## **Alignment to the Iowa Core Curriculum:**

Understands and applies knowledge of: cells, classification, respiration, photosynthesis, plants, animals, genetics, evolution, and organ systems.

## **Standards:**

Understand and apply knowledge of the cell, molecular basis of hereditary, biological evolution, and the structure and function of systems within organisms.

## **Assessments:**

Formative – small group and large group discussion, homework, labs, activities

Summative – Chapter quizzes and tests, lab reports, projects

## **Content:**

1<sup>st</sup> semester covers the following topics;

Scientific process, Molecules, Cells, Genetics

2<sup>nd</sup> semester covers the following topics;

Evolution, Microorganisms, Plants, Invertebrates, Chordates, Body Systems

## **Instructional Strategies:**

Large and small group discussions, hands-on activities, demonstrations, labs

## **Resources:**

Text: Biology Concepts and Connections

## **Class Materials: TO BE BROUGHT EVERY DAY**

1 inch (or more) Binder – To be used for Honors Biology ONLY

Planner

Pen/Pencil

Covered Textbook

## **Academic/Behavioral Expectations**

All students are expected to be in the room when the bell rings. Students will serve a 10 minute detention before or after school for the 3<sup>rd</sup> tardy and all subsequent tardies.

It is expected, and necessary, that you complete your homework on time. Late work will only be accepted up until test day and it will be at a reduction of 50% (Half credit).

It is the students' responsibility to see the teacher for work following an absence and to complete this work by the date given.

Curse words will not be tolerated

Excuses will not be tolerated – See the “Panic Button” on [msrhodesscience.weebly.com](http://msrhodesscience.weebly.com) for these types of situations

Cheating (this includes copying from a friend) on homework, Quizzes, Tests, or Projects will result in a zero for BOTH students. It takes two to cheat.

Bathroom, locker and drinking fountain runs are to be taken care of during passing periods and your open hours.

In order to leave the classroom for an emergency, you must write yourself a pass in your DSHS agenda, and a teacher must sign it.

Food is NOT PERMITTED in class.

You may bring a water bottle as long as it is in a clear container and it does not become a distraction in the classroom.

Since you are expected to come to class with your textbook and materials every day, if you have to leave class to get anything you will be marked tardy for the day.

Electronic devices (cell phones, laptops, and earbuds) are not to be used unless Ms. Rhodes specifies otherwise. You will be given one warning before it is taken to the AP Office

## **Lab Course**

Students are reminded that Honors Biology is a lab course, and they are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly and safe manner while working in the lab. Inappropriate behavior may result in removal from the lab setting and 0 points.

**Grading Plan:**

Your grade will be determined by taking the total number of points you earn and divide that number by the total number of points possible. Points will be earned through homework, quizzes, unit tests, semester tests, lab reports and projects.

A	93.0 - 100	C	73.0 – 76.9
A-	90.0 – 92.9	C-	70.0 – 72.9
B+	87.0 – 89.9	D+	67.0 – 69.9
B	83.0 – 86.9	D	63.0 – 66.9
B-	80.0 – 82.9	D-	60.0 – 62.9
C+	77.0 – 79.9	F	Below 60.0

**Extra Credit**

Extra credit is RARELY an option. You are competing with classmates for grade point and class rank. It is my belief that your grade should reflect your knowledge of the curriculum, NOT extra opportunities. Do it well the first time. See the instructor for extra help.

**Communication Plan:**

[Power School link](#)

Phone

Email: [mrhodes@dbqschool.org](mailto:mrhodes@dbqschool.org)

Webpage: <http://schallerscience.weebly.com>

**Extra Help**

Ms. Schaller is available to provide extra help before or after school every day. B249

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*I, \_\_\_\_\_, read and understand the policies and expectations stated for Biology. I will be responsible for all class work and my own behavior.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature