

Class: 9th Grade General Biology

Teacher: Mr. Chris Pughsley

Room: 302 (Freshman Hall)

Method of Communication: Phone: 365-8804; Email: (christopher.pughsley@acboe.net) By calling the phone number listed, conferences can be scheduled before school, during planning period (6th period, 1:13-2:03pm M, Thr, Fri or Tues 1:33 to 3:00pm) or after school. Also parents can leave a message with the secretary.

Description of Class: The purpose of this class is to learn the basics of biology. Biology is the study of life. We will start with micro processes (macromolecules, cells, cell division, DNA) and then go to macro processes (ecology, biomes, evolution.)

Text: Our textbooks are in their 5th year of use. Each student should get his/her own textbook shortly after classes begin. Textbooks will be posted on Schoology. If a student wants a textbook to check out, I will check one out to him/her.

Materials:

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| - \$15 dollar lab fee | - 1 roll of paper towels |
| - 2 composition books ** | - 1 box of Kleenex |
| - 2 pencils or pens ** | - 1 ream of copy paper |
| - regular headphones with 3.5mm jack ** | - scientific calculator (← preferred) (basic calculator ok) ** |
| - Lysol Wipes ← wish list | - a bottle of Germ-X ← wish list |

** Items designated with a star should be brought daily. Students should at least have a composition book, 2 pencils, a calculator for class no later than one week after classes begin. Also if a student cannot get the items listed or cannot afford them, please see the teacher and arrangements will be made.

Rules and Consequences: A set of classroom rules and consequences are necessary to provide a good, safe learning environment. The classroom rules are as listed: 1.) Respect -Honor 2.) Be on Time 3.) Be Seated 4.) Be Quiet 5.) Be Prepared 6.) Follow Instructions. Failure to comply with these rules will result in negative consequences. The consequences vary; they include everything from staying after class, loss of privileges (Lion Period detention, silent lunch) after-school detention, parent phone calls/ conferences, office referral, etc... All these consequences will be utilized fully in order to ensure the best educational environment for all students.

Cell Phones: CELL PHONES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BE USED OR EVEN VISIBLE UNLESS DESIGNATED BY THE TEACHER; Students using phones or with them out without permission will be subject to disciplinary action.

Make-up Work/ Absentee Work Policy: When out-of-school students must bring a note to the attendance office citing their reason for absence. Unexcused absences will result in a 0. If it is an excused absence, students will still receive a 0 for work missed until they make up the work. After the student returns, the student will have the responsibility to get the make up work and to set a time for it to be complete (max two weeks). Make-up work students are to see me at the end of class, during class breaks, during my planning period, or after school, NOT DURING CLASS. WE WILL WORK EVERY SINGLE SCHOOL DAY SO A STUDENT SHOULD NOT BE OUT UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY OTHERWISE HE/SHE WILL MISS LOTS OF INSTRUCTION AND WILL GET BEHIND.

Grading System: Grades are important to me, but NOT as important as learning. Students who learn the content will do well; students who do not learn the content will not do well. Grades are based on the learning of the content-standards of the class. An “A” means a student really understands the content-standards. A “D” means that the student has the minimal understanding of the standards to be considered passing. “F” means that they do NOT have adequate understanding of the standards. Grades in *Power School* will be considered the correct grades, not the grades in Schoology.

Category	Value	Description
Minor Grades	45%	Quizzes, Daily Participation grades, activities-labs, notebook checks. Student participation will be graded daily based on the size of the assignment, student effort, and correctness. Participation may also include exit slips and actively participating in class Together these grades will add up to a quiz grade every three weeks. ACT practice passages will be included as participation. Quizzes on the content will also be given regularly.
Tests	55%	3-4 different tests will be given every 9 weeks. Chapter/unit tests will be given regularly. All chapter tests will fall into this category. Any projects will fall into this category. Tests will sometimes be weighted differently. Tests on chapters and/or standards will count as two test grades. Mini-tests on content that support the chapters and/or standards will count as only one test grade. All test material will be reviewed, and all test dates will be announced in advance. Any questions about any of these grading policies, please call me or email me. Most tests I will give a study guide for students to complete to prepare. I usually give it about a week in advance.

A comprehensive mid-term and final exam will also be given. These tests combined will not count as part of the 9 weeks grade but 20% of the overall grade (10% each). Each nine weeks grade will count as 40% each.

Ways of Staying up-to-date: Students will receive a printed progress report about once every 2-3 weeks. Parents and students can also find the student’s current averages in their classes, their attendance, homework, and what topics are being covered in class at home or at work through the internet by a program called *Power Schools for Parents*. Power Schools information on username and passwords will be sent home soon after school starts. For more info. call the school.

ParentSquare and StudentSquare: Parents and students can receive reminders and announcements through Parent Square and Student Square. Make sure your school information especially with phone numbers is up-to-date with the school. Get the app and stay updated.

Standards Recovery/ Late Work-Missing Assignment: When a student does not turn in an assignment, he/she will still be allowed to complete the assignment for a late grade with a maximum score of a 70 that they can earn on it. If a student performs poorly on a test or quiz, remedial efforts will be made to help student relearn the concept and then to get to retake so that he/she should likely perform better. Yet remedial work will also only receive a maximum of a 70 for a grade.

Notebook: Students will keep a composition notebook for many of their assignments. A table of contents will be kept in the classroom. Students need to keep their notebook up-to-date. There will be a notebook test/quiz at least once per nine weeks. Students will glue, tape, or staple in handouts or contents. Virtual students will just reference the handout on the table of contents.

Tutoring: Tutoring will be every Mon. and Thurs. after school from 3:05 to 4:05. No appointment necessary, just show up.

Conclusion: I sincerely want your child to succeed and do well, and I know that your child and you want the same thing. So let’s work together to accomplish just that. I am willing to help in anyway that I can. If you need any assistance or have any questions, please let me know.

Mr. Chris Pughsley, Science Teacher

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Name of the Student: _____ Period: _____

I have read and understood Mr. Pughsley’s rules, procedures, etc.... for Biology
 _____ student’s signature

_____ parent’s or guardian’s signature date: _____ Work # _____

Parents’ Email: _____ Cell # _____

Check this box if you would like a textbook to be checked out to your child. Although, textbooks can be accessed on Schoology. If so, the textbook should be kept at home. We already have a classroom set.

Other Notes or important information: