

# Biology Honors Syllabus



## Teacher

Roberta A. Alvarez

## Phone

956-574-5600

## Email

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## Classroom

B244

## Conference Hours

3:20 p.m. – 4:05 p.m.

## Course Overview & Course Objective

This course covers topics that are relevant to biological processes that occur in our bodies and in our environment. A laboratory component will be included to expose students to field experiences. Students will be required to make several presentations: informative, experimental, and interdisciplinary concerning biological issues. Students must have an understanding of the Internet to complete and submit class assignments.

## Textbook and Resources

*Texas Biology, by Stephen Nowicki*

*E-Book ([www.my.hrw.com](http://www.my.hrw.com)) Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*

## Course Materials

- Composition Notebook
- 2-4 Large Glue Sticks
- 24 Count Colored Pencils

## Scope and Sequence

FIRST SEMESTER	SECOND SEMESTER
Unit 1: Biology in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century B.1AF; B.2AF; B.3DEF; B.10C	Unit 2: Cell Processes: Cell cycle and Meiosis B.2G; B.5ABC; B.6AG
Unit 1: Chemistry of Life B.1B; B.2BCDEGH; B.3ABEC; B.4B; B.9AC	Unit 3: Mendelian and Non Mendelian B.2G; .3DF; B.6FG
Unit 2: Cells B.1B; B.2G; B.4AB; B.8C; B.11A	Unit 4: Evolution and Classification B.2BG; B.3DF; B.7ABCDEF; B.8ABC; B.11A
Unit 6: Viruses B.2G; B.4C	Unit 7: Plants and Systems B.2G; B.4B; B.7ACD; B.8C; B.10BC
Unit 2: Photosynthesis and Cellular Respiration B.1B; B.2C; B.4B; B.9AB	Unit 5: Ecology and Ecosystems B.1B; B.2FG; B.3E; B.7CD; B.10C; B.11AB; B.12ABCDE
Unit 3: Genetics: DNA-RNA and Protein Synthesis B.2G; B.3EF; B.4B; B.5B; B.6ABCD; B.9C	Unit 9: Human Systems B.2G; B.4B; B.10AC; B.11A
Unit 3: Genetics: Mutations B.2G; B.3EF; B.4B; B.5B; B.6ABCDE	

## **Attendance Policy**

Any student with less than 90% attendance of the required number of days that a class is offered in a marking period shall be subject to loss of credit in the course(s) where excessive absences have been recorded. (Please refer to pages 10-13 of the 2019-2020 Secondary Grading Procedures for more on Attendance Policy.)

## **Tardy Policy**

Students are expected to arrive to class on time. When a student is marked tardy, the following procedures will be followed per semester:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tardy Violation: Teacher Verbal Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tardy Violation: Teacher/Student Conference
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tardy Violation: Teacher will call parent
- 4<sup>th</sup> Tardy Violation: Lunch Detention with approved referral
- 5<sup>th</sup> Tardy Violation: ISS with a referral

Repeated tardy violations will warrant further discipline including but not limited to: ISS, OSS, BAC removal.

## **Classroom Rules and Consequences**

### Rules

1. Be on time and prepared (school supplies and assignments).
2. **RESPECT** others
3. Food, gum and drinks are prohibited
4. Students will turn off all electronic devices and turn it in to a designated area at the beginning of the class and will pick it up at the end of the class.
  - Electronic devices include but are not limited to wireless headphones / earphones, cellphones, smart watches
5. **RESPECT** school property

### Consequences

1. Teacher Verbal Warning
2. Teacher/Student Conference
3. Teacher will call parent
4. Teacher-Parent Conference
5. Referral to Administrator

## **Food and Drink Policy**

Food, gum and drinks are prohibited

## **Electronic Devices Policy**

The use of electronic devices is not allowed during instructional time. Electronic devices may be used for instructional purposes with the approval of the teacher.

## **Homework Policy**

Homework is expected to be turned in a timely manner. All homework will be to reinforce concepts being taught. If a student was absent the day it was assigned, then the student has as many days as she/he was absent to complete and turn in the assignment. If the student was absent on the day it was due, then she/he will turn it in upon return to class.

## **Hall Pass Policy**

Any student not in class during instructional time must have an approved VMECHS pass. Students will not be allowed to leave the classroom the first and last 10 minutes of class or while taking an exam. (Special needs will be determined by the class instructor.)

## **Academic Dishonesty Policy**

A student found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to grade penalties on assignments or tests and disciplinary penalties in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating or copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The penalty for cheating will be a zero for work involved and the student will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in cheating offenses. All students involved will be subject to disciplinary action.

## **Grading**

Grades should reflect the academic progress of a student.

1. Major assessments are sixty percent (60%) of the grade. Examples of major assessments include, but are not restricted to: projects, reports, research papers, and tests.
2. Minor Assessments are forty percent (40%) of the grade. Examples of minor assessments include, but are not restricted to: oral reports, quizzes, and class participation.

## **Late Work Policy**

Late work will not be accepted. Work is considered late if it is not turned in at the designated time. If a student is absent the day an assignment (daily) is due, he/she is to turn it in upon his/her return to class. If a student is absent the day a major project is due, it is his/her responsibility to make sure that the project is submitted the day it is due. Due dates for projects are assigned in advance (NO EXCEPTIONS).

## **Make Up Work Policy**

The student will be given the same number of days to make up the work and turn in their work as the number of days he/she was absent. Students who are absent on an announced test day will be expected to take a test upon return. If any student has been absent the day prior to an announced test and if nothing new has been covered, the student will be expected to take the test at the regularly scheduled time. If the student has been absent two or more days, the student will immediately make arrangements with the teacher for the makeup test.

Any student who does not appear for a prearranged make up test or does not meet his prearranged due date for other work may receive a zero (0) on that test, work, or retesting.

Any student missing work due to participation in extracurricular activities must make prior arrangements with the teacher for work that will be missed prior to the absence.

A student should not expect make up work and tests to be identical to that done in class during his/her absence.

## **Re-Testing Policy**

The teacher and student will work together to schedule a retest within (5) school days after learning of the failing grade, except for research papers, major projects, benchmarks, semester exams or under extenuating circumstance determined by the principal. No retests are available for students who received a "0" for academic dishonesty. The student may raise his/her score to a maximum of 70 on the test upon mastery of the retest. A student may not be retested more than one time for any given original major assessment.

# Receipt of Syllabus

Biology Honors

R. A. Alvarez

I have read and discussed the 2019-2020 syllabus with my son/daughter. We acknowledge and understand the expectation and guidelines in this syllabus.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_