

Biology I – Level 1 (2012-2013) Mrs. Lee - Room 311

Course Description

Biology I is a full-year survey of the study of life that includes the following 11 units: The Chemical Basis of Life, The Structural Basis of Life, Movement of Materials Into and Out of Cells, How Cells Harvest Energy, Photosynthesis, How Cells Divide, The Transmission of Genetic Information, The Chemical Basis of Genetics, Evolution, Taxonomy, and Ecology. A survey of human anatomy and physiology will be applied to the units of study where appropriate and will include discussion of the human digestive, circulatory, nervous, respiratory, excretory, reproductive, and skeletomuscular systems. Numerous laboratory experiences will offer hands-on reinforcement of the topics covered in classroom discussions. The curriculum is structured to follow Massachusetts State Frameworks in preparation for the science portion of the MCAS exam during the first week of June.

Class Expectations

I expect you to treat your classmates fairly by listening to and adopting their ideas, offering guidance and support, and discouraging disrespectful comments and actions. Our classroom will be an open forum for discussion in which all members will feel comfortable, and I expect you to value your classmates' opinions.

Homework Expectations and Requirements

I expect you to complete assignments neatly and on time. Late work will not be accepted if you have an unexcused absence. If you have an excused absence, it is your duty to come to me at the beginning of the next class to find out what you missed and to turn in assignments according to the rules in the handbook (the number of days missed plus one). You must take the initiative to determine what was missed and when new assignments are due. Please note that as a Level 1 student you may have ~1 hour of homework/studying a night. Extra credit assignments will not be offered. I post the WAAG (Week at a Glance), where you will find all the homework and class work assignments for each week, and important dates on my website. Go to the North Attleborough High School homepage and click on the 'classes' link to find my page. Each course's assignments will be posted.

Biology Binders

All students must keep a three-ring binder just for Biology class containing lined paper for notes and four dividers to help in organization divider #1= "WAAGs and Daily warm ups", divider #2 = "Notes and Homework", divider #3 = "Labs, class activities", divider #4 = "Tests, Quizzes, MCAS").

Textbooks

The Biology textbook should be covered and should remain wherever homework is completed. If the textbook is needed for class work, you will be notified ahead of time.

Grading System

Tests = 40% Labs = 30% Quizzes = 10% Homework = 20%

Extra Help

In general, I will be available weekday mornings and afternoons. However, it is best if you schedule an appointment so that I can block out individual or small group time to meet your needs. I am also available to meet with parents by appointment.

Contact Information

Email: gstrang@naschools.net NAHS Phone: (508) 643-2115 (ask for Mrs. Lee)

You have the privilege of living in the 21st century; work in the life sciences is moving forward at an unprecedented rate and it is clear that continuing advances in the biological sciences will affect every aspect of society in the years ahead. You have the opportunity to investigate biological skills, concepts, and themes during an incredibly exciting time in the history of biology.

I am excited to work with you and learn from your past experiences and current ideas. I believe that biology can help us to make many important decisions. If someone becomes ill in your family, will you know how to care for them, ask doctors the best questions, and select a treatment plan? If the local government proposes to build a biological weapons facility in your community, will you have the background to present your opinion to the city council? If you study even the basic principles of biology, you will. The year has begun – let's dive in! Sincerely, Mrs. Lee

Please fill in the signatures below and return this bottom portion to Mrs. Lee:

I understand the requirements and expectations for Biology class

Parent/Guardian signature

Student signature

Mrs. Lee's Classroom Rules:

1. Be respectful. Treat your fellow classmates, school materials, and me with respect.
2. Come to class prepared. This means having pens/pencils your binder and your school planner with you daily.
3. Your homework is due the next day. I will not accept late assignments.
4. No leaving class except for an emergency. Please use the lav/visit lockers before or after my class.
5. If you want to speak, raise your hand.
6. Do not get up and wait by the door for the bell. When the bell rings, I will dismiss you.
7. Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated. Students caught copying, or paraphrasing the work of other students will be given a zero on the assignment and referred to administration for formal consequences.
8. If you need help, please come ask me. I am here for you.
9. If you are having a problem with another student, bring it to my attention.
10. **No FOOD, DRINK and CELL PHONES in the classroom.**

Consequences:

1. Verbal warning
2. Staying after school
3. Call/letter home to parents/guardians