

# Biology Syllabus 2025-2026

**Instructor:** Mrs. Natalie Krejci

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**Course Description:** Biology is devoted to the study of living things and their processes. Throughout the year this course provides an opportunity for students to develop scientific process skills, laboratory techniques, and an understanding of the fundamental principles of living organisms. Students will explore biological science as a process, cell structure and function, genetics and heredity, evolution and classification, diversity of living organisms and their ecological roles, and an introduction to animal structure and function. **An end of course exam (STAAR EOC) will be administered at the end of April, which covers objectives for both semesters.**

**Topics Covered include:** What is Science, Cell Structure and Function, Cell Cycle, Cellular Processes for Homeostasis and Energy, The Role of Nucleic Acids and Protein Synthesis, Genetic, Epigenetics, & Gene Expression, Evidence & Mechanisms of Evolution, Animal and Plant Systems, Ecosystem Stability, and Current Development in Biology.

## **Grading:**

- Each six weeks grade will consist of 45% daily and 55% test grades. Tests may include unit exams, lab exams, case studies, and major projects. Daily work may include class work, homework, quizzes, labs, activities, and participation.
- Students will have at least 6 daily grades and a minimum of 3 major grades each six weeks. Students will get one daily grade dropped each six weeks.
- Case studies will be required for each body system and can be considered a major grade. Students will research these answers on their own. They will have one-two weeks to complete each case study.
- Major projects may be assigned throughout the year. Each project will include a handout of details, expectations, and grading. Students are given at least two weeks to complete the project.
- Semester examination will be cumulative in content.

**Supplies:**

- 2" Binder
- 8 tab dividers
- Composition Book
- Notebook Paper

**Tutoring:** Every day before and after school by request; or activity period. Tutoring is highly encouraged if a student missed multiple days due to sickness or extracurricular activities. Mandatory Tutorials will start after the interim and will be used to help close gaps in science content knowledge.

**Class Policies:**

- Late Work – Homework and assignments are due when you walk in the classroom. If you do not have the work at the time it is due, a detention will be issued and the **highest grade attainable is a 70**.

**\*\*\*Retake of Exam –** The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to retake a test for which the student received a failing grade. However, before the test may be re-administered, the student shall: Highest grade attainable on retake is a 70

- attend tutorials prior to the retake
- correct the failed test
- complete a reflection as to why he/she failed the test; the reflection must be signed by the student's parent/guardian
- retake the failed test outside of the regular school day
- **Make-up Work/Absent**
  - Students are **encouraged** to correct any assignment or test on which they make below a 70 within one week of its return.
  - Upon returning to class if absent, it is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to obtain any assignments you missed; I will NOT hunt you down!
  - Please find missing work and notes in the designated folders.
  - Questions regarding makeup work should be addressed to the teacher either before or after class or during tutoring; NOT DURING CLASS TIME.
  - You will have **ONE DAY FOR EACH ABSENCE** to make-up your work. **This does not include extra-curricular activities!!!**
  - **If leaving for school related activities**, the work is due when you return and should be requested before you leave for the event or accessed on Google Classroom.
  - If you are absent during a test/project presentation, you are responsible for scheduling a time to make it up with the teacher as soon as possible; NOT DURING CLASS TIME!

- **Cheating/Plagiarism**
  - Cheating on a test or assignment will result in a grade of zero for all involved and handed over to principal for further disciplinary action.
- **Leaving Class** – You are in school to learn and you cannot learn if you are not in the classroom. Therefore, only for extenuating circumstances will students be allowed to leave the classroom. If you are missing supplies (text book, notebook, binder, etc.) you will be issued a tardy to go and get them from your locker.

### **Classroom Expectations:**

- Students are expected to be in their seat and ready when the bell rings.
- Materials (paper, pen/pencil, notebook, and text book) must be brought to class each day.
- The room/lab must be clean at the end of the period before leaving.
- Treat everyone with respect.
- Follow all of the instructions given by the teacher.
- All school rules will be followed as stated in the student handbook.
- NEITHER CELL PHONES NOR HEADPHONES WILL BE ALLOWED FOR ANY REASON.

### **Keys for Success:**

- I am here to help you succeed, so feel free to ask me for help!!!
- Ask lots of questions; if you are unclear about something...ASK!
- Have a positive attitude!
- If you are not understanding the unit/concepts, please come to tutorials!!!

## **Biology Binder**

- ☐ **Warmups** - Your warmups should stay under this tab!
- ☐ **Vocabulary** – All Vocabulary need to be found here
- ☐ **Notes** – Any notes or handouts should be placed here
- ☐ **Worksheets** – Graded Work will go here
- ☐ **Labs**-Any lab reports or related material will be placed here
- ☐ **Exams** -All tests will go behind this divider even retakes. DO NOT LOSE TESTS!!!
- ☐ **STAAR**-All STAAR related material and STAAR review will go here

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the parent/guardian  
of, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand  
Mrs. Krejci's policies and procedures. I have reviewed these items with my child,  
and I will contact Mrs. Krejci with any questions or concerns that I may have  
regarding my child.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Phone #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date