



POMONA HIGH SCHOOL

Biology Syllabus
2009-2010



Instructor: Ms. Aquino
Classroom: 33
Office hours/Tutoring: Tues & Thurs, 3- 4pm

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Overview & Goals:

This course will explore all major aspects of biology or life science. Subtopics that will be studied include: cell biology, genetics, ecology, evolution, physiology, investigation and experimentation. By developing a deeper understanding of these important concepts, you will sharpen inquiry, observation, investigation, analysis and other valuable skills that are important in a competitive world.

This classroom will become a learning community over the course of the school year. All successful communities demand respect from their members for one another and must consistently meet many expectations in order to maximize a positive learning environment.

Classroom Expectations:

The following expectations contain classroom guidelines and policies that you must understand and follow as well as materials that you must have prepared, organized and bring to class everyday.

Classroom Rules –

1. Be Respectful to yourself & others
2. Be Prepared for class with materials & homework
3. Be On Time
4. Be Responsible for your materials & homework
5. Keep the Classroom Neat
6. Follow the School's & Classroom Rules

Consequences –

1. Warning (verbal/visual)
2. Teacher Detention
3. Call home
4. Severe: Referral to the Office
5. Parent(s) Conference

Required Materials – bring these materials to class each day

1. Pen and Sharpened Pencil with an eraser
2. Lined-Notebook Paper
3. Binder to keep materials (notes & assignments)



DAILY expectations –

Dispatch (daily warm-up) is typically questions or prompts that I will write on the board each day. You must write your answer clearly and completely in you a notebook paper designated for “Dispatches” during the first 5 minutes of each class.

Class Notes = Cornell Notes

Students are required to keep detailed notes from class lectures, discussion, and readings. This will be kept in your Biology binder. I will check your notebook periodically for completion and organization.

Class Work/ Homework (CW/HW) -

The purpose of CW & HW is to help you learn, practice and review information & skills that relate to Biology. CW/HW will vary depending on the unit: i.e. review questions, vocabulary, projects, posters, presentations, etc.

You can expect to spend roughly 30 minutes or more to complete HW assignments. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to pick up any missed assignments as soon as you return from an absence or ahead of time if you know you will be missing class. *Do not expect me to come to you!*



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Class Participation –

I will grade your participation in class by awarding you participation points. Each student will have a participation card that I will use during class. I will generally pull student cards randomly and ask for your participation. If you show effort and appropriate participation, you will receive points. Points can also be subtracted for inappropriate participation. Participation is worth 10% of your final grade. The more points you receive, the more opportunity you have to improve your overall grade. During each of these opportunities to grow, you are expected to observe the classroom rules.

GRADING POLICY:

Your Biology grade will be based on:

- ☞ Classwork/homework
- ☞ Unit Packets (notes, assignment, & dispatches)
- ☞ Participation
- ☞ Activities (projects, presentations, research, etc.)
- ☞ Lab activities & Lab Reports
- ☞ Quizzes & Exams



Grading Scale:

- A = 88.5 – 100%
- B = 78.5 – 88.4%
- C = 68.5 – 78.4%
- D = 58.5 – 68.4%
- F = 58.4% or below

✂ *Cut & return to Ms. Aquino*

Accountability Signatures

Ms. Aquino's Biology Class
2009-2010 School Year
Pomona H.S.



By signing your names below, you are indicating that you have read and understand the expectations and guidelines for this course.

Student Name (print)

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Name (print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date