

## *Pre-AP Biology-The Study of Life!*

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### **Tutorial Times:**

Monday 6:45-7:15 AM  
Tuesday 3:00-3:30 PM

# Pre-AP Biology

*Welcome, Pre-AP Biology Students!*

### **Pre-AP Biology Course Description**

Pre-AP Biology is an in-depth, rigorous course designed to prepare students for AP Biology. Students will study topics such as the building blocks of life (biomolecules and cells), explain how cells maintain proper functioning through various processes, explore the exciting world of genetics and DNA, discover how living organisms interact with the living and nonliving world, investigate how scientists believe life has changed and progressed over the course of Earth's history, and recognize how various biological systems interact with each other. We will engage in many lab activities and investigations in an effort to enhance our learning experiences and further our understanding and appreciation for the natural world. I am excited to guide you through your studies this year!

### **Anticipated Topics of Study by Semester**

<b><u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u></b>	<b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u></b>
Nature of Science/Safety	Human Genetics and Disorders
Biomolecules/Enzymes	Natural Selection and Change Overtime
Cell Structure/Function and Cell Processes	Ecology
Cell Energy/Cell Cycle/Cancer	Taxonomy and Kingdom Characteristics
DNA Structure and Replication	Viruses and Human Body Interactions
Protein Synthesis/Mutations	EOC Review
Meiosis and Mendelian Genetics	Comparative Anatomy and Dissections

**Biology State Assessment-EOC** Biology students across the state of Texas are required to take the Biology End of Course (EOC) exam in early May. We will practice techniques and strategies throughout the year to ensure your success on this exam.

## **Student Expectations**

Students are expected to display appropriate behaviors that enable them to maximize their learning and respect the learning environment of others. We will discuss classroom expectations below so you understand learning behaviors expected of you and other students in class.

### **You are expected to:**

**Be Responsible**

**Be Respectful**

**Stay Focused**

**Stay Safe**

### **Teacher D-Hall**

Failure to follow certain classroom expectations may result in a teacher D-Hall. Teacher D-Halls will not count against your discipline record and will serve as an effort to redirect your behavior. Failure to attend an assigned teacher D-Hall may result in a discipline referral.

Note: Some infractions may be too egregious to be handled by a Teacher D-Hall and will result in office referrals.

### **Cell Phone Policy**

It is important to note that Biology is a **RED ZONE**.

*Cell phone use is **NOT ALLOWED** unless you are given permission by the teacher to use it during instruction to achieve an academic objective. Phones must be secured in student's backpack all period or placed secure area supplied by the teacher if the student does not bring a backpack on a given day.*

*Failure to follow these instructions or repeated cell phone use infractions may result in disciplinary action.*

### **Supplies Needed**

3 Ring Binder (1 ½ -2 inch)

Notebook Paper

1-1 Subject Notebook (70-80 count)

Pencils/Pens (blue or black and red)

Glue Stick

Highlighter (color of choice)

5 Divider Tabs

2 Composition Notebooks

**Please bring the following shared classroom supply: \_\_\_\_\_**

## AHS Grading Policies for Pre-AP Biology

### **Formative Assessments**

**30%**

(mini-labs, daily assignments, regular quizzes, homework or other assignments designated by teacher as formative)

### **Summative Assessments**

**70%**

(tests, major labs, projects, or other assignments designated by teacher as summative)

### Humble ISD Grading Scale

**A=90-100**

**C=70-79**

**B=80- 89**

**F=69 and below**

### Academic Dishonesty

Your work should be representative of your efforts and your learning. Humble ISD policy states that cheating on an assignment or test may result in a zero recorded for that assignment or test. In addition, cheating is considered a conduct code violation and is subject to additional disciplinary measures.

### AHS Late Work Policy:

(Summative Projects/Major Papers and Essays/ Major Labs/Formative Assessments)

**On time-grade begins at full credit**

**1 day late-maximum score of 80%**

**2 days late-maximum score of 60%**

**3 days late-maximum score of 40%**

**4 days late-maximum score of 20%**

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**5 days late-no credit awarded-0**

## Make-Up Work

When you are absent from class for any reason, it is your responsibility to make up missing work. Upon returning to school, review make-up board and collect missing assignments that need to be completed. AHS Guidelines allow for students to make up work within a timeframe corresponding to the number of days of their absences. Once the allotted time has passed, the late work policy will be followed.

**Note: In some cases, the teacher may require the student to complete make-up work or missed assignments during a tutorial session to ensure authenticity.**

**Note: In some cases, alternative assignments, labs, and assessments may be assigned or administered in place of those originally assigned or administered if the teacher determines the alternative better meets the instructional needs/goals of the student at that time or in that circumstance.**

**Note: If you are absent the day of a test administration, be prepared to make-up the test on the day you return.**

## AHS Reassessment Parameters 2019-2020

1. Students may choose to reassess **ONE** summative assessment per 9 weeks. The original and reassessment grades will be **AVERAGED** regardless of the second test score.
2. Reassessment may not be available for the last summative assessment of a grading period due to time constraints.
3. Students may be reassessed on the objective(s) they missed and in the testing instrument the teacher deems appropriate, i.e. alternate test, oral test, written explanations, demonstrations, etc.
4. If a student wants the opportunity to reassess a summative assessment, the **student MUST:**
  - Attend a minimum of 1 tutorial session on the material to be reassessed.
  - Make corrections to the original assessment and discuss the assessment with the teacher during tutorials.
  - Complete all missing assignments pertaining to the topics the student wants to reassess. Late work policy will still apply.
  - Complete the reassessment form signed by both teacher and parent signatures.

We have an exciting year ahead of us! I look forward to learning more about you and your classmates. Much of your success in biology depends on you and your efforts. I will be here to help guide you in your efforts to understand and appreciate the living world.

Let's make it a GREAT year!