

Biology Course Syllabus

Canfield High School

Mrs. Gibbs – Room 203

<http://www.angibby.weebly.com>

330-533-5507, ext. 2229

Course Description: Biology is a high school level course, which satisfies the Ohio Core science graduation requirements of Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.603. This section of Ohio law requires a three-unit course with inquiry-based laboratory experience that engages students in asking valid scientific questions and gathering and analyzing information.

This life science course investigates the composition, diversity, complexity, and interconnectedness of life on Earth. Fundamental concepts of heredity and evolution provide a framework through inquiry-based instruction to explore the living world, the physical environment, and the interactions within and between them.

Students engage in investigations to understand and explain the behavior of living things in a variety of scenarios that incorporate scientific reasoning, analysis, communication skills and real-world applications.

Teacher Schedule: Block 1 – Biology
Block 2 – Planning period
A lunch
Block 3 – Biology
7th period – Study hall/Planning period
8th period – Fundamentals of Science

Teacher Website: Contains a calendar showing homework assignments and scheduled tests/quizzes as well as class notes. Please make sure to check it frequently. Website can be accessed by going to HS website and clicking on teacher websites tab under quick links. Here is the link as well:
<http://www.angibby.weebly.com>.

Google classroom will also be used to show daily updates/assignments.
Classroom code is _____.

Course Content:

- ✓ Heredity
- ✓ Evolution
- ✓ Diversity and Interdependence of Life
- ✓ Cells – Transport, Energy, Structure and Function

Grading:

1. 1st nine weeks – 40%
2. 2nd nine weeks – 40%
3. Semester Exam (pre-final and final)– 20%

Homework, class work, inquiry-based labs, quizzes and tests are all parts of your overall grade for biology.

Assignments: This includes in-class work and homework. Assignments will usually be problems or questions pertaining to the material we are currently covering. Assignments can also be used to serve as introduction for content that will be discussed the following class period. **Assignments are due at the beginning of class unless otherwise stated.**

Labs: This includes formal and informal lab reports. For most labs, you will be required to work with a lab group (there will be times where each member of the group is responsible for his/her own work, answers, etc.). Cooperation and participation are critical to a lab group's success. Safety procedures will be strictly enforced. Irresponsible behavior will result in a zero on lab.

Regular Exams: This includes scheduled content exams and quizzes. You will be given ample notice for these regular exams. I also reserve the right to administer a pop quiz at any time to determine the current mastery level of the class.

Semester Exam: This will be comprehensive. It consists of a pre-final which is taken in preparation for the state mandated (Biology AIR) end of course exam as well as a final exam which is given at the end of semester.

Students: Your parents will be able to check your grades online at any time. My grading will be kept up to date. Make sure your assignments are kept up.

Canfield High School Grading Scale:

A = 100-90 B=89-80 C=79-70 D=69-60 F=59-0

Class Materials: 2" size, 3-ring Binder
Loose leaf paper
Writing utensils (highlighter may be beneficial for note taking)

You **MUST** bring your binder to class each day. This binder must be dedicated solely to this class. It should contain class notes (everything I write on the board or you see in PowerPoint you write in notes), handouts, and homework assignments.

Class textbooks will be used as a reference and will be kept in the classroom, unless a student chooses to sign out a textbook.

Assignment Policy and Procedures: Illegible assignments may not be graded. I will not accept messy work. All assignments will need to be identified by your name (first and last), block and date. Assignments missing the full heading may be subject to a 10% deduction of grade. Students have five school days to claim "NO NAME" papers. At the end of the five days, the assignment will be thrown in the trash and the student will have to redo the work for a late grade.

Late Work Policy: Students are expected to turn in their work on time. Homework and class work will not be accepted after the due date. The only exception to this policy is if you have late passes; these can only be used on homework assignments. Each pass is equivalent to one day of being late.

Make Up Work Policy: It is your responsibility to make up any missed quizzes or tests in a timely manner.

If you know you are going to be gone you will need to get your work **before** your absence. This includes school events. If you know you have a deadline for an assignment the day you will be gone for a school activity, the assignment is still due that day.

For absences in which you did not expect to be gone, you will need to request all make up work on the day of return. Work due to excused absences must be made up within the amount of days you were missing (ex: if you're out 3 days, this results in having 3 days to make up all assignments).

As stated above, exams are announced several days in advance. If you miss class the day before an exam and return on the exam day, YOU WILL TAKE THE EXAM ON THAT DAY UNLESS OTHER ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN ADVANCE. If you miss exam day, you will be responsible for taking the test on the day you return (either during study hall or during class time if your schedule does not allow for other accommodations).

Extra Credit: Will be given at the teacher's discretion and will **not** be given individually to any one student.

Academic Dishonesty Policy: Students are expected to do their own work. Students who cheat on any work in class will be referred to the office, given a zero on the assignment and parents will be notified. When turning in labs, students can work together to perform the experiment and collect data in class, but are expected to put the entire laboratory report in their own words.

Student Expectations: Students are expected to bring all required materials to class each day- organization can be key to your success. Students need to be prepared to study. Unlike other science classes you have taken, Biology goes in depth with a lot of topics. This may be new to you; you will have to be prepared to study. I recommend reviewing notes on a daily basis, after class, and studying a minimum of a week before a test. Lastly, you need to be engaged! Ask questions, be active in lab, be responsible and advocate for yourself.

Extra help: I can be available for extra help upon request. Please make arrangements in advance.

End of Course Exam: The State of Ohio has created an end of course exam for Biology. For more information, please visit: <https://goo.gl/H3YAhj>

HOMEWORK LATE PASS

This pass allows

to turn in his/her homework assignment one day late with no penalty!

Assignment

Date

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to turn in his/her homework assignment one day late with no penalty!

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Assignment

Date

Return to Mrs. Gibbs

I _____ have read this syllabus carefully and understand what is expected of me by Mrs. Gibbs. It is my intention to do my best to follow these rules and policies in order that Mrs. Gibbs class may run efficiently and learning may occur.

X _____

I, _____ the parent/guardian of the above student, have read and understand the policies of this syllabus and will do my part in aiding Mrs. Gibbs in the education of my child.

X _____

Parent/Guardian E-mail: _____

Parent/Guardian Phone: _____

Special Comments or Concerns (anything your student might not want to discuss with me in person or anything that may help me understand your child better):