**Biology Syllabus**

**Nicole Trahan- Room 1014**

**EMAIL:** [ntrahan@paulding.k12.ga.us](mailto:ntrahan@paulding.k12.ga.us) trahanscience.weebly.com remind.com:@6kb9e

**Materials**: McDougal Littell Biology textbook, paper, pen or pencil, colored pencils, and a separate composition/bound notebook for labs. Other materials may be required periodically.

**Topics to be discussed**: Biological Principles, Cellular Biology, Genetics, Evolution, the Five Kingdoms of Life, and Ecology.

**Class Expectations**:

1. Be in your assigned seats before the bell rings.

2. Bring your notebook, paper, pen, and colored pencils to class every day.

3. Take notes as directed by the teacher.

4. Keep all notes and papers returned by the teacher in notebook for reference for the entire year.

5. Participate in class discussions.

6. Do not disturb other students.

7. All assignments (homework, labs, etc.) are to be turned in AT THE BEGINNING of class

8. Class is dismissed by the teacher, not the bell.

9. Follow all safety instructions given in the laboratory.

10. No food, drink, or gum is allowed in the classroom or lab. Water is the exception.

12. All rules regarding technology and the use of technology will mirror those established by the administration.

**LATE WORK**:

* Assignments will be assessed a penalty of 10% per school day late. 4pm the day of is the deadline for on-time work.
* Should you miss an assignment due to an excused absence you will have five school days to submit the work. **ALL MAKE-UP WORK MUST BE COMPLETED WITHIN FIVE SCHOOL DAYS AFTER THE STUDENT RETURNS.** After five days the assignment will be considered “late”.
* **ALL MAKE-UP TESTS AND QUIZZES WILL BE SCHEDULED AT THE TEACHER’S CONVENIENCE WITH THE STUDENT HAVING AT LEAST 24-HOURS NOTICE.**
* **FIELD TRIP ABSENCES and UNEXCUESED ABSENCES ONLY GET ONE DAY TO MAKE-UP THE WORK.**

**SAFETY**: It is imperative that you adhere to the safety guidelines within your book and on the Science Safety Guidelines Handout, and all other classroom rules. In particular, you should note that putting consumables into your mouth in a science classroom is not allowed. This is to prevent you from accidentally ingesting materials which may have been left from labs. Any exception to the consumable rule will be told in directions for specific labs.

**TUTORIAL**: If any student needs extra help, I am available Monday- Thursday mornings and afternoons. Although “drop-ins” are welcome, it would be more prudent to let me know ahead of time that you would like to stop.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**: Work independently unless instructed to work in groups. Academic Dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic Dishonesty includes copying another student’s homework, plagiarism, forging a parent signature, using BYOD inappropriately, or cheating in any way on quizzes, tests, or exams. Plagiarism is described as: “a deliberate attempt on the part of a student to pass off as his own the writing or ideas of another person (student, parent, published or unpublished author, et al). This type of plagiarism generally consists of the straight copying or slight paraphrasing of a source that a student attempts to conceal.” The consequences for academic dishonesty are as follows:

1. A grade of zero will be recorded for the assignment.

2. Parents/guardians will be called informing them of the matter.   
3. A disciplinary referral will be sent to the administration.

Laboratory exercises comprise a large part of the student's final grade and, therefore, should be taken seriously. Any misbehavior of any kind will result in the removal of the student from the particular class period and a zero. In most cases missed labs due to absence can be completed upon return before or after school. If this is not possible, a short paper covering the same material will be assigned.

Homework will be assigned approximately 1 to 3 nights a week. Homework will be graded and can weigh heavily on a student's grade if they choose not to complete these assignments. Special projects will be assigned throughout the year. There will be allotted class time to work on projects, but students are ultimately responsible for completing projects on time.

Biology can be a difficult subject. Success in this course requires steady dedication rather than sporadic effort. A small amount of study each night would be most beneficial.

**Grading Scale**:

The Biology grade will be determined as follows:

*57% Exams*

* There will be a major traditional assessment at the end of each unit to obtain feedback on students’ learning of major standard based content. In addition, any major projects will be included in this category, such as the lab notebook or summative projects.

*20% Final Exam*

* A midterm exam will be administered at the end of the fall semester. The exam will be cumulative. The final exam for the class will be a Milestone in Biology which will be given in May.

*23% Classwork/Homework/Quizzes /Laboratory Reports*

* Throughout the year, several labs will be performed. Each lab will be graded on participation, appropriate lab technique, and answers to analysis questions that will be included in each lab.
* Daily participation is required and participation points may be given. Daily assignments will frequently be given in class to reinforce the concepts learned. This may include pop quizzes, announced quizzes, or activities in class.
* Assignments completed at home are essential to your understanding of the course content. Outside reading of the textbook is expected.
* Homework will be assigned as needed.

I have read and will comply with the statements in the previous syllabus.

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Parent Name (printed) Student Name (printed)

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Parent Signature Student Signature

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Parent E-mail Address Student E-mail Address

Contact Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Comments: