

PIB Biology Syllabus 2017-2018

Mr. Muzny

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Office: Room 427

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Off Periods: 3rd, 4th, 8th

Class Description:

Pre-IB Biology is a comprehensive survey of cells, biochemistry, genetics, evolution, ecology and select topics in physiology. Students will gain conceptual and practical skills as a result of involvement in scientific activities and statistical analyses. Students will develop the ability to evaluate biological knowledge with respect to problems which are facing mankind at present, and which have implication of serious consequences in the future. Laboratory experiences are a major portion of the course.

Topics and Schedule

Unit 1- Nature of Science

Unit 2- Foundations of Biology

Unit 3- Molecules of life

Unit 4- Molecular processes

Unit 5- Cells

Unit 6- Genetics

Unit 7- Human Physiology

Unit 8- Ecology

Class Expectations:

- Students are expected to treat each other with kindness and respect.
- Student collaboration and group work is an essential part of this class. Students will be expected to participate and try their best every day.
- I expect you to be in your seat, ready to go when the bell rings. If you arrive after the bell you will be counted as an *unexcused tardy*, unless you have a note from a teacher or the office. If you are tardy by *five minutes* or more it will be considered an *unexcused absence*.
- This class tries to encourage the responsible use of technology. Your electronic device may be used to further your learning. Electronic devices used in violation of this policy will be confiscated and taken to the main office.
- Only one student will be let out of the classroom at a time. Try to use the restroom before or after class.
- If you miss class, make sure to check the course website to see what you missed. It will be updated frequently.

Materials: Students will be required to bring the following materials with them to class:

- A 2-inch, 3-ring binder dedicated only to PIB Biology
- Notebook paper and graphing paper
- Pencils and pens
- A set of 8 binder dividers
- A box of tissues (optional, but much appreciated)

Grades:

This class is graded on the standard BVSD grading scale:

100-90 A

80-89 B

79-70 C

69-60 D

59-0 F

The grade will be determined using the following weighted categories:

10% Practice and participation (notebook checks, reading checks, root words, etc.)

30% Formative assessments (quizzes, lab write-ups, projects)

60% Summative assessments (Unit exams and final exams)

Certain assignments will be assessed on a "Completion" scale (Complete 100%, Partial 75%, Incomplete 50%, Missing 0%)

Late policy

Late work will be accepted for half credit up until the unit test. After the unit test no homework or assignments from that unit will be accepted for credit. If you miss a deadline due to an excused absence, you may turn the assignment in on the following day for full credit. After that it will be considered late and earn up to half credit. If you miss a deadline due to an unexcused absence it will automatically be considered late. If you miss a test or quiz due to an excused absence, you may take it the next possible day. If you miss a test or quiz due to an unexcused absence you will receive a zero.

Academic Honesty

All students have read and signed a form acknowledging they understand the academic honesty code outlined in the student handbook. Any violation of this code will be treated seriously. In addition to consequences at the administrative level, the student will receive a zero on the assignment or exam. There will not be an opportunity to change this grade.