

Mr. Morris  
Room 310  
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## Biology

### Topics Covered

We will cover biology topics that match the Nebraska State Science Assessments. They are:

Traits (SC.HS.6.1, SC.HS.9.4)  
Life in Ecosystems (SC.HS.8.3, SC.HS.14.4, SC.HS.15.5)  
Changes in Ecosystems (SC.HS.7.2, SC.HS.14.4, SC.HS.15.5)  
Earth History (SC.HS.14.4)  
Evolution/Classification (SC.HS.10.5)  
Environmental & Survival (SC.HS.7.2, SC.HS.10.5, SC.HS.15.5 )  
Systems & Homeostasis (SC.HS.6.1)

For further detail see Course Curriculum

### Expectations

Be Responsible, Respectful, and Resourceful

### Consequences

Student Support System

### Grading

The weights of grades are as follows:

Assignments – 20%  
Projects – 10%  
Lab – 20%  
Quiz – 15%  
Tests – 30%  
Participation Points – 5%

### Participation & Work

- Each week you will receive 10 participation points.
- Expect the occasional homework quiz: HW turned in ~40%, HW quiz ~60%
- **Late Work** – Assignments turned in within 2 days have a 10% deduction. Work turned in after that will have a 50% deduction. Work that is in your car, at home, or in your locker is treated as late work. Late assignments will be graded on Wednesdays.
- You will have 2 Late Assignments passes (no late points taken off) a semester.
- You must show work to receive credit on assignments.
  
- **Extra Credit** - There may be extra credit available from time to time, however I expect you to do well on what is done under the normal curriculum. Please do not ask for extra credit. Take advantage of the opportunities I give to you to improve your grade throughout the year.
  - Figure It Out Friday (Friday Challenges) – 3pts/Challenge

### **Testing**

- During quizzes and tests, no talking is allowed. Please raise your hand to get my attention if you have a question.
- Any talking and/or cheating during tests/quizzes will result in a 0 for the test/quiz.
- You are not allowed to leave the classroom during a test/quiz.

### **Labs**

- Follow all safety precautions.
- At the end of the period (~5 minutes left) groups should start picking up their work area. All equipment is to be cleaned and returned to its rightful spot and work area should be clean before leaving the class. Failure to do so will result in loss of participation points.

### **Note Taking**

Mostly Guided Notes

Why is note taking essential to understanding of biology?

### **Science Notebook**

You are required to bring and maintain a science notebook. ANY and ALL papers passed out in class need to be kept in the notebook. I will pick them up periodically to make sure you are keeping a record of your work. Not only will this notebook help your grade, but it will also keep you organized and ensure you get credit for all work you turn in. There have been situations where an assignment does not get recorded correctly in PowerSchool. If you keep the graded assignment, I can easily and quickly fix the problem. Without the copy, it becomes more difficult to correct mistakes.

### **Contact**

If you are having trouble in class, PLEASE come get help and/or talk to me about what can be done to get you on track. Please make an appointment to ensure I am in the room at that time. I am also available before school (8:00 AM), student prep, and after school until 4:00 PM. There is also e-mail, which I check multiple times throughout the day and can usually answer most questions this way.