Biology I

2017-2018

Mrs. Kaitlyn Prekrel

Room # C-6

prekrelk@dcpsmd.org

Phone Number:
Ext. 1561

Course Description

Biology I is a course designed to present students with a molecular and cellular evolutionary view of life on earth. Students explore and discover principles that may be in operation universally that cause life forms to arise, prosper, and change in any appropriate environment. Biological concepts explain the uniqueness and interdependence of living organisms, their interactions with the environment, and the continuation of life on earth. The course prepares students for the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment which is required for graduation. STEM concepts and practices are embedded in this course.

9th grade students taking this course with have an additional component including the midshore river keepers.

Course Requirements

Students will be required to take the MISA assessment at the end of the course. A hard working and positive attitude.

Text/Resources

SEPUP. (2016). **Science and Global Issues: Biology**, 2nd edition. The Lawrence Hall of Science, University of California, Berkeley Published by LAB-AIDS®, Inc., Ronkonkama, NY

INSTRUCTIONS TO ACCESS THE LAB-AIDS STUDENT ONLINE BOOKSHELF:

1. Start at: **lab-aids.com**
2. At the top of the homepage, select the "Login" pull-down menu and choose "Student"
3. This will redirect you to the bookshelf login
    1. Enter your USERNAME and PASSWORD *(Case Sensitive)*
    2. Select *Remember login* if you would like it log you in automatically when you return
4. This will bring you to your customized bookshelf

You have access to: Science and Global Issues: Biology (2nd Edition)

***** Using the curriculum PORTAL will give you access to the most resources*****

Your login information: *(PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOUR USERNAME/PASSWORD IS CASE SENSITIVE)*
USERNAME: ndorchester1
PASSWORD: eagles1

UNITS OF STUDY

- **Sustainability**
- **Ecology: Living on Earth**
- **Cell Biology: World Health**
- **Genetics: Feeding the World**
- **Evolution: Maintaining Diversit**

Required Materials:

- 2in, 3 Ring Binder
  - It is suggested that you use a three-ring binder divided into at least four sections for this class: notes, classwork/homework, quizzes and labs.
- Folder with pockets (optional)
- College Rule Notebook (optional)
- **pencil / pen (Blue or black ink only)**
- loose leaf paper binder paper

Grading Policy

Categories	**Percent of Total Term Grade**	
Summative	70%	*Summative Tests 45%* *Summative Quizzes 25%*
Formative	30%	*Formative Classwork/Homework 15%* *Formative Labs/Projects 15%*
Please refer to the county calendar for a complete explanation of this year's grading policy.		

Components of Course Grade calculations							
	Q1	**Q2**	**Midterm Exam**	**Q3**	**Q4**	**Final Exam**	**Course Grade**
Percentage	45%	45%	10%	45%	45%	10%	
	Semester 1 (S1)			*Semester 2 (S2)*			
Y1	50%			50%			100%

Grade sheets will be printed and given to students upon student(s) request. All graded work must be retained for a *minimum* of two weeks after it is returned to guarantee that grades entered in the grade book are accurate. Checking grades are the responsibility of the student, and any appeals to published grades must be accompanied by the work in question. Any questions outside of school hours can be directed to the teacher email listed above or a message left to my school voicemail. *It is advisable that you retain papers for the duration of the semester to assist in studying for cumulative quizzes and the final exam*.

MAKE-UP WORK

Make-up work can be completed for excused absences *only* as outlined in the student handbook. It is the student's responsibility to obtain make-up work from the teacher. Once you receive the work from your teacher, your work will be due within the time allowed in the student handbook. Work for unexcused absences will not be accepted and will be given a grade of 0. See Your Student handbook and the instructor for any additional questions.

Classroom Rules and Expectations

- Be prepared and punctual everyday; tardiness will not be tolerated
- **RESPECT OTHERS, MYSELF AND YOURSELF;** attend to personal needs prior to class, address others, myself and yourself with respect and dignity.
- Impolite and unnecessary behavior will NOT be tolerated! Only Positive minds, comments and people!
- **Abide by all schools rules and policies including cheating;** *CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND IS INEXCUSIBLE AND WILL BE DEALT WITH ACCORDING TO THE STUDENT HANDBOOK.*
- Cell Phone and technology use is **NOT** tolerated within the classroom, during instruction o(see student handbook**) unless otherwise noted by the teacher for instructional purposes. See objective board for your stop light signals!**
    - **Red- no use of phones at all today**
    - **Yellow- some use of phones, wait for teacher prompting**
    - **Green- using phones all day! Wait for teacher prompting**

Group Discussion Rules:

- Speak when called upon or asked to respond
- Think kindly before speaking
- Discuss ideas, not attack people
- Always back up statements
- Direct comments at the group only not at individuals
- Refrain from side conversations while others are speaking

Consequences for Breaking Classroom Rules:

- Warning (verbal and nonverbal)
- "Time Out"/ "Breather"
- Call/contact home
- Lunch detention

- After school detention
- Write up/asked to leave classroom

Certain behaviors may warrant the immediate dismissal of a student(s) from the classroom immediately at the teachers discretion in regards to the safety of the class and to remain focused on instructional minutes. *

Classroom Procedures:

1. Entering the Classroom

- Enter the room quietly and sit in your assigned seat with all required materials; everyday!

- Get out your Warm-Up Paper and begin to copy the assignment posed on the front board

- Work on warm-up until the teacher signals to begin class with the review of the class objectives and to do list.

2. Retrieving Absent Work and Graded Work

- **IF YOU ARE AWARE THAT YOU WILL BE ABSENT, ESPECIALLY FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME, PLEASE ALERT THE TEACHER NO LESS THAN 48 HOURS BEFORE THE ANTICIPATED ABSENCE IN ORDER TO COLLECT WORK FOR THE STUDENTS**

- When returning, before beginning any warm-up activity, go to the designated corner in the classroom for missed work, find the folder marked with the date of the month you were absent, find the work with your name on it, retrieve it and return to your assigned seat.

- THIS IS ALSO THE BIN TO COLLECT GRADED WORK THAT IS BEING RETURNED TO YOU. If you do not pick up graded work by the end of the month (teacher will provide warning and reminders) work will be collected by the teacher and disposed of properly.

- Make-up work will be accepted and graded according to the timeline specified within the student handbook.

- IF, you need to make-up a lab activity, test, quiz, etc. YOU WILL NEED TO SCHEDULE TIME TO MEET WITH THE TEACHER AFTER SCHOOL TO COMPLETE THE ASSIGNMENT OR THE ALTERNATE ASSINGMENT.

- Any work (formative or summative) not turned in by the next summative assessment will remain a ZERO NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!!!!!!

- Picking up, making up and turning in absent work is on the responsibility of the students; which includes getting notes and materials missed in class. IT is the students responsibility to ask for guidance and support in completing make-up assignments within the designated timeline. *ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING MAKE-UP WORK WILL BE ADDRESSED AFTER CLASS BEGINS, IN THE MORNINGS BEFORE HOMEROOM, OR AFTERSCHOOL; NOT DURING INSTRUCITONAL TIME!!*

3. Turning in work

- On my desk you will see a sign that reads, Mrs. Prekrel's Mailbox".

- At the beginning of the period, when you enter the room, before you begin your warm-up, you are to place any and all homework assignments, make-up work etc. in the mailbox BEFORE I CALL CLASS TO ORDER! NOT WHILE I AM TALKING AND TEACHING!!!

- As you finish work within the class period, you are encouraged and will be reminded to be sure to turn all work into the mailbox.

- REMEMBER, PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME, PERIOD AND DATE ON ALL ASSINGMENTS! **NO NAME, NO GRADE! NO EXCEPTIONS**!

4. Lab and Group Activities

- When there is a lab or activity planned, you MUST attentively listen to the teacher's directions before beginning. YOU WILL NOT BEGIN UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO!

- You will work with you assigned lab group to your assigned lab area with your assigned lab materials. You will NOT pick or changed group unless specified by the teacher.

- THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO HORESPLAY DURING ANY LAB OR GROUP ACTIVITY! NO CELLL PHONES, NOT EATING AND NO STEALING OF ANY LAB OR ACTIVITY MATERIALS! This type of behavior is not tolerated and you will be asked to leave with disciplinary repercussions to follow.

- You will work until you receive the signal to clean up.

- You WILL clean up you area or you will NOT be permitted to leave until all has been returned and cleaned up.

- If at any point during the activity or lab you need to leave, please consult the teacher IMMEDIATELY!

5. **Leaving the Classroom**

- Once the last activity is done, listen attentively for the teacher's instructions for closing the period including an exit questions, homework, assignments, and up coming dates to remember. If you do NOT complete the closing activity, you will NOT be permitted to make-up the activity.

- YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO EXIT THE CLASSROOM UNTIL FORMALLY DISMISSED BY THE TEACHER!

6. Activity Transitions

- Before beginning ANY group or hands on activity or collaborative work, you WILL listen to the teacher's instruction FIRST, QUIETLY! Do NOT move from your seats until directed by the teacher.

- Once directions are received, you will be directed to move to your designated area, retrieve materials etc. You MUST walk quietly and respectfully about the classroom. ANY misconduct will result in automatic removal from the activity and if needed the classroom.

- When it is time to transition or the teacher has an announcement to make, the teacher will signal the class using a timer, a bell or a verbal signal. When you hear the signal, STOP ALL THAT YOU ARE DOING, AND QUIETLY LISTEN FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

- When the activity is over, the teacher will sound the final warning and ask you to clean up, move quietly back to your assigned seats and prepare for the next activity or end of class.

7. Restroom Breaks, Lockers, Nurse etc.

- If you need to use the restroom, go to your locker or go to the nurse, please DO NOT ASK TO LEAVE DURING THE FIRST 10 MINUTES OR THE LAST 10 MINUTES OF CLASS. That is a school policy.

- Please ask respectfully during a break in instruction if you need to leave and you will be given permission; upon emergency only! Otherwise, please use the restroom before class!!!! Do NOT ask during instructions! Please raise your hand!

- PLEASE SIGN OUT ON THE SIGN OUT SHEET WITH BINDER! Include your name, the time in and out, the date and your destination. Take my hall pass and leave quietly.

- When you return, return my hall pass and sign back in.

- Any student gone for any lengthy period of time(up to the teachers discretion) will be considered cutting class and will be issued a cut slip along with further disciplinary action such as a detention etc.

8. Emergency Procedures

- Posted on the classroom walls are copies of the emergency procedures plans.
- The teacher will have a class copy of the emergency procedures and drills.
- The students will receive additional copy of laboratory safety procedures and rules.
- When exiting the building in an emergency, students are expected to remain orderly, quiet and respectful and transitioning to the classes safety zone.
- Students are to follow all school rules and expectations regarding emergency drills!

***** please sign and date the contract below stating you have read the syllabus and understand all classroom rules, procedures etc.*****

SOME ADVICE

This class is *challenging*. To do well you must focus, pay strict attention, use your higher order thinking skills, take good notes, use your curiosity and **STUDY every night!** Vocabulary and other memorization can be best handled with the use of your text, handouts, notes, graded quizzes and by drilling with flash cards. This course will require team work, collaboration and an open mind!! We will work hard for the next 180 everyday! Organization is key! Use your binders to store all your materials from in class work, to homework and for summative assessments! A picture is worth a thousand words. So draw and redraw diagrams to clarify and practice processes or concepts. If you have questions or difficulty understanding anything, *please* ask me to explain. First and foremost, *I am here to help*.

It is my hope that you will learn many interesting things, challenge yourself, grow as a person and to come away from this course enriched and prepared to do well on the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment! Bring your best foot forward and a positive mentality! Let's have a great year! It's Science time!! ☺

"Truth is the drive at the center of science:
it must have the habit of truth, not as a dogma but as a process."
~J. Bronowski

I, _____, have read the attached rules and procedures and understand my responsibilities as a student and will adhere to the policies to the best of my ability to ensure an environment that is conducive for learning for all students. I am aware of the expectations of this course.

Student Signature_____
Parent/Guardian Signature_____
Date_____

This receipt is to acknowledge that I have read the attached packet of information with my student(s), provided to me by Mrs. Prekrel, that I understand my support is necessary for the success of my child in Biology this academic school year.

Parent/Guardian Signature_____
Student Signature_____
Date_____