

Ms. Pichette's Biology I Syllabus and Expectations

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, biochemistry, ecology, cells, genetics, evolution, and the classification of organisms from microbes to complex animals.

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 (M,T,TH,F 2:37-3:10 and W 2:13-2:40)

Contact information: email cpichette@helenaschools.org or use the chat function in Teams

Student Responsibilities

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

- A blended learning experience is not easier or harder than a traditional school day, it is just different.
- As we enter the 2020-21 school year, the expectations for learning in a remote and blended environment have accelerated since last spring.
- Be prepared to complete schoolwork 5 days a week regardless of whether we are at school or online.
- Homework and assignments will be posted to Teams and teacher webpages on Mondays. Start there each week. Manage your time daily with a planner or online calendar. Assignments will be posted weekly in PowerSchool.
- Check your school email and Teams daily and touch base with your teachers as often as possible.
- During a blended or remote learning environment, students will always act with academic integrity. Academic honesty is paramount to student learning in a blended environment that requires remote learning in addition to attending school in the building. Students are expected to act as they would in a traditional school setting and submit work that represents their authentic learning. Failure to do this will result in following school and district protocol for student plagiarism.

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.

Online Learning Expectations

- Wear clothing that respects those around you and on video. Wear what would be appropriate in school.
- Class videos may be recorded.
- Check your audio and video equipment before class time.
- Set up an intentional space where you can sit during our meetings away from background noise and have your classroom materials ready in this space.

- Be on time for the meeting by planning to enter the meeting 2-3 minutes before the actual meeting time.
- When you enter the classroom, turn on your video and mute your microphone.
- Become familiar with the appropriate way to “raise your hand” and unmute when asked to answer a question or called upon.
- Do not take your device with you to the restroom!
- Use the chat appropriately to discuss the material with the rest of the class when asked.
- Do not use the chat for side conversations or in inappropriate ways.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities Research shows 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, pop quizzes, 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.

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.

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

- Charged computer
- Computer charger (OPTIONAL: You may want a battery bank or portable charging device)
- Pencils
- Box of colored pencils
- 2 black sharpies, regular and thin tip
- Highlighters (3-4 colors)
- Notebook specific for biology class

Classroom Laboratory Safety

- Prepare for each lab according to the teacher’s directions. (Listen carefully, read pre-lab and directions, etc.)
- Social distancing and mask wearing, and all other school safety COVID – 19 requirements need to be followed during labs.
- 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 is the one exception. Before lunch begins desks should be cleaned and hands should be washed or sanitized.
- Desks and hands should be sanitized before and after class.
- 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 to my Helena High webpage to find and read the HHS Academic Integrity Document. I understand that working online can lead to plagiarism, copying and pasting, and turning in material that isn't your own. It is a slippery slope, my friends! Please maintain your own academic integrity by doing your own work. It is fine to discuss an assignment with a classmate or even work together in some instances, but you know in your hearts when you turn the work in whether it is your own intellectual product or not. For example: Sending each other photos of the answers is cheating. Copying someone else's graphs or calculations is cheating. Making up data for your lab work is cheating. Reading someone else's answers, then turning in the same thing with a few words or phrases changed is cheating. Paraphrasing or quoting another's work without citing the source is cheating. Copying and pasting research from the internet and turning it in as your own work is cheating. I MUCH prefer to see some mistakes in concepts, spelling or grammar rather than perfect work that didn't come from your own brain. Be honest. Take pride in your work. Please don't cheat. Not sure if it's cheating? Ask me.

Bio I Scope and Sequence 2020-21

Fall Semester

Unit 1 – Nature of Science

Unit 2 – Ecology

Unit 3- Biochemistry

Spring Semester

Unit 4- Cell Structure and Function

Unit 5-Genetics

Unit 6- Evolution

Daily Schedules

A and B Days (M, T, Th, F)			C Days (W) All Online		
Teacher Contract Time	8:25 AM	8:55 AM	Teacher Contract Time	8:25 AM	8:55 PM
1	8:55 AM	9:37 AM	1	8:55 AM	9:36 AM
2	9:41 AM	10:23 AM	2	9:40 AM	10:21 AM
3	10:27 AM	11:09 AM	3	10:25 PM	11:06 AM
4	11:13 AM	11:55 AM	4	11:10 AM	11:51 AM
Student Supervision	11:55 AM	12:15 PM	5	11:55 AM	12:39 PM
5	12:19 PM	1:01 PM	6	12:43 PM	1:24 PM
6	1:05 PM	1:47 PM	7	1:28 PM	2:09 PM
7	1:51 PM	2:33 PM	On-line Check -In	2:13 PM	2:40 PM
On-Line Check-IN	2:37 PM	3:10 PM	PLC	2:40 PM	3:40 PM
Contract Time	3:15 PM	3:40 PM	Staff Lunch	3:40 PM	4:15 PM
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What to do now?

Students: Share these expectations with your parents. Take the quiz on Forms and agree to the expectations!

Parents: Click on the Forms link to submit a virtual signature.