

Biology 2008/2009 - Mrs. Culter

Skyline High School Office 707

(425) 837-7819

E-mail: culterc@issaquah.wednet.edu

Website: <http://www.shs.issaquah.wednet.edu/teachers/CulterC>

Welcome to Biology at Skyline High School! This course is a year long college preparatory course surveying both macrobiology (ecology) and microbiology (cellular level).

Contacting Me:

I check my e-mail multiple times during the school day, so that remains the best mode of communication. I do not answer the phone during class instruction. If you get my voice mail, leave a message and I will respond to it in a timely fashion, usually a 24 hour period.

Classroom Expectations:

There are four rules that apply to almost all situations that could arise in a classroom.

- *Respect Others* - This includes teachers, classmates, and their property
- *Be Responsible* - Be prepared with required materials and ready to learn at the beginning of the period. No food or drink is allowed in the biology classroom or lab!
- *Everyone Participates Everyday* - Active listening and a positive attitude contribute to participation
- *Challenge Yourself* - Skyline students are exceptional!

Disciplinary Consequences:

These consequences are enforced when the rules are not followed.

- *First Offense* - Student will be given a verbal or non-verbal warning.
- *Second Offense* - Student will remove himself/herself from the problem area or classroom.
- *Third Offense* - Student will fill out a Solution Map to explain how to avoid the problem in the future.
- *Fourth Offense (or any severe actions)* - Student will be given an administrative referral and parents will be contacted to discuss the behavior.

Mrs. Culter may jump to a more severe consequence based on the severity of the action!!!

Course Objectives:

By the end of Biology students will be able to:

- Analyze structural, cellular, biochemical, and genetic characteristic in order to determine the relationships among organisms.
- Understand cellular structures, their functions, and how specific genes regulate these functions.
- Understand how genetic information (DNA) in the cell is encoded at the molecular level and provides genetic continuity between generations.
- Analyze how human organ systems regulate growth, development and life functions.
- Understand how organisms, including cells, use matter and energy to sustain life and that these processes are complex, integrated, and regulated.
- Analyze the scientific evidence used to develop the theory of biological evolution and the concepts of natural selection, speciation, adaptation, and biological diversity.
- Analyze the living and nonliving factors that affect organisms in ecosystems.

Electronics:

Cell phones and mp3 players are not allowed in class. At the first offense I will take the phone away for the period. At any recurrence, the phone will be given to the administration.

Hall Passes:

Do not ask for a pass during lecture. If you need to use the bathroom during work time, I will sign your SHS agenda on that date and you may use that as a Hall Pass.

Grading:

Students' grades will be determined using the following criteria.

Tests/Quizzes 35% - Students will complete exams or quizzes approximately every two weeks to assess knowledge in the different concepts. Pop quizzes may occur at any time.

Lab Work 30% - Students are required to maintain a laboratory notebook for collecting, organizing and analyzing data.

Homework Assignments 15% - This category includes any non-laboratory assignment. Homework is due at the beginning of the period.

Professionalism/Participation 10% - Students may earn two points daily for completion of the daily warm up and positive participation. Absent students must complete the daily warm-up or they will lose the two points. The daily warm-up will be posted. Students may lose points for being tardy, off task, ignoring lab safety policies, not cleaning the lab station, being disruptive, or consuming food or beverages in class.

Written Final Exam 10% - Students will take a cumulative final exam every quarter.

Grading Scale:

A=100-93.0%	A- =92.9-90.0%	B+=89.9-87.0%
B=86.9-83.0%	B- =82.9-80.0%	C+=79.9-77.0%
C=76.9-73.0%	C- =72.9-70.0%	D+=69.9-67.0%
D=66.9-63%	D- =62.9-60.0%	F=59.9% and lower

Attendance:

Tardies - Each student is expected to quietly enter the room on time with all of their materials, including their binder, pencils, and paper. Students must be in their seats before the beginning of the period.

Absences/Make Up Work - The responsibility for making up missing work lies with the student. If a student is absent he or she shall check the class website or ask a friend. Class-only activities, such as games and discussion, will not count against students with excused absences. Unexcused absences will not receive credit for assignments due on that day.

Cheating:

ANY form of cheating will result in a failing grade and further consequences if necessary. Cheating includes: plagiarism, copying someone else's work or allowing someone to copy your work.

Cheating does not include helping another student with assignments or doing an assignment together.

Materials Required:

- Blue or black ink pens
- Pencils and eraser
- Red pen or red pencil
- 3 ring binder with loose leaf paper (recommended) or notebook and folder
- Organizer/calendar (your SHS handbook)
- Calculator
- Composition (Lab) notebook (required by date _____)
- Note template packet (required by date _____)
 - In class lectures follow a power point format. The template allows for easy organization of notes. If you would like the templates or a lab notebook from me, please pay the bookkeeper, located in the commons. She will give you a receipt. I will take that receipt as proof of payment in exchange for the packet. If you lose the receipt, you must pay the bookkeeper again! The templates are also available for printing at the class website.

Biology Course Expectations Acknowledgement

Mrs. Culter

2008-2009

Parents/Guardians, please provide some contact information for my reference. Feel free to provide only the information with which you feel comfortable. I can be contacted at (425)837-7819 or by e-mail at culterc@issquah.wednet.edu.

parent/guardian name (printed)

home phone preferred contact mode

e-mail address preferred contact mode

work phone preferred contact mode

Required Signatures and Acknowledgements:

I have read the entire course expectations package for Mrs. Culter's Biology class. I understand that this document is to be kept in the student's binder or folder for reference. I also understand that I am responsible for printing my own handouts from Mrs. Culter's website or for buying the template packet.

student's name printed

student's signature

date

parent's/guardian's signature

date