

AAC Biology Course Syllabus

Description

The design of this course is to present an in-depth analysis of biological concepts from a molecular and biochemical approach. Emphasis is placed on synthesis, evaluation, critical thinking, and laboratory and process skills.

Prerequisites

- ❖ The student possesses reading comprehension skills at a level that allows:
 - Independent identification of main ideas
 - Correlation of current information to previously studied concepts
 - Conceptual vocabulary development
 - Pre-assessment and evaluation in the form of notes, labs, and reading quizzes
- ❖ The student demonstrates prior knowledge of basic chemical principles and/or demonstrates the ability to quickly master basic chemistry concepts related to the study of Biology.
- ❖ The student produces well-written (including spelling and grammar) essay responses that involve synthesis, application and/or evaluation of concepts.
- ❖ The student establishes and maintains a pattern of study that is structured, regular, and paced.
- ❖ The student displays appropriate organizational and time management skills.

Materials Needed for Class:

- ❖ 1 Composition Book
 - 100 sheets
- ❖ #2 Pencils (mechanical or traditional)
- ❖ Colored Pencils
- ❖ Highlighters
- ❖ 1 Box of Latex or Vinyl Gloves for End of Year Dissection

Grading

Basic grading policies are based on district guidelines. The minimum number of grades (6 daily and 3 major), the weight of specific types of grades, and the grading periods are included in these guidelines. All other grading is at the discretion of the instructor. Our quizzes and tests are subject to at least one written component. We will generally have more than the minimum number of grades.

Late Work - FSMS Policy: 1 day: -10, 2 days: -20, 3 days: -30, 4+ days: 50 max

Retesting

Retesting is a privilege that is available for students making below a 75 on a major grade. In order to retest: A) the student must sign-up to take the retest before the deadline and B) the student must complete the required review assignment. After taking the retest at the scheduled time, the retest grade will replace the original test grade. The highest grade possible is a 75.

Extra Credit:

There is no requirement to give extra credit in any course. If extra credit in any form is given it will only be done if all FSMS Biology teachers are in agreement to give a form of extra credit and it will be announced at the timing and discretion of the teachers.

Resources

- ❖ Textbook: **Savvas Biology** (This is the primary reference; however, others will be used) All biology students have online access to this textbook. The app is located inside the Clever App.
- ❖ Online Resources Including, But Not Limited To:
 - **EdPuzzle** (Class Code: _____)
 - **Quizlet**

Year at a Glance

- Biomolecules and Cells
 - Cell Structure and Function
 - Biomolecules
 - Cell Transport
 - Cell Energy
- Nucleic Acids and Protein Synthesis
 - DNA vs RNA
 - Mutations
 - Protein Synthesis/Gene Expression

- Cell Cycle
 - Cell Cycle
 - Mitosis vs Meiosis
- Genetic Diversity
 - Mendelian Genetics
 - Non-Mendelian Genetics
 - Punnett Squares

- Molecular Technologies
- Evolution
 - Evidence of Common Ancestry
 - Natural Selection
 - Mechanisms of Evolution
- Interdependence within Ecosystems
 - Ecological Relationships
 - Ecosystem Stability

- Processes in Plants
 - Structure and Function
- Processes in Animals
 - Structure and Function

GPA AND ATTENDANCE FOR HIGH SCHOOL COURSES: as stated in FBISD handbook.

GPA: It is important to understand that you will not see in Skyward or Schoology the 5+ that is added to AAC high school courses, but it will show on your transcript for high school. Please reference the district handbook for a detailed explanation.

ATTENDANCE: This is a high school course! Attendance for the course each day is vital for your success. No more than 8 absences for the semester (3 tardies = 1 absence) for exemption purposes. The following recorded absences do not count as one of the 8 absences a student is allowed for exam exemptions:

- Present, but not in class (example: in the counselor's office during the period), a school sponsored curricular activity and/or extra-curricular activity
- UIL activity

TUTORIALS

Staley—Room 428

Thursdays 8:15 am to 8:45 am

McCallum—Room 430

Wednesdays 8:15-8:45 am

****FSMS has a list of private tutors for hire as well – You can check the front desk and the counselors office for that list and contact information.****