

# Advanced Placement Biology Open House

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Welcome to AP Biology! Along with the things that I have to offer you in this course, I want to make it clear that I will be holding you to some very high expectations. So that no one is beginning this venture under any illusions, let me spell out what is expected of you and what I will do to help you meet them. This course is equivalent to a full year (two semesters) Introductory Biology course taught at any major University. The framework of the course is constructed on the student having little to no previous experience with Biology. The content and curriculum of this course has been designed to meet or exceed those outlines by the Advance Placement College Board. These standards exceed the Delaware State curriculum for high school Biology. Upon completion of this course and the AP Exam, students can apply with most colleges to receive college credits. This course meets for a 90 minute period for the entire school year.

## SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- 1 ½ " Three-ring Binder (or larger). Used to maintain all your notes, labs, and materials.
- Scientific Calculator, Pen, No. 2 Pencil, and 2 Standard Composition Books.
- Recommended
  - USB pen drive or some means to take large files from the school computers
  - An AP Review Book such as Cracking the AP Biology Test by the Princeton Review, Baron's AP Bio Review, or Cliff Notes. There are many versions. Look them over and select one whose format works for you.

## Coursework:

Students are expected to complete all coursework and progress as scheduled with reading and written assignments. Many assignments will not be checked for completion by the instructor but are designed to prepare the student for class discussions and activities. These assignments are critical to students gaining an understanding of the course concepts.

## Advanced Placement Biology Units

Unit	Topics and Labs (*computer probe labs)	# Periods	Text Chapters
Intro	The 10 Themes of Biology	3	1
Unit 1 General Chemistry & Biochemistry	Basic Chemistry, Water and Carbon based molecules Labs:	10	2, 3, 4, 5
Unit 2 Cells Structure and Function	Cell Structure and Function Labs:	12	<b>7, 8, 11, 12, 13</b>
Unit 3 Cell Metabolism And Energy	Enzymes, Photosynthesis and Respiration Labs:	21	6, 9, 10
Unit 4 Molecular Genetics	DNA and Protein Synthesis Labs:	13	<b>16 - 21</b>

Unit 5 Mendelian Genetics	Mendelian Genetics Labs:	12	14,15
Unit 6 Evolutionary Biology	Evolution, Population Genetics and Speciation Phylogeny Labs:	12	22, 23, 24, 25
Unit 7 Biological Diversity	Chemical Evolution, Prokaryote & Eukaryote Evolution Labs:	4	25 - 34
Unit 12 Plant Structure and Function	Plant structure and Function	12	35 - 39
Unit 13 Structure and Function of Animals	Animal Structure and Function, Circulation and Respiration Physiology of the Circulatory system* Labs:	29	40 - 49
Unit 15 Ecology	Ecology Social and Environmental Impacts	13	50,51,52, 53,54,55
AP Biology Exam Review	Practice AP exam, and computerized review	6	

### Course Grading:

Course grades will be based on the following estimated percentages:

- ~45% Tests / Quizzes
- ~40% Labs / Activities
- ~15% Writing Journal

### Tests & Quizzes –

3 - 5 quizzes per unit depending on length, 1 – 2 Unit Tests

- o All Quizzes may be **retaken** if you believe you can do better. They are never 1 and done. However, the ability to a retake is earned.

Unit Tests cannot be retaken. You will get only 1 try because that is what you get with the AP Test.

### Journals:

You will be keeping two different Journals in the course.

1. Your Class / Lab Journal:
2. Your Writing Journal

### Labs:

There are 10 Mandatory “AP” labs that must be completed. We will expand on those with many others.

### Homework:

Homework is currently estimated at six hour of week and consists mostly of reading the text and studying for quizzes and tests.

**Notebook** – This is where your entire year will be recorded. I know how difficult it will be for some of you to keep a detailed, organized and coherent notebook. However, I will do my best to make it easier for you by giving the notes in standard outline format. Organization is critical with this much material this quickly.