Advanced Biology

**Contact Information:**

Instructor: Jessica Bonnett

Room: 61

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Parents and students, please feel free to contact me at any point during the school year with any questions or concerns. I am also available before and after school almost every day. (E-mail is probably the fastest method of contact.)

**Course Description:**

Advanced Biology focuses on four major themes, including the cell and its components and functions, genetics, evolution, and ecology. The class will build on the foundation of introductory biology, but go into more detail, depth, and concepts. Advanced Biology will incorporate a variety of tools, including lecture, writing, videos, hands-on activities, labs, articles, and the electronic course text to facilitate learning. (NOTE: Evolution is key to life’s uniformity and biodiversity and therefore will be discussed routinely and extensively.)

**Materials for class:**

Notebook

Pen/Pencil

Folder

Online Text (provided)

Computer

Please bring these items to class each day.

(For class projects: Students may also need poster board, markers, colored pencils, glue, (and other materials) or access to computers and Internet. Students will be notified of upcoming projects in advance and may use the school computers during free periods.)

**Grading Policy:**

* Letter grading is specified in the student handbook.
* There will be a comprehensive final at the end of the first and second semesters. A semester average of a 75% or higher will exempt you from final exams IF you also meet the attendance and tardy policies within the student handbook. If students take this course as dual credit, both Fall and Spring semester exams are required.
* Partial credit will almost always be given for attempted answers on any assignment or exam. I strongly encourage students to try and answer every question. “I don’t know,” or similar statements however, are not considered attempts and will receive no credit.
* Students should look at the class-specific online calendar on my website, accessible through the high school's website (http://mason.k12.il.us/havanahs/) for assignments during absences.
* Student grades can be monitored online through Information Now, accessible through the high school's website (<http://mason.k12.il.us/havanahs/>).

**Classroom Rules:**

1. Respect peers, the instructor, school property, as well as peer property. Harassment or intimidation of others will result in dismissal from class.

2. Be prepared for class. Bring the appropriate materials for class and be ready to learn. Be sure to read the assigned readings **prior** to class, especially laboratory protocols.

3. Participate in class in an open and positive manner.

4. Cell phones may not be used during class. If you are seen using a cell phone, it will be taken as specified in the student handbook.

5. Pick up after class. I will give a one time warning, after that points will be deducted from the current assignment if your work station is not cleared of spills, paper, pencil shavings, etc. Some labs will require more extensive clean-up, which is your responsibility. Be sure to coordinate with lab partners to ensure that each person has a role and that each duty is assigned. Remove all personal items from the room each day, including textbooks, notebooks, etc.

6. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in a zero for that particular assignment, project, quiz, or exam. Students will be required to stay in class for the full duration of a quiz or exam unless there is a medical emergency.

7. With the exception of water, no food or drinks are allowed in class.

8. A safety contract must be signed by students and parents. Rules in the safety contract must be followed during class lab activities. Because of the importance of safety in the lab, violation of the laboratory safety rules may result in loss of lab privileges.

9. Unless otherwise specified, assignments are due at the start of the period. Assignments turned in at the end of the hour will be late and points will be deducted accordingly. Late assignments will only be worth a maximum of 50% of the original assignment points. If you are selected to present a presentation or project on or after a due date and are not ready or refuse to present, you will receive a zero on the assignment.

10. Students may work on other homework in class WHEN ALL Integrated Science assignments are complete and submitted.

11. Students should use the restroom, get drinks, and run errands between passing periods.

**Consequences:**

In general, I will usually give a verbal warning prior to kicking a student out of class. However, each instance is judged on a case-by-case basis. More severe offenses may result in more severe consequences even on the first offense. If the student has been told multiple times in the past to stop/start a certain behavior, the student may be removed from class during their first offense of the day.

**Schedule:**

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| --- | --- |
| Fall Semester | Spring Semester |
| Macromolecules | Patterns of Inheritance |
| Cell | DNA History & Structure |
| Cellular Respiration | Protein Synthesis |
| Photosynthesis | Evolution |
| Mitosis & Meiosis | Ecology |
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**Please sign this document below to indicate that:**

I understand the rules, responsibilities, grading policies, and expectations for Mrs. Bonnett’s classroom outlined in this document. I also know how to check the classroom calendar for any work that I miss while I’m absent.

Students Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_