

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a yearlong survey course that covers major biological principles. Topics to be covered include scientific method and measurement, laboratory safety, biochemistry, cellular biology, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, genetics, evolution, classification, and a survey of all living organisms. Individual investigations using laboratory and scientific research will be stressed.

Online textbook website: www.classzone.com

Teacher website: www.learningtosavetheearth.com

Online EOCT practice: www.usatestprep.com

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Tests: Tests will be given at the conclusion of an area of study and will cover one to three chapters. They will be comprised of multiple choice, short answer, essay, critical thinking, problem solving, and diagramming. Test formats will be discussed in advance.

Labs: Labs will constitute about 25% of class time. In the event of an excused absence on lab day, a make-up lab or assignment may be scheduled or an exemption may be granted at the teacher's discretion.

Homework & Class work: There will be a number of these assignments throughout the semester. All assignments should not only be done completely and correctly as well. All work should be put in its proper place in your Biology Notebook.

Quizzes: There will be announced and unannounced quizzes.

Crisis Coupon: One Crisis Coupon will be issued for the semester. This coupon may be used to exempt one homework assignment as approved by the teacher. You are still responsible for knowing the content of the assignment you choose to replace. The crisis coupon will not count as extra credit at the end of the semester.

Special Projects: Throughout the course, special assignments may be given. These may take the form of projects, research papers, current events, power points, or other activities. These assignments will integrate skills such as reading, writing, creating, analyzing, evaluating, and making connections to everyday life or other disciplines. Projects can count as class work, quiz, or test grades as appropriate.

Final Exam: First Semester: A comprehensive semester exam will be given during the time scheduled by the school. The exam will count as 20% of the semester grade. Second Semester: Students will take the Georgia End of Course Test in Biology as their final exam. This is a state standardized test required of all biology students. It will count as 20% of the semester grade.

Notebooks: Students will keep a Biology Notebook. Organization will be stressed in Biology, so it is extremely important that you keep your notebook in the order stated in the "Notebook Requirements" handout.

MAKE-UP WORK:

Make-up work due to excused absence must be completed within five school days after the student returns. All make-up tests and quizzes will be scheduled at the teacher's convenience with the student having at least 24-hours notice. Field trip absences and preannounced work will be due the day the student returns. Unexcused absences will result in a grade of 0 for all work completed during the absence, including tests. In the event of an absence, check the assignment calendar on the bulletin board for make-up work. If materials, scheduling, or assistance is needed, please see your teacher. All make-up work should be placed in the make-up box located in the student station. Make-up work is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

LATE WORK:

All assignments are due on the assigned date. In the event of an excused absence, assignments are due upon the student's return to class. Late work will be accepted at 50% credit one day late. Work more than one day late will receive a zero. Turn in all late work in the box marked "late work" located in the student station.

MATERIALS NEEDED FOR CLASS (bring daily):

Quad rule (graph paper) composition lab notebook
blue or black pen
pencil
agenda

paper
3-ring binder
3 dividers

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Any attempt to obtain credit for work done by another is unacceptable, including

- cheating on tests
- copying work of others
- copying ideas or copying word-for-word from books, magazines, encyclopedias, technology media (plagiarism)
- failing to cite proper documentation or authorship
- using someone else's term paper
- or other similar activities

Cheating includes the following:

- possessing and/or using unauthorized material during quizzes, tests, and exams
- providing or accepting specific information about a class assignment, project, homework, quiz, test, or exam (example: "The essay question is ..." or "Study all the definitions on page 3.")
- sharing work product on any independent assignment (The student is responsible for understanding when assignments are to be completed independently or as a group.)

Academic dishonesty will be a discipline referral to the office and consequences will be assigned. Please note: College and scholarship applications frequently request disclosure regarding academic dishonesty.

GIFTED ELIGIBILITY:

Continued participation in gifted science requires satisfactory performance as reflected by participation, completion of assignments and the maintenance of an average of at least 85. Continued participation also requires satisfactory performance in the regular academic programs and includes an overall average of at least 80 in the academic core courses. If a student falls short of either requirement, probationary placement follows. A student has one full semester to meet continuation criteria or be withdrawn from the gifted science. Failure to meet requirements of the Continuation Policy will result in withdrawal of the student from gifted science. A student may re-enter the program by meeting all eligibility requirements as well as those of the Continuation Policy. Withdrawal and re-entry occur at semester breaks.

CLASSROOM RULES: Students are expected to follow the rules and guidelines set forth by the Student Handbook.

Students will also follow the rules and guidelines specified by the teacher in room 230. Each student is responsible for his/her own behavior. No student should interfere with the instructor's right to teach and the other students' right to learn.

Teacher detention will be given for the following: tardy to class, not participating in class, any activity that causes a class disruption, and failure to bring paper, pen/pencil, and lab notebook. Teacher detention will be from 7:55-8:15 AM. Failure to show for teacher detention will result in referral to the office.

GRADING: *Grades may be accessed through the Parent Portal of the Infinite Campus website. (www.fcboe.org)*

Tests, Research/Projects: 50%

Labs: 25%

Homework/Classwork, Quizzes: 5%

Final Exam: 20%

EXTRA HELP:

I am available for help in the mornings and afternoons unless I have other obligations. Extended help, such as with research or projects, should be scheduled in advance.

PARENT CONFERENCES: Parent conferences can be scheduled through the guidance department (770-631-3232).

You can also reach me through my e-mail address at terrell.maelee@fcboe.org or via voicemail at the main MHS number. Due to the time limitations during the school day, email communication is the most direct way to reach me. I will check and reply to email in the afternoons.

Instructions to Access Online McDougal Littell Text

1. Go to www.classzone.com
2. Choose high school biology book on left and GA on right. Choose GO
3. Choose our book.
4. Go to Sign In on upper right bar.
5. Choose Create Student Account
6. After you have created an account, try to open the eBook on the main webpage.
7. You will be asked for an activation code. Enter: 2547667-10
8. This should allow you to access your textbook from home.