

# Frank McClarin High School

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## Biology Syllabus - Semester I & II Fall/Winter/Spring 2008– 2009

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### Conference and Tutorial hours:

Tuesday & Thursday: 7:30-8:00am; 3:00-3:30pm  
Also by appointments

### Required Text:

Holt Biology

Publisher: Holt, Rinehart and Winston (2008 Edition)

### Course Description:

This purpose of this course is to explore in detail the interdependence of organisms, the relationship between matter, energy and life, the behavior of organisms and the theory of evolution. These concepts are investigated through laboratory experiences, fieldwork and classroom activities. All work is designed to help the student develop a working knowledge of biology and laboratory skills.

#### Course Outline: 1<sup>st</sup> Semester

**Unit I** – This unit is focused on the cell as the basic component of all organisms. We will begin by studying the four macromolecules and their functions in cells. Then we will examine cell types and functions more closely as well as look at the difference between prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. This section of study will include transportation within the cell and the function of each organelle. Following this section the class will look at the role of enzymes in cells. The last section of this unit will deal with the study of photosynthesis and respiration as the means for cells to obtain energy.

#### Course Outline: 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

**Unit III-** The focus of this unit is the theory of evolution. It is a short unit in which we will begin with a study of the evidence for evolution as well as how it works. We will then use this evidence to trace the history of the theory and apply this new knowledge the next unit on classification.

**Unit IV** – This unit looks at the modern classification system for organisms. It is a very broad unit in which we will examine all the kingdoms. We will begin with a short section of the evolutionary basis for our modern classification system. Then we will move to a study of the

**Unit II** – The focus here is on heredity and genetics. The unit starts with a study of DNA and RNA. We will look at the role these molecules have in genetic expression. Then we will look at mutations and their effect on cell processes and gene expression. Following this section we will examine the mechanisms and advantages of sexual and asexual reproduction. The unit will conclude with a short study of the role of DNA in forensics, medicine and agriculture.

mechanisms for transporting and obtaining nutrients and gases for representative organisms of each kingdom. We will examine a variety of organisms from all kingdoms including Bacteria, Protista, Fungi, Plants and Animals.

**Unit V** – In this unit we will focus on the ecology. The unit begins with a study of the relationships between organisms, populations, communities and ecosystems. Then we will move to a section on how human activities affect our environment. The unit will conclude with a study of succession and how plants and animals adapt for survival.

**Pacing Chart:** A daily pacing chart will be provided to keep you abreast of daily instructions. There may be slight changes in exact dates a topic is taught as the semester progresses.

**Projects:** A project is required by Fulton County Schools for each unit in biology. You will be given instructions for the projects as near the end of the unit. The project will require you to use knowledge gained from the unit. Attending class regularly is critical to success with your projects!

**End of Course Test (EOCT):** At the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Biology an inclusive end of the course test must be taken. The test is designed by the Georgia Education Department. The questions on it are all from topics covered in both biology classes. This is another reason it is important for you to attend class and participate in all activities. You stand to lose very important information when you are not present!

### **Fulton County Grading Plan**

A	<b>90 – above</b>
B	<b>80 – 89</b>
C	<b>70 – 79</b>
F	<b>69 – below</b>
W/ (1-100)	<b>Withdrew/Pass or Fail</b>
NG	<b>No Grade</b>
INC	<b>Incomplete</b>

### **Percentage Grades for Biology**

#### **Biology 1<sup>st</sup> Semester**

Class work, homework, and journals	35%
Unit projects	10%
Laboratory	25%
Tests	20%
Participation	5%
Final	5%

#### **Biology 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester**

Class work, homework, and journals	35%
Unit projects	10%
Laboratory	25%
Tests	10%
Participation	5%
EOCT	15%

## Policy on All Class Work

**Seat Work:** Will be monitored and checked daily.

**Homework:** Given once or twice a week.

**Journal:** Will be kept at school; further details explained in class

**Quizzes/Tests/Sponge Activities:** Given per unit & at teacher's discretion

**Final Exam:** All students must take and pass the final-exam!

**Internet:** **PLAGARISM ON RESEARCH for PROJECTS WILL RESULT IN 0%. NO RECOVERY!!**

**Recovery Work:** **For those students who have completed all work, but due to extenuating circumstances the student is not able to pass the course. I will provide opportunity for that student to pass the class. It is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher for recovery opportunity. The work must be completed 10 days prior to end of semester.**

## Attendance Policy

-Expected to attend class **daily**

-**Be in class BEFORE THE BELL;** after the bell, you are **TARDY!!!**

-Student responsibility to ask for missed assignments (this is only for excused absences). Xerox a copy of your excused note with appropriate contact name and numbers.

## Classroom Expectations

- **ON TIME, WITH WRITING UTENSIL**
- **SIGN – IN, GET FOLDER/SPONGE ACTIVITY, BEGIN WORKING**
- **No Book bags** are allowed in class.
- Absences: You cannot miss more than 5 days in each 60 day period.
- **ABSOLUTELY NO EATING/ DRINKING IN CLASS!**
- **ABSOLUTELY NO TALKING OR CHEATING DURING TESTS. A 0% will result.**

***You have a brain, as long as you are carrying it around, you might as well use it!***

***- Dr. Richard A. Goode***