**Biology Syllabus 2024-2025**

Teacher: Mr. David Wiegert

Email: david.wiegert@hcbe.net

Phone: 478-218-7537

**Course Description**

The biology curriculum is designed to continue student investigations of the life sciences that began in grades K-8 and provide students the necessary skills to be proficient in biology. This curriculum includes more abstract concepts such as the interdependence of organisms, the relationship of matter, energy, and the organization in living systems, the behavior of organisms, and biological evolution. Students will investigate biological concepts through experience and laboratories and field work using the processes of inquiry.

**Course Outline – Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE):**

SB1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to analyze the nature of the relationships between structures and functions in living cells.

SB2. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to analyze how genetic information is expressed in cells.

SB3. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to analyze how biological traits are passed on to successive generations.

SB4. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to illustrate the organization of interacting systems within single-celled and multi-celled organisms.

SB5. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to assess the interdependence of all organisms on one another and their environment.

SB6. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to assess the theory of evolution.

**Required Materials**

* 2-inch 3 ring binder (x2)
* Loose leaf notebook paper
* Pencils/Pens
* Highlighters
* Notecards

**Textbook**

Miller & Levie (2019). Biology. Boston, MA: Pearson Education (Cost: $83.18)

Students will have online access to the textbook through the SSO portal (up through end of first semester).

**Grading**

Grades will be updated weekly and available to parents and students via infinite campus. **Students and parents should check grades regularly.** This course includes a cumulative exam at the end of each semester. There will be no extra credit given during the course. The *semester average* will be determined as follows:

 Major Assessments 45%

 Minor Assessments 20%

 Daily Work 15%

 Final Assessment/EOC 20%

 **This is an EOC course!**

**Late Work Policy**

Students are expected to communicate with the teacher if work will not be turned in by a given due date. Late work will be accepted through the end of the unit. It will not be accepted once the unit is completed unless there are extenuating circumstances.

**Tutoring**

Tutoring times will be Monday and Wednesday afternoons (3:00-3:30), except for days there are scheduled meetings. Additional tutoring times can be arranged before or after school by communicating with the teacher.

**Canvas**

Canvas will be updated frequently with all notes, assignments, and additional resources. A class calendar will also be available for students to know what to expect each day of class – students should refer to the class calendar in the event of an absence. Students should be familiar with how to navigate the online platform, communicate with their teacher, and submit assignments on time. If there are technological limitations, please notify the teacher.

**Student Chromebooks**

All students are issued a district-provided Chromebook for instructional purposes, student engagement, and student learning. Chromebook use is at the direction and discretion of the classroom teacher.

**Honor Code**

The academic integrity of courses at VHS is of the utmost importance; as such, cheating or academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. If a student cheats or plagiarizes on any assessment, the result is a zero as a placeholder until the student has had the opportunity to demonstrate learning on an alternate assignment; the teacher must make parent contact. If cheating or plagiarism occurs on a major assessment, the student should be referred to an administrator for review. Cheating or plagiarism on a major assessment will also result in alternative discipline or in-school suspension. The ISS assignment will be progressively graduated if it is a repeated offense.

**VHS Retesting Policy**

Students may re-take two major assessments per semester, after completing test corrections and/or tutoring/remediation, except for county math requirements. No re-testing is allowed in AP courses. Additionally, a re-test cannot replace a zero for a task never initially completed.

**Classroom Rules**

1. BE READY
* Arrive on time.
* Actively participate in class discussions and labs.
1. BE RESPONSIBLE
* Bring all necessary supplies and materials to class every day.
* Take care of classroom/school property.
1. BE RESEPCTFUL
* Treat everyone with respect.
* Be polite to the teacher and your classmates.
* Food and drink are not permitted in the classroom (except water in a closed container).

**\*\*Students are expected to follow the VHS Student Code of Conduct at all times.\*\***

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**Attendance**

* Students should make every effort to be in class each day. If absent, please communicate with the teacher as soon as possible. The class calendar in Canvas will be the best resource to know what work was missed. Additional copies of worksheets will always be available in the biology crate.
* If a test is missed, it is the student’s responsibility to schedule a day to make-up the test within 5 school days. If a lab is missed, it will be the teacher’s discretion if an alternate assignment or make-up lab is provided.
* Students have 5 minutes to get from class to class; please use this time wisely. **If you are not in the classroom when the bell rings, you will be marked tardy.**
* Students will not be allowed to go to the bathroom the first or last 10 minutes of class or during lecture/notetaking time.

**Minor disruptions/infractions progressive discipline system:**

1st offense – Verbal warning and conference with student

2nd offense – Written warning sent to parent/guardian (text or email)

3rd offense – Detention in Mr. Wiegert’s classroom (3:00-3:15)

4th offense – Office Referral

**\*Major disruptions/infractions will result in an immediate office referral.\***

**Please return this page to Mr. Wiegert no later than Friday, August 2, 2024.**

 **Student Name Printed Class Period**

**Lab Safety Contract**

**General Lab Safety Rules**

* Follow all written and verbal instructions as provided.
* Always wear proper eye/clothing protection.
* Conduct yourself in a responsible and safe manner in the laboratory environment.
* Be knowledgeable of equipment, safety symbols, and techniques required for each lab.
* Know where/how to get help in an emergency, including the location of the first aid, eye wash, fire extinguisher, and fire blanket.

**Students must pass a lab safety quiz with an 80 or higher to be permitted to participate in lab activities.**

 **Student Signature Date**

**Parent Acknowledgement**

I have read the information provided in the course syllabus and understand the policies, procedures, and expectations. I will support my teachers efforts to ensure my student is successful in this class. I acknowledge that my student must abide by the lab safety rules as outlined above and any others provided by the teacher. I have contact information to communicate with the teacher if needed:

 Email: david.wiegert@hcbe.net Phone: 478-218-7537

 **Parent Name Printed Parent Phone Number**

 **Parent Signature Date**

**Parent Email**