

Welcome to Biology

Course Description:

Biology is the study of life. In this course we will be studying living things and their interactions with each other and the environment around them. We will be doing this through scientific inquiry activities and literacy activities. A brief description of each of the units is listed below.

Unit	Description
Ecology	This unit is the study of relationships. We study what life is and how living things relate to each other and their non-living environment
Chemistry of Life	In this unit we study the molecules that are most important to living things.
Cells	In this unit we will study the smallest unit of life, the cell and all of its inner workings. We will study the cell membrane and transport into and out of the cell.
Energetics	In this unit we will study the processes that allow living things to take in, use, and pass on energy.
Nucleic Acids and Protein Synthesis	In this unit we explore further the structure and function of the Biological molecules DNA and protein.
Biotech	In this unit we investigate biotechnology and its current uses.
Inheritance and applied Genetics	In this unit we will study the ways that we inherit characteristics and the ways that scientists study those characteristics
Evolution	In this unit we study the origins of life and how organisms evolve.
Systematics	During this unit we will study how scientists classify and organize living things.
Systems in living things	In this unit we will study the components of and functions of body systems.

Academic support:

Academic support will be available the following times in the following rooms:

Grading:

This class will follow the MCPS grading and report policy as such reassessment on all formative assessments will be allowed only after the student participates in a reassessment activity as decided by the teachers. Summative assessments will not be reassessed.

Unless otherwise indicated the due date and the deadline on all assignments will be the same.

Grade break down:

- 40% summative assessments: Tests and projects
- 50% formative assessments: Classwork, Bio lit assignments, labs and quizzes
- 10 % homework

Grading scale:

89.5%-100%	A
79.5%-89%	B
69.5%-79%	C
59.5%-69%	D
< 59%	E

Attendance:

Wootton high school's attendance and tardy policies will be strictly enforced. Please consult your agenda book. If you have a scheduled absence (ie a field trip, college visit, etc.) any projects, homework assignments, or other work that had been previously assigned as being due that day is to be handed in on that day or prior to that day.

Make-Ups: If you miss an activity assignment, lab, quiz, or test due to an excused absence such as an illness— you must make arrangements to do the assignment within 3 days after the absence. After 3 days, your grade will be a zero (0) - NO EXCEPTIONS.

Academic Dishonesty:

This is your official warning. Do NOT do it. Copying of assignments in the hallway, cafeteria, media center, and classroom is strictly prohibited. You will receive a zero grade and so will the person who you copied from. Cheating during quizzes and tests are not tolerated and students will receive a zero plus disciplinary action. Any of these infractions will result in notification to administrator, guidance counselor, and parents. It will also be entered into your permanent record.

Textbook:

We will be using the text book:

Biology, Prentice Hall (Miller, Levine), 2004- (\$80.00 obligation fee)