

## Biology 1 and 2

Ms. Brammer; Room 910

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introductory course which investigates the various principles of biology. Emphasis will be on energy flow, biochemistry, cellular biology, and genetics along with some human genetics, human reproduction, evolution, and ecology to include a study of the bike path area near the school. This course fulfills one year towards the science requirement for graduation, and meets the UC A-G requirements.

This is a California Standards Based class. To review the state standards visit their web site at:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/>.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- \* To develop an understanding and appreciation for the science of life.
- \* To develop laboratory skills through use of standard laboratory equipment.
- \* To apply the biological concepts learned in the course to the world around, or at least to the "bike path world".
- \* To understand the importance of classroom participation.

### METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

**Lecture:** Examination material will be taken from topics covered in lecture and from your textbook chapters. A calendar of pacing, lectures, homework assignments, and exam dates for each chapter will be available prior to the beginning of the chapter on the instructor's web page. Audiovisual materials and guest speakers will be presented to emphasize certain subject matter.

Visit Ms. Brammer's web page at: <http://shaunab.info>

\* Students are expected to keep a **lecture notebook in Cornell note style** as part of class credit.

**Laboratories:** These are designed to supplement the lecture. Generally, each chapter will have a minimum of two corresponding lab activities. It is impossible to make up some labs.

**Student Support Plan:** If you have any questions please feel free to email me, or stop by room 910. I am available for students before school, at lunch, and after school.

#### A. Before instruction:

- \* Unit calendar to include:
  1. daily unit objectives, 2. homework assignments, 3. laboratory activities, 4. quizzes, and 5. exam schedule.
- \* Students have access to classroom facility before school and lunch to work on homework individually, groups
- \* Ongoing instructor assessment and revision of all curricula (all materials are instructor generated and available on the web page)
- \* Homework packets are aligned with the lectures, and textbook

#### B. During instruction:

- \* Assessment of student understanding through:
  1. regular quizzes based on daily activities such as homework assignments, assigned text reading, lab activities, and lecture notes. Students may use their lecture notes for announced quizzes.
  2. index card review (individual student response)
  3. special strategies for note taking ("*blue it's for you*")
  4. pre-lab assessment (teacher approval)
- \* Use of technology for student presentations, data analysis, and lectures
- \* Peer group activities and peer assessment
- \* Instructor models organizational skills that students incorporate into their daily classroom activities

#### C. After assessments:

- \* Students have access to classroom facility before school and lunch to work on homework individually, groups available after school (no appointment necessary)
- \* Students can correct their incomplete homework for full credit (for that day only), if it is completed during after school tutoring with instructor
- \* Regular parent contacts to encourage academic performance, punctuality, and attendance
- \* All assignments will be graded and returned within a 24-48 hour period (some exceptions may apply)
- \* Grades are posted in a timely fashion for student and parent information
- \* Students will be recognized, and rewarded for academic performance and attendance

**Text:** *Biology, An Ecological Approach*, by BSCS (this may be left at home).

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

\* Students are expected to attend class daily.

\* Assigned work is due on the designated day given. Late labs will be accepted **one day late for 90% credit.**

**In case of an absence, the assigned work is due on the day of your return. If you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to check the assignment calendar. NO LATE HOMEWORK is accepted!**

**If you are on campus you are obligated to turn in any assignment due for that day. See chapter calendars.**

\* **Tests not taken on the assigned day must be made up in class following your return. There is a penalty for habitual absences on test day – see *test avoidance in student handbook.***

**If you are on campus you are obligated to take the test or a zero will result.**

**Note:** Tests not taken on the assigned day must be made up following your return.

\* **At no time is any electronic communication device (ECD), allowed to be in use during class time without teacher approval, especially during quizzes and/or exams, or a zero will result.**

**Note:** Any person, including a pupil using an electronic listening or recording device in any classroom without prior consent of the teacher, and parents of classroom students is prohibited. *Ed. Code: 51512*

\* **Pop Quizzes may NOT be made up for any reason– attendance is critical!**

\* **Lab reports/activities and/or homework are due at the beginning of the period unless noted otherwise. If you are absent on a lab day, you must make it up the day of your return before school, at lunch, or after school only if absence is excused or a zero will result. If you are on campus you are obligated to turn in the assignment or a zero will result. There is no penalty for turning in assignments early.**

**Note:** if you are going to be absent due to a school sponsored event you have prior permission from the teacher to participate. You **MUST** take the test early, and turn the assignment in before you leave campus, or it will not be accepted for credit! (SDUSD Procedure # 4585).

\* Students **may not be able to complete** all missed assignments (e.g., “class participation” assignments can not be made up such as some pre-lab discussions, laboratory assignments, and simulations, etc.)

\* **Class Participation is an integral part of students’ learning experiences, one of the course objectives is students must attend class to *participate*. This is not a correspondence course. LESSON(S) WILL NOT BE RETAUGHT DUE TO STUDENT ABSENCE(S) OR TARDINESS.** See my web page for PowerPoint lectures and labs.

**Grading Policy:** Quizzes, labs, and homework are graded on a point system. A student's total points are divided by the total points possible in the course and converted to a percentage. See current class grades on PowerSchool. You can link via Ms. **Brammer’s web page at:** <http://shaunab.info>

<b>GRADING SCALE</b>	<b>Homework /Class Work /Participation</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>A</b> ..... 90 - 100%	<b>Labs and Laboratory Write-ups</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>B</b> ..... 80 - 89%	<b>Tests and Quizzes</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>C</b> ..... 70 - 79%	<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>10 %</b>
<b>D</b> ..... 55 - 69%	<b>Notebook</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>F</b> ..... < 54%		

**Tardiness/Late Excused (L):** Be in your seat with the required materials when the bell rings. Excessive tardiness will lower your citizenship and can eventually your academic grade! **This applies for the entire semester.**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> tardy → conference with student - no penalty
- 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> tardy → parent and counselor contact; lowered citizenship
- 7<sup>th</sup> tardy or more → U in citizenship and referral to Vice Principal

\* **NOTE: Late Excused (L) will affect your citizenship grade.**

**Unexcused Absences/Truancies/Late Excused:** Any truancy will result in a **zero for the work/exams** assigned for that particular day(s), and an automatic "U" in citizenship.

\* **Seniors:** if you wish to “walk” at Graduation Ceremony **DO NOT HAVE UNVERIFIED ABSENCES(A), TRUANCIES(Z), TARDINESS(T), or LATE EXCUSED(L)!**

**Attendance:** Class attendance is critical. Part of the student’s grade is based on daily class participation that each student earns. Class participation and attendance are tied together; therefore, class participation cannot be made up. Class participation credit averages to **0.6% for each day of the semester.** Absences can *negatively* impact your semester grade. Students **may not be able to complete** all missed assignments (e.g., “class participation”, pre-lab discussions, lab assignments, post-lab discussions, simulations, and group activities, etc.)

**I am UNABLE to sign CIS Contracts (*Independent Study Contracts*); SDUSD Procedure # 4316. “Excessive absences” (no matter the reason) in a semester can result in a “NC” (no credit); SDUSD Administrative Procedure # 4705. See chapter calendars.**

20807(a). 06/17 *Teacher’s course requirements, procedures, and practices are not limited to everything included above.*

## Academic Honesty

Please read your student handbook regarding the Academic Honesty-Integrity Policy for La Jolla High School. These school wide policies will be strictly upheld in the classroom.

### What is Academic Integrity?

**Academic integrity is a positive ideal, not a list of “don’ts”:**

*Students and faculty seeking knowledge honestly, fairly, with mutual respect and trust, and accepting responsibility for their actions and the consequences of those actions.*

Center for Academic Integrity “Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity Project” <http://www.academicintegrity.org/fundamental.asp>

### Academic Integrity Standards: Examples of Academic Dishonesty

- Copying or sharing answers during exams
- Plagiarism (deliberate)
- Altering & resubmitting graded work for credit
- Stealing others’ work
- Providing false information or excuses
- Falsifying data

### Academic Integrity Standards: Examples of Academic Misconduct

- Talking or “wandering eyes” during exams
- Having notes or other unauthorized materials visible during exam
- Failing to quote or cite sources properly
- Unauthorized collaboration
- Other behavior that undermines learning and teaching (e.g., leaving exam without permission, working after time is called)

*These acts of academic misconduct impair educational goals, violate course rules, and/or disrupt class.*

**Plagiarism is defined as:**

*“Using another’s work without giving credit. You must put others’ words in quotation marks and cite your source, and must give citations when using others’ ideas, even if paraphrased in your own words.”*

-SJA “Avoiding Plagiarism: Mastering the Art of Scholarship”

**Unauthorized Collaboration defined:**

*“Working with others without the specific permission of the instructor on assignments that will be submitted for a grade. This rule applies to in-class or take-home tests, papers, labs, or homework assignments. Students may not collaborate without faculty authorization.”*

-SJA “Unauthorized Collaboration: What Students Need to Know”

## Biology Honor Code

**I pledge to adhere to the common agreements of this class:**

- All work turned in will be my own. It will not be copied or modified from another source unless authorized and then it will be cited properly.
- When working cooperatively to complete a lab or project I will contribute equally to my group. I agree to always produce my own work in my own words.
- I will be present on testing days if at all possible.
- I will not discuss the contents of any test or quiz with classmates that have not taken it. Nor will I ask what is on a test or quiz if I have not taken it.
- This agreement is made out of respect to fellow students, my teacher, and myself.

I agree to follow La Jolla High School Academic Honesty-Integrity Policy and the Biology Code. I understand that if I fail to do so appropriate actions will occur. Typically a zero on the entire assignment for all students involved, a referral, and a U in citizenship. The second offense may also include removal from the class with an academic grade of an F and a U in citizenship for the semester.

⌘--Please cut here, retain the above for your records, and return the completed portion below to your teacher the first week of school.

Students Name Printed \_\_\_\_\_

Students Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_