**Biology I Syllabus and Expectations 2022-23**

**Biology Department, Helena High School**

**Teacher**

Jamie O’Malley

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**Course Description**

Biology I is a survey course for sophomores which requires hands-on lab investigations, teamwork, and a curiosity for the way living things work. Over the course of the year, we will cover life science topics including the nature of science, ecology, biochemistry, cells, genetics, evolution, and the classification of organisms from microbes to complex animals.

**Bio I Scope and Sequence 2022-23**

**Fall Semester Spring Semester**

Unit 1 – Nature of Science Unit 4— Cell Structure and Function

Unit 2— Ecology Unit 5— Genetics and Heredity

Unit 3— Biochemistry and Microbes Unit 6 – Evolution and Classification

**Notice: Human Sexuality Instruction**

In Biology class we will be discussing sexual and asexual reproduction in all living things.

**Textbooks and Resources**

* Miller, Kenneth R., and Joseph S. Levine. Miller & Levine Biology. Boston: Pearson, 2010. Print.
* CK-12 Biology for High School FlexBook® <https://flexbooks.ck12.org/cbook/ck-12-biology-flexbook-2.0/>
* InquiryHub Biology. University of Colorado Boulder. <https://www.colorado.edu/program/inquiryhub/curricula/inquiryhub-biology>

**Materials and Supplies** The following materials are required for each student.

* Charged computer
* Computer charger (You may want a battery bank or portable charging device)
* Pencils
* Notebook specific to biology class (I will occasionally collect these and keep them for a few days)
* Folder to store biology papers

**Teacher Responsibilities**

* Provide lessons that meet various learning styles to improve understanding, knowledge, and critical thinking abilities.
* Provide feedback on assignments and update grades regularly in PowerSchool.
* Respond promptly to questions (within 24 hours on weekdays) and provide office hours daily for student interactions online and in person (2:20-2:50).

**Student Responsibilities**
Each student and guardian should read this syllabus and the Academic Integrity document, which is posted on the Helena High Website and linked to this document. Please submit after reading to indicate understanding of classroom expectations.

* **Be a graduate!** Earn a High School diploma. Once credits are complete take classes that interest you. These classes will help increase your chances of success, your knowledge, and may provide ideas for future professions and/or hobbies.
* **Be Involved!** Actively participate in class, clubs and/or activity, and volunteer in the community. I know this is difficult this year but try to be as involved as possible.
* **Be Respectful!** Be a positive role model by modeling kindness and acceptance. Treat each other, the teacher, classroom materials, other school personnel, and technology with respect.
* **Be Responsible!** Bring class materials each day. Be in your assigned seat BEFORE the bell rings. Have your pencil, biology notebook, and computer on your desk, and backpack under the desk. Once seated login to the Microsoft Teams page unless directed otherwise. Engage in each activity to help improve ALL styles of learning and understand the content.

**Parent/Guardian Responsibilities** Research shows that engaging in your child’s education improves student achievement, behavior, attendance, and graduation rates! Ask your student what they are learning at school. Contact me to discuss any issues with your child’s education. If your child is going through stress or a challenging time, please make the school counselor and/or teachers aware so we can better work with your child. Ask your student for their Teams password to access all weekly schedules and assignments.

**Grading**
The grading scale is as follows: A: 90-100%; B-80-89%; C: 70-79%; D: 60-69% F: below 60%.
The semester grade will be calculated as follows Quarter 1 (40%), Q2 (40%) and final exam (20%). Students must pass both quarters to earn a passing grade in Biology.
Based on daily work, quizzes, tests, projects, labs, and written assignments.
Assignments that are **less than one week late** may receive up to **70% of the assignment score (C-)**. Assignments that are **greater than one week late** will receive **50% of the assignment score (F)**. Once a new unit begins, assignments from the previous unit will not be accepted; however, students are still required to understand the content. Grades will be updated in Powerschool weekly.

**Absences**

If you are **absent** check Teams and continue the daily lesson. Please contact teacher if an extension is needed. School related absences must be completed on schedule. Assignments are also available in the classroom “Absent Work” folders by the door. It is your responsibility to check what assignments you missed when you were absent.

**Classroom Laboratory Safety**

Please follow the following safety requirements for all science lab activities.

* Prepare for each lab according to the teacher’s directions. (Listen carefully, read pre-lab and directions, etc.)
* Review all safety precautions prior to beginning any activity. If you do not understand these requirements, ask for clarification.
* Remain at YOUR lab station, except to gather materials. Wandering to other areas in the room is not allowed.
* No Horseplay! Any horseplay (including wandering around the classroom during labs) will result in a zero for that day’s lab activity, detention, and removal for the classroom. More than one offense may result in removal from all laboratory activities and removal from the classroom until a parent/guardian meeting is completed.
* Long hair should be tied back. Keep hair ties in your backpack.
* Hanging necklaces, heavy jewelry, and baggy clothes should not be worn during labs. Closed-toed shoes will be required.
* Backpacks should be under the desk each day in the classroom, including during labs.
* FOOD AND BEVERAGES ARE NOT PERMITTED IN ANY SCIENCE CLASSROOM AT ANY TIME. Lunch and nutrition break are the only exceptions. Before lunch begins desks should be cleaned and hands should be washed or sanitized.
* Never taste or smell any lab materials or chemicals!
* Before leaving the lab area clean up materials thoroughly and sanitize equipment (microscopes, scales, etc.).
* Know locations of eyewash, sinks, emergency gas shut off, fire blanket, and other safety equipment.
* ALL accidents and spills should be reported to the teacher immediately.

**Academic Integrity**
Please follow the [link](https://hhs.helenaschools.org/departments/academic-integrity-policy-at-helena-high-school/) to the Helena High webpage to find and read the HHS Academic Integrity Document. We have approximately 180 days together to teach and learn about biology. Please use them to increase your own understanding of the world around you! Copying your friend’s answers is not learning! Also, are you really sure you’re copying the correct answers?

Please sign the syllabus signature page and turn it into the classroom inbox.