

**Ridge Point High School
Pre-AP Biology
On-Line Learning Syllabus
Mrs. Rachel Looney Heath**

Room: L217
Phone: 281-634-9169
Conference period: 3rd or by appointment
Rachel.looney@fortbendisd.com

Tutorials

Tuesdays 8:15-8:45
Thursdays 4:00-4:30
See Links in Schoology
If you are not able to attend those days/times, please attend another PAP Teacher's tutorials or set up an appointment.

Course Description

The primary objective of the course is to build a foundation for success in the college level AP courses to follow. The Pre-AP 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.

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.**

Materials

- 2 Composition Notebooks (NO spiral, 100 pages and college ruled) – one if for fall, one for spring
- Writing Utensils (pens, pencils, colored pens if desired)
- Scissors
- Markers and/or colored pencils
- Tape/glue (I do NOT recommend a glue stick)
- Ruler

Textbook

- Biology by Stephen Nowicki
- You will *not* receive a hard copy to take home.
- A class set will be available for use in class.
- How to access the Online Textbook
 - o Login to 1link
 - o Select the Holt McDougal Tile

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 has decided on. 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. The last test of each term will not be re-assessed and the grade will stand.

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

*Homework is due by the due date and time posted in schoology or it is considered late.

*RPHS late work policy:

First day late= -15 points per day late for up to 3 days and then a 0 will be assigned.