

# Student Responsibilities in Science Class 2025-2026

Mr. Scott

## A. Put forth your best effort to learn in school.

1. Keep up with your studies; study for a few minutes every day, write sample questions for yourself
2. Do high quality work of which you can be proud. Think about your work; write it neatly and legibly. Unless otherwise instructed, always write in sentences.
3. Write your full name, period, due date and descriptive title on every assignment. [score deducted without the proper heading.]
4. Keep everything done in class in chronological order in a notebook. (3 section dividers required: Reference, Work in Progress, Notes. \*optional 4th divider for returned work)
5. Do your own work on each assignment, unless instructed to work with others. Plagiarism, copying from authors, copying another student's work, or allowing another student to copy your work, will result in a zero on that assignment and a referral to the school administration.
6. Keep Biology Grade Record up-to-date. Check on your progress on StudentVue online.

## B. Attend class, be on time, and have all necessary materials to work.

1. Be in class every day. Work due during an absence will only be accepted for excused absences, and make-up work missed will only be provided for excused absences.
2. Have assignments turned in and be in your seat with proper materials and ready to work when the tardy bell rings. (See Tardy Policy below.)
3. Take care of personal issues (restroom, phone, water, etc.) on your personal time between classes.
4. No late work will be accepted except for excused absences. The student is responsible for finding out what was missed and scheduling any make up required with the instructor. The weekly calendar is posted on the board. A student has one day to make up for each day of excused absence. Missed labs must be made up within one week and can be done during lunch, study hall, or by appointment.
5. Unless otherwise stated, homework is due in the first 10 minutes of the period.
6. You must do the following things when you return from an absence: a. Check to see what was missed during your absence; b. Turn in to the teacher any homework due while you were gone; c. Talk to the teacher the day you return to set up make up dates and then make-up all missed work including labs, taking quizzes or tests and getting notes and handouts within the allotted time.

## C. Respect the right of students to learn and teachers to teach.

1. Be appropriately quiet and on task during class time.
2. Maintain a positive and businesslike attitude toward the course of instruction.
3. Face the teacher, listen, think, and participate during instruction.
4. The teacher excuses you, not the bell. Remain in your seat until excused by the teacher.
5. Cell phones will be confiscated and turned in to administration. (Please, parents are NOT to call/text students during class time either! It is very disruptive to all the students in the class. Parents are encouraged to call the office and have a message delivered by a runner.) (See Electronic Device Policy below.)

## D. Respect the property of others, and demonstrate pride in the appearance of school buildings, equipment and grounds.

1. You will not be excused until your workstation and the lab are clean.
2. Keep tables, chairs and equipment free of writing. Writing on desks or equipment will lead to detention and on lab equipment and supplies may result in a zero on the station or on the assignment at the teacher's discretion.
3. Lab equipment is expensive and difficult to replace; you will be charged the cost to replace it if you break it.

## E. Be positive, courteous and cooperative.

1. Be respectful in class and when working in groups.
2. Comply with the lab safety rules:
  - a. Act responsibly
  - b. Read/listen and follow instructions
  - c. Protect yourself and others
  - d. Report and respond to all accidents or unsafe conditions.

## Consequences

As part of the Arcata High School positive achievement at work policy, the following are the consequences for violating the above rules:

For general class disruption and/or disrespect:

Step 1: Student-Teacher conference.

Step 2: Parent-Teacher contact, detention and/or student-Assistant Principal conference.

Step 3: Disciplinary referral to the assistant principal.

(Depending on the severity of the violation, the teacher will determine the step at which the student is placed.)

## Tardy Policy:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1V9ll77uzBbjarkr9KRhVvSbtUv7iv9symBMfheL0zj8/edit?usp=sharing>

On time: Arriving and being ready (materials out, sitting in your seat, and work turned in) for class **before** the tardy bell rings.

Tardy: Not being ready for class when the tardy bell rings and/or arriving for class within 10 minutes of the tardy bell ringing.

## Electronic Device Policy (Arcata High School Phone Policy)

\*All cell phones and electronic devices are to be turned off during class time.

\*Contact between students and parents/guardians can be done through the main office or on students' own time, not during class time.

First Offense: Phone will be confiscated and turned in to administration. Phone remains in office for the remainder of the day. Student may pick up phone at end of day after conversation w/ admin (review and sign phone policy)

Second Offense: Phone will be confiscated and turned in to administration. Phone remains in office for the remainder of the day. Student may pick up phone at end of day after calling parent w/ admin to explain cell phone policy. Lunch detention assigned

Third Offense: Phone will be confiscated and turned in to administration. Phone remains in office for the remainder of the day. Parent/guardian must pick up phone (unless other arrangement is made during phone call w/ admin). Student must turn in phone to the office before school for three consecutive days (phone remains in office all day). Two lunch detentions OR Saturday School assigned (student choice)

Fourth Offense: Phone will be confiscated and turned in to administration. Phone remains in office for the remainder of the day. Parent/guardian must pick up phone (unless other arrangement is made during phone call w/ admin). Student must turn in phone to the office before school for four consecutive days (phone remains in office all day). Three lunch detentions OR Saturday School assigned (admin choice)

Further Offenses: Phone will be confiscated and turned in to administration. Phone remains in office for the remainder of the day. Parent/guardian must pick up phone (unless other arrangement is made during phone call w/ admin). Student must turn in phone to the office before school for five consecutive days (phone remains in office all day). In school suspension assigned.

I have read and understand these rules and responsibilities.

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Printed Student Name

Student Signature

Date

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Printed Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

### **Our Philosophy**

We teach a laboratory-based class. Students spend more than 50% of class time doing lab work. As much as possible, we have our students practice in class what scientists really do: observing, hypothesizing, questioning, experimenting, and drawing conclusions.

We emphasize thinking. Learning content (facts) is important, but helping students to think like scientists (critically, logically, using justifications for arguments) is our emphasis. We want students to understand cause and effect relationships and appreciate the complexity and diversity of life.

We present different points of view in the class. We strive to show students that people have different ideas; we let the students and their families decide what views they take as their own.

We feel that all students in our classes can succeed and excel. We feel the way the class is structured and taught encourages our students to be responsible and interested. We require neatness and clarity as well as correct spelling, punctuation and grammar on all assignments. Papers that do not meet these requirements may lose points or may not be accepted. When students learn to have high standards, their work becomes something of which they can be proud. Please help us keep high standards; reinforce high standards at home, urge your students to do his/her best, and help your student with writing and spelling. Please encourage your student to complete his/her homework early and to spend 5-10 minutes each night *studying* in addition to homework time.

### **Supplies**

These items should be brought to class everyday: Biology Grade Record, 2 inch 3-ring binder with 3 dividers, lined binder paper (200 pages), pens with standard blue or black ink, number 2 pencils, colored pencils (and colored ink for grading optional), and Biology Lab Manual.

The textbook for the class should be covered and kept at home or somewhere safe unless otherwise instructed. Do NOT bring it to class daily.

### **Grading**

We don't have a set homework schedule; some weeks there may be no work due; some weeks there may be two or three assignments due. The average is two assignments per week. In addition, we ask our students to study what we are working on in class for just a few minutes every day (5-10 minutes). We may have daily extra credit quizzes on the work from the previous day or days. Please help us make your student successful; keep them in school and check their progress in class.

The class grade is based primarily on assessments such as laboratory write-ups, papers and other assignments, quizzes, tests, participation and keeping a notebook. Our grading scale is as follows:  
A: 90-100%, B: 80-89%, C: 70-79%, D: 60-69%, F: Below 59%.

We work hard to make it easy for students to keep up with their work. We post a list of assignments due on the white board and on the cabinets (which should be written in the Biology Grade Record). We keep all handouts in a file on the front counter so those who are absent can retrieve them.

We are available before school, during lunch, or after school as well as during class time to help students.

### **Antiseptics**

During certain units (bacteriology, dissections, etc.) we will be using chlorine based disinfectants on the equipment, desks, and counters. Students will usually be disinfecting their own desks and I will clean again after school. No student is required to touch the disinfectant if there are health issues prohibiting it.

### **Keep in Touch!**

We are excited about our class and glad to have your student in Biology at AHS. If you have any questions or comments any time in the year, please call the AHS office at 825-2400, leave a message and we will return the calls as soon as possible. Or email at: [mscott@nohum.k12.ca.us](mailto:mscott@nohum.k12.ca.us)

# BIOLOGY 1 SYLLABUS

## SUBJECTS

## LABORATORY

### FIRST SEMESTER

#### **Class Introduction**

Microscope lab  
Observation lab

#### **Microbiology and Disease**

Isolating a pure culture lab  
Gram staining  
Antibiotic/Antiseptic lab  
Unknown bacteria lab  
Epidemic lab

#### **Chemistry of life**

Molecule models  
Macromolecule models  
Enzyme lab  
Pineapple lab

### SECOND SEMESTER

#### **Cells and Heredity**

Cell structures and tissues lab  
Mitosis lab  
DNA labs  
Meiosis lab  
Photosynthesis labs  
Respiration labs  
Animal and Plant Interrelationship lab

#### **Vertebrate Anatomy and Physiology**

Brain lab  
Sensory lab  
Diffusion labs  
Clinical lab

#### **Ecology**

Plant Lab  
Predator/Prey lab  
Redwood Forest field trip  
Dunes field trip

#### **Evolution**

Geologic time and Evolution labs

*\*This course outline is not inclusive of all the activities and work we do in class, but provides an overview of the major labs that we will be doing*