

Clear Creek High School PreAP Biology Course Syllabus 2019-2020

PURPOSE OF COURSE: The first year of biology serves as a foundational course in your academic development in high school. My focus is to not only ensure you have a strong understanding of biological concepts but to also provide you with a chance to develop analytical and problem-solving skills. I also hope to instill an interest in (and maybe a love for?) science along the way. This course will also prepare you for AP Biology. I am very excited to have you in class and look forward to working with you this year.

Teacher Name: Mrs. Michelle Napier

Room Number: B211

Class Web Page: www.biologybynapier.com

Contact information: Email me at mnapier@ccisd.net

or call the Clear Creek High School main office at **281-284-1700**

Our classroom pet is a Bearded Dragon named Logan. She is very friendly and may be handled. However, she is an animal and may be unpredictable. Students will be shown how to handle her properly but do not have to interact with her.

General Assessment and Grade Calculation

Daily Grades: daily work, labs, quizzes = 40% (quizzes will count as TWO daily grades)

Major Grades: tests, projects, formal labs 55%

Reading Assignments: 5%

~All tests and quizzes are cumulative, which means the material can come from any unit we have covered.~

STAAR BIOLOGY EXAM This is a STAAR EOC exam course. The exam date for biology is during the 2nd week of May 2019.

Mandatory Materials

1. Loose-leaf notebook paper, pens, pencils
2. ONE composition notebook
3. Laptop (charged and ready) everyday!

Class Materials: (Optional but **greatly** appreciated)

1. Ziploc bags (any size)
2. 1 pack pens or pencils
3. Glue sticks
4. Scotch tape
5. Box of tissues
6. Hand sanitizer
7. Paper towels
8. EXPO markers or highlighters

Online Textbook Access: Your biology textbook will be in e-book format, accessible with your laptop or home computer. To access your e-text please go to Skyward. The tab for all your textbooks is found at the top right of the page.

itslearning and Class Website – FIND YOUR ASSIGNMENTS HERE!

- You may use itslearning to find your assignments. When you go to itslearning, you will also be directed to our class website.
- www.biologybynapier.com
 - We will be using a class website this year. Students and parents can access all notes, assignments, some answer keys, etc. here. BOOKMARK this site on your computer.
 - This site also contains excellent resources for review, STAAR preparation and tutorials for class.

Skyward: Stay informed with your child's progress through the Skyward grade program online. You can be notified if your child's grade drops or if a low grade is received. You can also download the Skyward App onto your cell phone. Students are required to log into Skyward at least once a week to check their own progress.

Homework: Homework may be assigned. However, if your child does not make good use of their time in class and/or does not finish the class assignment, it will be homework. Your child should also take time on their own to study class material at home.

Science Fair: Science fair is NOT required for this class, but is certainly encouraged. If you are interested, please talk to me.

CLASSROOM RULES

1. Be in **YOUR SEAT** ready to work when the bell rings
2. Bring all your materials to class and fully participate **EVERY DAY**
3. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself
4. No eating in the classroom without permission
5. Be **COURTEOUS** and **RESPECTFUL** to others at all times (absolutely no bullying or put downs allowed)

Cellphone or Technology usage: Cell phones are not allowed in class unless approved by teacher. If cell phone or laptop is in use, only one earbud may be worn in accordance with district policy. All other technology devices must have teacher approval to be used in class.

MAKE-UP WORK & LATE WORK

If you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to get all work that was missed. All absent work is in the "Absent Work" box and you are responsible for getting the work and completing it on time. If you do not understand the assignment, you must let me know the day you return and arrange a tutorial time to see me. Otherwise, understand it or not, it is due according to the absent work policy.

For each day you are absent, you have one day to make up the work.

If you miss a test, then you need to make it up in tutorials by the end of the following week.

If you know you will be absent, ask for work before you leave.

District policy on late work is as follows:

1st and 2nd day late = 75% of earned grade

3rd day late = **ZERO**

Practice is necessary to build any skill. You will receive assignments that are for practice and not for a grade. Failure to do these assignments WILL affect your grade because you will lack the knowledge and skills needed to do well on quizzes and tests. As a preAP student you will need to take ownership of your depth of learning and willingness to do what is necessary to be successful in this class.

Expectations for Test: At or near the beginning of each unit you will receive an “Expectation Sheet” for the material you are responsible for in that unit. **You are responsible for completing this Expectation Sheet as we progress through each unit. Hint: take it out every day and fill it in as we work.** Completing this sheet on your own and studying it will help prepare you for the test.

Re-Test: According to district policy if fewer than 75% demonstrate mastery a retest/reassessment will be offered. The retest for this class consists of a test analysis by the student to identify TEKS the student is weak in, preparation for the retest and then either a new test or different assignment to replace the low test grade.

Academic Integrity: Cheating will not be tolerated in any form. You are expected to earn your own grade in this class by doing your own work. All assignments must be done independently unless approval from teacher is given. Assignments will be given zeros when cheating occurs. Cheating will result in calls home and office referrals.

Tutorials: Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30-3:15 (There are NO morning tutorials)

Please do not wait until the day before (or morning of!) a test to ask for help. Be proactive. When you do not understand something, come in and ask as soon as possible. You can also email me at any time through the website if you have questions or need help.

****Morning tutorials are not available; students are not allowed upstairs until the 7:10am bell rings.**

TARDIES

If **YOU** are not **IN THE CLASSROOM** when the bell rings you are tardy.

RESTROOM/ NURSE/COUNSELOR

Please try to take care of personal matters during passing periods or during lunch. You will not be allowed to leave my class the **first and last 10 minutes** of class for restroom trips. Each student receives 3 passes every 9 weeks allowing them to leave the classroom. Students are responsible for keeping these passes. If lost, they are not replaced. Once all passes are used, emergency situations will be referred to the nurse. A signed pass from the nurse is required upon return, otherwise a truancy will be reported.

Laptops: STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BRING THEIR LAPTOP CHARGED EVERY DAY.

1 st 9 Weeks	
Topics	SE's
Safety and Scientific Skills Safety Observations and Data Conclusions, Inference, and Predicting Trends	Process Skills
Biomolecules Biomolecule Function DNA Structure and Function Enzymes	B.6A,B B9A,C
Cell Structure and Function Prokaryote vs Eukaryote Structure and Function w/Microscope Review Homeostasis and Processes	B.4 A,B B.10C
9 Week Exams	

2 nd 9 Weeks	
Topics	SE's
Cellular Energy Conversions Respiration Photosynthesis	B.4B B9A,B
Cellular Transport Cell Membrane Cell Transport	B.4B B9.A
Protein Synthesis Transcription & Translation Mutation Differentiation and Gene Expression	B.6A,C,D,E
Cell Cycle Cell Cycle, Replication and Mitosis Disruptions to the Cell Cycle	B.5A,C
Semester Exam	

3 rd 9 Weeks	
Topics	SE's
Genetics Meiosis Mendelian Genetics Non-Mendelian Genetics	B.6F,G
Natural Selection Adaptations and Nat. Selection Evidence of Evolution Drift, Flow, Recombination	B.7A,B,C,D,E,F
Taxonomy Taxonomy Domains and Kingdoms Non-cellular Viruses	B.4C B.8A,B,C B.10C
Plant Systems Transport Reproduction Response Cycles	B.4B B.10B,C B.12D
9 Week Exams	

4 th 9 Weeks	
Topics	SE's
Animal Systems Interactions of Systems Microorganisms and the Body	B.10A,C B.11A
Matter and Energy Flow Ecology, Biotic/Abiotic	B10C B.11A B12,A,B,D
Environmental Changes Changes and Stability Succession Variation and Adaptation	B.11B B.12B,F
STAAR Exam Review	ALL TEKS
STAAR EOC Exams BIO and ALG 1	
Invertebrate and Vertebrates	B.8B B.10A,C
Semester Exams	

Please sign the attached page indicating that you have read both the syllabus and the safety contract.

Detach this page and return it to Mrs. Napier.
Keep the first sheet in your composition notebook for reference.

Parent recognition of receiving the 2019/20 Biology Syllabus

By signing below, you are indicating that you have read the syllabus and are aware of the class expectations.

Student Name (printed)

Student Signature

Date

Class Period: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (printed)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Return this page to Mrs. Napier.
Keep the first page of the syllabus in your composition notebook.