

AP[®]Biology

Welcome to AP Bio! We will cover topics similar to your introductory Biology class but in much more depth. Topics include the microscopic (biochemistry, cellular structure, energetics, molecular genetics) and the macroscopic (ecology, Mendelian genetics, population genetics, phylogeny). This course is fast-paced and requires extensive effort inside and outside of the classroom for a depth of understanding. My hope is that you will gain a deep understanding and appreciation for the complexity and beauty within living systems.

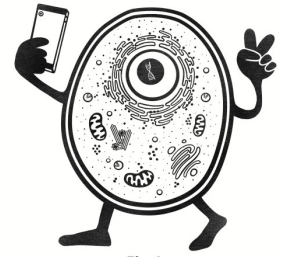
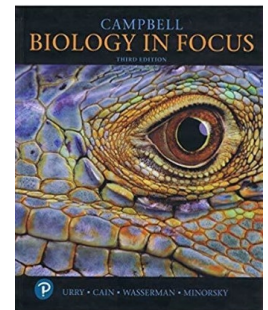


Fig.1.
Cell-fie

COLLEGE BOARD AP[®] BIOLOGY COURSE DESCRIPTION:

<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-biology>

Teacher: Ms. Katy Cox, D110
katherine.cox@fortbendisd.com
281-327-5654
6th period conference



Textbook: Urry, Lisa A. et al. (2020). *Campbell Biology In Focus*(3rd ed.). Hoboken: Pearson.

Class Documents

You will use Schoology this year for access to materials. Some quizzes, articles, podcasts, etc. will need to be accessed throughout the year in the appropriate folders in Schoology. Please be aware that I do not post power points online.

Text/email reminders



- 📶 To receive text messages for APBio – text @biologycox to 81010
- 📶 To receive email reminders – go to rmd.at@biologycox

Supplies needed for class:

- binder or spiral notebook with pockets to store notes and write answers to study guides
- composition book for labs
- pencils and other writing utensils that make you happy
- calculator (besides your phone)

After School Labs:

College Board requires AP[®] Biology courses to complete several inquiry-based labs in this course. In Fort Bend ISD, it is required that you attend after school labs to complete them. We will meet on a defined schedule in your same lab groups. You will have the option to initially select and commit to the day/time that you will be attending labs. If you must change for any reason, it is your responsibility to switch dates with a classmate to keep the lab groups stable and I can properly prepare.

Classroom Standards/Expectations

- 1) Practice safety at all times.
- 2) Show respect for yourself, others, and property.
- 3) Help create a comfortable, safe learning environment for everyone.
- 4) Work on Biology the whole period.
- 5) Remain in your seat until the bell rings.

Grading

You will be given the grade that you earn. Diligent students who keep up with all assignments and seek help when needed are usually rewarded by earning the desired grade. Do not ask about extra credit – periodically, I will have extra credit opportunities that will be offered to the whole class. There is no other extra credit.

Your term average is determined by averaging your daily and major grades. Your lab period is connected with this: it is not calculated separately. Please note: UIL eligibility periods do not necessarily follow our grading periods. It is YOUR responsibility to keep track of UIL eligibility.

Semester averages will be determined according to district guidelines.

Please note: earn every point you can while you can. **I DO NOT BUMP GRADES.**

AP[®] EXAM DATE:

Monday, May 11, 2020

It is important to note that this is an AP[®] level course. All coursework and assessments are designed to prepare you for the AP[®] exam in May, whether you intend to take it or not. ☺ All exams in this class will be timed and consist of a multiple choice and free response section.

Retests

All tests will be reviewed in class once they have been graded. Topics in which students are not proficient will be identified (based on data) and spiraled into subsequent lessons. Since AP[®] Biology is a progressive course, students must carry through proficiency in earlier material to all subsequent materials. As such, concepts will be regularly reviewed and used in class. As always, students will be encouraged to attend tutorials to obtain additional support and instruction.

There will be a retest offered for every unit exam. If a student scores below a 75 on an exam, he/she may retest before or after school on the assigned retest day. The retest grade may replace the original grade if it is higher (maxing out at a 75).

Late Work

Assignments are due at the **BEGINNING** of class on the due date. Assignments submitted later in the class period or later in the day are considered late. The DHS school policy regarding late work will be followed in this class. 30 points are deducted on late daily work when it is one day late.

Absences

If an absence is anticipated, please notify the teacher early enough to receive assignments ahead of time. If the absence is not anticipated, it is your responsibility to gather the assignments that you missed on the day of your return. Students have 1 day for each day absent to make up the work and turn it in. It is the student's responsibility to come and ask the teacher what he/she missed while absent. It is not the teacher's responsibility to make a student do his or her work. If you missed a test or quiz, you will be expected to take it the day you return. In the case of extended absences, assessment arrangements will be made between the teacher and the student.

Tutorials

Tutorial sessions are available to help students better understand information in small group or individual settings. It is highly recommended that students having difficulty in this class take advantage of these opportunities to get help and show an initiative in bringing up poor grades. There is a tutorial schedule posted outside of my classroom.

Units of Study from the revised AP[®] Course and Exam Description of 2019

Below are the units in order in which I will cover them this year as advised by College Board. Several units will have multiple tests within them. The percentages are the estimated weight of the topic on the AP[®] Exam.

Units	Exam Weighting
Unit 1: Chemistry of Life	8–11%
Unit 2: Cell Structure and Function	10–13%
Unit 3: Cellular Energetics	12–16%
Unit 4: Cell Communication and Cell Cycle	10–15%
Unit 5: Heredity	8–11%
Unit 6: Gene Expression and Regulation	12–16%
Unit 7: Natural Selection	13–20%
Unit 8: Ecology	10–15%

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

We all know copying during a test or quiz is cheating and stealing tests or quizzes from a teacher is cheating, but did you know that you're cheating if you:

- Present someone else's ideas as if they are your own (i.e., plagiarize), which includes paraphrasing another's written work without citing the source
- Fabricate data on a lab report
- Collaborate on an assignment which should be done individually
- **Pass along or receive test/quiz information from one class period to another**

Academic integrity is important to success at Dulles High School and in later life. Academic integrity is based on five values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. If you are to benefit fully from this class and be fairly evaluated for your work, we must work together in an environment that affirms these values. Work that violates these values is incompatible with the goals of this class and will not be tolerated. Every member of the class is expected to foster the spirit of academic honesty at all times and to encourage that spirit among others.

*based on presentation from the Center for Academic Integrity

Cell Phone Policy

- Mrs. Cox is very strict on cell phone usage. I RARELY use them in the classroom, so if you wonder if it is OK to have it out, the answer is almost certainly "NO". I will take them up. We are here to learn, not text.
- During quizzes, tests, and other times when I deem it necessary, cell phone will be placed in numbered pouches to remove distraction and maintain assessment security. If a student is found with a cell phone during any graded assessment (lab, quiz, test), it will be assumed that the student was cheating. The student will receive a zero for the assessment and have a discipline notice placed on file in Skyward.
- If a student violates this policy, the teacher will confiscate his/her cellular or mobile telephone and the student will not be allowed to use the device during the period, even if the teacher allows others to use their phones. The phone will be given back to the student at the end of the period.
- The District is not responsible for theft or damage to a student's personal device.