

## Biology Syllabus – Dakota Junior/Senior High School

**Course Title:** Biology

**Course Description:** This course is a study of the details of biology. This includes the processes that occur at the chemical level (photosynthesis and cellular respiration, etc.) as well as those that are easily seen to the naked eye (ecology etc.). In this course expect to learn how to write lab reports and how to learn complex processes of biology through application

**Teacher:** April Coaty

Bachelor of Science from Northern Illinois University

Major- Biology, Secondary Education

Minor – Chemistry

**Materials:** A spiral notebook designated for Biology  
Something to write with (you *may borrow from me, but I need it back*)  
Textbook (you never know when you may need it)  
Any other materials I ask you to bring in throughout the year

| Outline of Course (we may go faster or slower depending on how quickly the class understands material) |  |
|--|--|
| <i>1<sup>st</sup> Grading Period –</i>   | <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Grading Period –</i> |
| What is Science?   | Organelles                             |
| Chemistry behind the Science   | Photosynthesis                         |
| Macromolecules   | Cellular Respiration                   |
| <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Grading Period –</i>   | <i>4<sup>th</sup> Grading Period –</i> |
| DNA  | Classification                         |
| RNA and gene expression  | Ecology                                |
| Genetics   |  |

**Assessment Types:** Most assessments will be announced chapter tests. Do expect some pop quizzes.

**Standardized Testing Preparation:** As a part of this course, you will be asked to complete practice ACT questions every week. These questions are part of your grade.

## Grading Scale and Policy:

### Grades are weighted as follows:

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Tests and Tier 2 assignments:                         | 70% |
| Science Notebook and Tier 1 assignments, lab reports: | 20% |
| Being on time and Participation                       | 10% |

### Numerical Scale Reporting Grade

90-100 A

80-89 B

79-70 C

69-60 D

59-0 F

\*It should be noted that being on time and participation in class are important and are counted as part of the points to be earned in a class.

### Types of Assignments:

You will have two types of assignments: Tier 1 and Tier 2.

Tier 1: Daily homework and questions in the science notebook.

This means you can turn these assignments in late... however a 10% reduction will occur for turning in the assignment one day late. A 50% reduction will occur for any more than 1 day late.

Tier 2: Any assignment that is a presentation or we have worked on in class more than one day.

These assignments cannot be turned in late and will go in as a zero.

**Tutorials:** If there are 3 missing assignments at any point during the quarter, you will be given a tutorial slip and will stay in tutorial until all 3 of the missing assignments are turned in or the end of the quarter is reached. This means that an assignment/test from first quarter cannot be turned in after the first quarter is finished.

**Test Retakes:** Failing tests is not an option. If you fail a test, you must do make up work of the teacher's choosing. Once you have completed this, a make-up test will be granted. You have until the end of that grading period to retake your test. If you do not make up the test by that time, the test grade will not be changed. It is to your advantage to make it up as soon as possible.

Optional retakes for non-F tests. If you want to retake a test and you did not fail it, you can. You must do the make up work and complete the retake by the end of the quarter. Don't make this a cop-out. Studying for tests is important and blowing off a test just because you can retake it will not help you. Remember, in college, there are no retakes.

**Edline:** You and your parents should monitor your grades regularly by accessing Edline. I will update this every Thursday afternoon.

**Things you need to know:**

- You may call me Ms. Coaty or Ms. Coat. If you address me in a different manner it will be considered disrespectful and you will receive a teacher's detention.
- You can leave my room for two reasons: to go to the bathroom and to see another teacher.
  - If you go to the bathroom you have to be back in 5 minutes or less or I will assume you got lost. Along with this: only one person can leave my classroom at a time.
  - If you need to see a teacher during my class, make sure you have a pass from that teacher. If we don't have time for you to leave, you won't leave.
- **Tardies:** late to my class two times and you receive a teacher's detention. Late again, you get to spend a half hour with me. Late again? You get to talk to the office about that.
- The tables, gas valves and sinks are off limits unless we are using them in lab, if you decide that you have to touch them outside of that we will have detentions. The gas button in the front of the class is off limits, everyone can hear it when it goes off and we don't need to break something that could save our lives.
- If you have a phone, I will see it and take it. It will then go to the office for later retrieval. Don't have it out.

**Discipline plan:**

Discipline problems are dealt with on a as needed basis. If there are problems that arise in the class, the following format will be used:

First offense: verbal warning

Second offense: teacher's detention

Third offense: office referral

Fourth offense: sent directly to the office

**Format for science notebook:** there will be a certain format for you to receive all the points for your science notebook:

There will be questions on the board every class period; you have 5 minutes to answer them in the following format:

Date:

Class:

Write the answer to the question in a complete sentence.

Example:

Question on the board reads: What is DNA? Where do we find it in cells?

Date: August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Class: Bio 1<sup>st</sup> hr

DNA is short for deoxyribonucleic acid. DNA is found in the nucleus of a cell.

**Absences:** If you are absent you are responsible for getting your make up work. Daily questions will be printed out and placed in the Daily Question folder in the front. Any other work will be provided in the make up folder in the front of the room; notes should be copied from a classmate.

**Contact Information:** E-mail: [acoaty@dakota201.com](mailto:acoaty@dakota201.com) Phone: (815) 449-2832 ext. 112

This syllabus is a tentative outline of this course and may be changed as deemed necessary by the instructor.

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I have read and understand the syllabus for Ms. Coaty's science class.

\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date