

**Ridge Point High School
AAC Biology Syllabus
Ms. Lauren Merkel**

Room: L246
Phone: 281-634-0944
Conference period: 3rd period
Lauren.Merkel@fortbendisd.com

Tutorials

Mornings:

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs – 7:00-7:25

Afternoons:

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs – 2:45 to 3:30

Units of Study

Lab Safety / Scientific Processes	Evolution
Cell Structure and Function	Classification
Photosynthesis / Cellular Respiration	Ecology
Nucleic Acids and Protein Synthesis	Processes in Plants
Cell Reproduction	*Processes in Animals
*Genetics and DNA Technology	*Infectious Disease

***Unit may involve graphic images as they pertain to the state and district curriculum.**

Course Description

The primary objective of the course is to build a foundation for success in the college level AP courses to follow. The AAC course places a higher priority on developing critical thinking skills by examining real world problems, and examining topics with more depth, sometimes at an increased pace. **Science Fair is required** and essay responses are included on tests, which will involve synthesis, application, and evaluation of concepts. Students will be ultimately responsible for their learning; therefore, they should be organized, prepared, and motivated to learn every day.

Materials

- 2 Composition Notebooks - NO spirals, MUST be 100 sheets (200 pages) and COLLEGE ruled
- Colored pens (all the colors of the rainbow) or fine line markers that don't bleed through the paper
- 1 bottle of Elmer's glue or tape
- 1 Roll of paper towels
- 1 Box of tissue

Textbook

- Biology by Stephen Nowicki
- How to access the Online Textbook
 - o log in to 1link
 - o click on the Holt McDougal online icon

Classroom Expectations

- Follow all school rules
- Be on time and prepared to learn
- Participate and do your best every day
- Follow directions the first time
- BE RESPECTFUL & RESPONSIBLE!

Re-Testing Policy

Progressive testing is the type of re-testing that the Biology **team** utilizes. With this system, each test is comprised of 50% new material and 50% of material from the previous test (within the current nine-weeks). Re-teaching is integrated into class time and spiraled in with the new material. The progressive test grade will replace the original test grade only if it is a higher score; if it is lower, the original test grade will remain. Every student has the opportunity to improve his or her grade with this type of testing.

Absences and Make-Up Work

Students will be given an equal amount of time to complete the work missed due to excused absence(s). Any **assignment due on the day you are absent** is to be turned in on the day you return. If you are absent **on a test day**, you should be prepared to take the test during class, on the day you return. If you are absent the **day before** a test and **no new material is covered**, you will be expected to take the test with the class.

Homework & Late Work Policies

- *Schoology Homework assignments are due at 11:59 pm on the due date.
- *Paper homework assignments are due at the beginning of class the next day.
- *RPHS late work policy:
 - Daily Grades: First day late= -15 points; 2 days late= -30 points**
 - Major Grades: First day late= -10 points; 2 days late= -20 points**

Sign up for Remind:

TEXT 81010 with the code below:

1st, 2nd and 4th periods use code: @merkel23am

5th, 6th and 7th periods use code: @merkel23pm