

# 2009/2010 Biology Syllabus

*"We receive two educations, the one that is given to us, and the other that we give ourselves. The latter is the important one." Irving Babbitt*

Year-long Course  
Required for Graduation  
Room N214  
1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> periods

Instructor: Mr. Evavold [email](#) or 218-879-4673 #214

Best Times to Catch Me: 7am - 8:15am, 10:07am - 10:58am, 11:54am - 12:25pm, 1:25 - 2:16

## **I. Why Biology:**

This is a required course for graduation and meets MN Academic Standards in Life Science. Above all, we should always seek to gain greater knowledge and understanding of our world and our bodies with a goal of becoming better informed critical thinkers.

## **II. Goals and Objectives:**

### ***Goals***

The main goal of this course is to inspire interest in and understanding of the main concepts in Biology. Emphasis throughout course will include scientific method, inquiry, recognition that scientific knowledge is not static, historical perspectives, and applications of technology

### ***Specific Learning Objectives:***

By the end of this course, students will have reached new understandings in the following areas:

- I. Nature of Science (thinking/acting like a scientist)
- II. Biochemistry (chemicals of life)
- III. Cytology (form and function of the cell)
  - a. Cell Structure
  - b. Cell Metabolism
  - c. Cell Reproduction
- IV. Genetic Code (chromosomes and DNA)
- V. Heredity (one generation to the next)
- VI. Evolution (chemical and biological evolution)
- VII. Homeostasis (maintaining balance)
- VIII. Ethology (animal and plant behavior)
- IX. Ecology (web of interactions)
- X. Entomology (biology of the honey bee)
- XI. Ichthyology (study of fish)
- XII. Stream Studies (field study of the Midway river)

### III. Format and Procedures:

**Quizzes and Tests:** Expect about one **quiz per week**. Quizzes are generally **10-15 points**. The quizzes given are most often **matching** but the occasional reading quiz may contain short answer questions. Quizzes are sometimes given online. Material for quiz most often centers on vocabulary. **Quizzes represent 20%** of your quarter grade.

**Tests account for 30%** of your quarter grade. They will consist of multiple choice questions, matching and essay questions. Tests occur approximately **every 2-3 weeks**. There are **no re-takes** on tests or quizzes. You will be given at least 1 week notice of an upcoming test. If you miss a test it must be for good reason and excused and will need to be made up before school at a designated time. If you miss the make-up time, you get a "0" for that test. **If you have an unexcused absence on the day of a test/quiz/assignment you will receive a "0" for that assignment/test, etc.**

**Participation:** Participation accounts for **10%** of your quarter grade. Every two weeks a participation score will be assigned based on active participation in class, completing homework on time, appropriate behavior, treating property with respect, etc. Gross violations of any of these will result in a "0" for that scoring period.

**Cumulative Folder:** A cumulative folder of your own tests and quizzes will be maintained for your reference and mine. Each quiz and test will be placed directly into your folder and accumulated there throughout the semester. You will have access to this folder with permission and prior to the semester final exam.

**Final Exam:** There will be a cumulative semester final exam that will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions from the semester. All questions will be derived from the MN State science standards and previous tests. The semester final will represent 15% of your semester grade.

### IV. My Assumptions

- Students will strive toward success
- Students will be prepared for class
- Students will honor deadlines
- Students will seek help and guidance when needed

### V. Course Requirements:

- A. Attendance: according to Esko Attendance Policy
- B. Readings:
  - i. Required text: *Holt-Modern Biology* ©2006 by Pearson/Benjamin Cummins (available in hard-cover, pdf, and online versions)
  - ii. Additional readings: may include handouts in class, case studies, online resources, periodicals
- C. Assignments: being thorough, timely, and thoughtful
- D. Participation: being prepared, participating fully, honoring other's right to learn

### VI. Grading Procedures:

**Quarter Grade** Determination

30% Tests(essay)

30% Labs/Homework

20% Quizzes(vocabulary/matching/reading)

10% Quarter Project

10% Participation

**Semester Grade** determined using the following weights:

Q1(42.5%), Q2(42.5%), Final(15%)

Success is likely if student engages themselves fully and utilizes in-class and out-of-class resources.

## **VII. Academic Integrity**

Each student in this class is expected to abide by the Honesty and Integrity expectations outlined in the student handbook. Any work submitted by a student in this course for credit will be the student's own work. There will be many occasions where collaboration is allowed and expected.

You are encouraged to study together and to discuss information and concepts covered in and outside of class with other students. You can give "consulting" help to or receive "consulting" help from other students. In fact, that is encouraged. However, this permissible cooperation should never involve one student having possession of a copy of all or part of work done by someone else, in the form of an email, an email attachment file, a diskette, or a hard copy.

Should copying occur, both the student who copied work from another student and the student who gave material to be copied will both automatically receive a zero for the assignment and may involve additional disciplinary action.

During tests and quizzes, you must do your own work. Talking or discussion is not permitted, nor may you compare papers, copy from others, or collaborate in any way. Any collaborative behavior during the tests and quizzes will result in failure of the test or quiz and may lead to failure of the course and disciplinary action.

## **VIII. Accommodations for students with special needs**

Please let me know if you have a special academic need that might not be addressed elsewhere. I will make accommodations where appropriate to assist students in achieving academic success in this class.

## **IX. Semester Outline with Units and Unit Study Guides can be found at:**

[www.mreclassroom.com](http://www.mreclassroom.com)

## **X. Resources for Biology**

Resources/activities to include: Moodle, labs, lecture, case studies, readings, podcasts, articles, web resources, class discussion, and handouts.

[www.mreclassroom.com/moodle/](http://www.mreclassroom.com/moodle/)