



Text- *Prentice Hall Biology*

Description of Course: Biology is dedicated to the study of living things and their processes. Throughout the semester, this course provides an opportunity for students to improve scientific process skills, laboratory procedures, and an understanding of the fundamental principles of living organisms. Students will explore biology 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. This course satisfies the requirement for one unit in biology and the entrance requirements for colleges and universities. Biology students must score a level III or IV on the Biology End of Course Exam and pass the assigned classwork (in a timely manner) in order to receive a Biology credit.

Class Materials: \$5.00 science fee, Index Cards, Notebook (3 ring binder – large), pencils, Notebook paper, colored pencils, red/blue/black pens, notebook dividers. **Recommended but not required: Clear Notebook Slip Covers**

Assignments -----Weight

Tests, Mid Term, Notebook Check (Summative)	30%
Homework, Mini Labs, classwork, bell work, formative assessments	10%
Complex Labs / Projects	30%
Quizzes	30%
Final Exam	20% of final grade

Class Rules:

1. Bring all required materials to class DAILY. (stuff to write with and stuff to write on)
2. Be in your seat as soon as you enter the room and already working on posted assignments.
3. Raise your hand before getting out of your seat or screaming an answer.
4. Respect yourself and everyone else around you; with your actions and your words. Remember: **Team Work makes the dreamz work.**
5. Respect my property.
6. Be positive – no one said you had to like each other or even me – but be kind and positive at all times.
7. Follow ALL lab safety policies as written in the Lab Safety Acknowledgment.
8. Don't be the person to take away from another students opportunity to learn.
9. NO EATING or DRINKING IN THIS ROOM. Water is permitted.
10. Cell phones: I know you have them, but I don't want to see or hear them unless I instruct you otherwise. Your Facebook, twitter, text messages, and Instagram statuses can wait 90 minutes.
 - a. If you need to use the restroom during a (large) test, cell phones MUST BE turned in to me before you exit.
 - b. Cell phone use during assignment will be considered cheating and a zero will be recorded.

Consequences for Improper Performance:

Offence -----Action

1st Warning	Verbal Communication with student/Parent involvement if necessary If during lab setting: Lab probation – another issue prevents participation in the next lab that follows with alternate assignment.
2nd Warning	After school detention (30 minutes) to be served within 1 week of date assigned Parent Contact If during lab setting – Removal from lab, alternate essay assignments for next lab.
3rd Warning	Write up Parent contact If during lab setting – all lab privileges revoked and written alternatives in order to prevent issues in other lab situations that may present as a danger to other students.

Bathroom Breaks: GO BEFORE YOU WALK IN THE DOOR...you have plenty of time in between classes to go. (That includes locker trips, grabbing something from another class)

Labs: See safety acknowledgement; if you are absent during a lab you must make special arrangements to come in before or after school to make up the lab or get an alternative assignment. Data for lab reports must be taken during lab. **Copying of lab data after lab is not allowed.** Each student is responsible for individual lab reports unless specifically stated by teacher.

Honor Code: Cheating will not be tolerated. You are responsible for your own work at all times. Even if you are the copier or the one being copied, both papers will receive a zero. No exceptions. Homework, quizzes, and classwork are all opportunities for YOU to learn and for YOU to develop a

stronger understanding of the content, so sharing homework negates that purpose. In this case, sharing is NOT caring. Any form of communication is not allowed during tests and will result in a zero for all parties involved.

Attendance: If you are out regularly, this is a large disadvantage for you. IF you are out, it is YOUR responsibility to make up what you missed; including labs, tests, quizzes, etc. There are bins in the back of the room; check them for the days you are out.

Make-up Work: There are folders for each day of the week that will be updated with all items covered that day. If you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed- checking these folders before you come to me. We are all adults here, so I expect you to act like a responsible one. **Success in anything is never an accident** – especially in this class. In order to succeed in Biology, you need to actually be IN class. *All tests will need to be made up within ONE week of the assigned date, otherwise the grade will be recorded as a zero.* I can't review tests if I am waiting weeks for you to take it. I am available every day after school and during my lunch for help. If you need anything, understand that I am here for YOU and I WANT you to be successful.

Notebook: You are required to maintain a notebook (binder only) for my class that will be checked periodically for every assignment we do and every note we take. THROW NOTHING AWAY. It must be neat and organized. The purpose of the notebook, no matter how much you hate it, is to not only prepare you for college, but it encourages sound thinking. Keeping this notebook gives you a place to talk to yourself – to ask questions, to jot down important thoughts about experimental design, and to speculate how your results may eventually be interpreted. Oh, yeah, and it's an amazing study tool.

Keys for Success in Biology

- ✓ Have a positive attitude no matter how stormy your day is.
- ✓ I am here to help you succeed, so feel free to ask me for help. I am available before and after school in my room.
- ✓ Ask lots of questions. If you are unclear about something from the textbook, lab, or from discussions, ask.
- ✓ Make sure that you understand how the lecture, homework, and labs interrelate. Labs and homework are designed to reinforce significant ideas from the text. Make sure that you see these connections – and if you don't, ASK!
- ✓ Start studying for tests early. By studying and reviewing each night you are not only helping to prepare for the test more effectively, you are also more prepared for class each day and any quizzes that may be given.

I have read and I acknowledge the requirements necessary for success in biology and will work to my highest potential:

Student Name (print) _____

Parent Name (Signature) _____

Contact Form

Dear parents,

I am a big fan of keeping parents informed as it makes life so much easier for all of us! My best form of communication is usually email. This is primarily because kids are always in my room for tutoring, redo assignments, or make ups. My email is allieelvis@ccs.k12.nc.us – do not hesitate to contact me for any reason! Within the first couple of weeks, an online class page will be set up so that classroom assignments and notes can be accessed. Please be advised that this class will have homework at least twice a week and a test almost every Friday. Test redos are permitted, however, they must have evidence to show that they are better prepared for the redo (maybe they stayed after school two days, did extra work, etc). I also stay after school every day (except Friday) and will come in early (7:30) for any student who needs that extra help. Please contact me if you have any questions!

Please fill out the items requested below. If you'd like to keep the top portion of this paper for your records, please do so! Please write clearly!

Students Name (print): _____

Parent Name(s) (print): _____

Parent contact: email→ _____

 Phone number→ _____

Does your child have access to a computer/smart phone at home? _____

Does your child have access to the internet? _____

******if there is ever an internet based assignment, I will have extra computers in the classroom for them to work if your child is unable to access these things at home******

Is there anything I should know about your child to help him/her better succeed in my classroom?

It is requested that this paper is turned in by Friday.

Dear Parents:

I apologize for my absence as I would love to meet with all of you (and discuss the exciting life of a biology student). Since I am unable to attend this evening's meet and greet, please feel free to swing by Monday or Tuesday between 12:30 – 3:00 if you have any questions! You may also email me at allieelvis@ccs.k12.nc.us

The folder on my door contains the syllabus for your review.