**AP Biology**

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The **AP Biology** course is designed to offer students a solid foundation in introductory college-level biology. By structuring the course around the four big ideas, enduring understandings, and science practices. I assist students in developing an appreciation for the study of life and help them identify and understand unifying principles within a diversified biological world.

**Assessment**

Homework 5% of total grade

Class work 5% of total grade

Lab 25% of total grade

Quizzes 15% of total grade

Tests 50% of total grade

**Supplies**

This year we will be using an Interactive notebook (INB) as a means to stay organized and keep up with our learning. Interactive notebooks are customized notebooks that act as a media for notes, homework, labs, and activities to be completed in. It houses almost all of what your student will be learning this year. The INB is used in place of a 3 ring binder and tabs. Materials that are crucial to this class will include a spiral notebook (Which I am supplying) and pencil/pen (Either is fine). We would greatly appreciate other materials that we will use a lot as a class - **scotch tape and paper towels.**

**Safety**

This is always a major concern in Biology labs and activities. Students and parents will be asked to sign a lab contract, insuring the safety of each student through proper behavior in lab. We will spend at least 25% of our time in lab; therefore safety is an extremely important issue.

**Text:** Biology, published by McGraw- Hill Higher Education; each student will be assigned a numbered test and will be responsible for the upkeep of that text during the year.

**Classroom rules**

1. Be on-time, on task, & prepared to learn everyday

2. Keep all personal electronics put away

3. Be responsible for your own learning

4. Respect the teacher, the classroom and other students

5. Raise your hand to speak or get out of your seat

6. Clean up after yourself

**Course Overview**

This year we will be studying the 4 big ideas of AP Biology; this includes Evolution, Cellular Processes: Energy and Communication, Genetics and Information Transfer and Interactions.

**Taking the exam:** Students that take this course are encouraged to take the AP exam

**Exam date**: Monday May 8th, 2017

**AP Scores:** An AP Biology score of a 5 is equivalent to the average score among college students earning a grade of A in the college course.  AP Biology Exam scores of 4 are equivalent to college grades of A-, B+, and B.  Scores of 3 are equivalent to college grades of B-, C+, and C.