

Mrs. Isaac
Biology Course Syllabus
Del Oro High School, 2025-26

General Information

Course Description:

Biology is a 10 unit course that meets for one term. This course fulfills the University of California A-G requirement for life science. Students will be assigned one final grade at the end of the term that will go on their transcript. It is assumed that students have passed Global Systems Science with a C or better previous to this course.

During each unit of study, students will take notes, participate in laboratory activities, engage in daily discussions, and complete quizzes, homework assignments and tests. In order to be successful, students will need to engage fully in all of these activities.

Course Proficiency Scales

Proficiency Scales delineate the progression of learning from foundational knowledge and skills to the target learning goal that students are expected to reach and opportunities for sophisticated applications. They provide feedback that shows exactly what students need to know and how they will get there.

Biology Proficiency Scales:

[Unit 1: Scientific Method](#)

[Unit 2: Chemistry & Macromolecules](#)

[Unit 3: Cell Structure & Function](#)

[Unit 4: Cell Transport](#)

[Unit 5: Cell Cycle & Nuclear Division](#)

[Unit 6: Meiosis & Genetics](#)

[Unit 7: Evolution of the Species](#)

[Unit 8: Gene Expression & Biotechnology](#)

Grading Policies

%	Grade
90-100	A
80-89.9	B
70-79.9	C
69.9-below	F

	Weighted
Tests	30%
Scientific Skills Practice	25%
Quizzes/Formatives	10%
Midterm/final	35%

Attendance/Tardy Policy:

Students are expected to be present and on-time every day. Students who are frequently absent tend to have a much harder time mastering concepts in Biology. Tardies are not tolerated. Not only does it disrupt class when they come in late but the students also miss critical directions and do not know what is going on. If a student receives three tardies there will be an email or phone call home. If a student receives more than three tardies, they will be referred to the office for disciplinary action.

Missing Work Policy:

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Hard deadline for turning in late work, quiz retakes, & lab reports is the day the test is given for that Unit (ex: you can turn in Unit 2 work until the Unit 2 test is given). You are responsible for signing up for my intervention to turn in all late work, quiz retakes, & lab reports.

There are no make ups for a missed test and no test retakes. If a student is unable to take a test or they are unhappy with their score, their Midterm exam or Final exam score will replace that test. Students are given sufficient time to plan ahead and are expected to be fully prepared for each test.

Canvas:

I will be using Canvas for student and parent access to assignments, schedule, some quizzes, and announcements. The online Biology book, CK-12 Foundation, is also accessed through Canvas. Your child should be able to give you access. Please let me know if you run into problems.

In Class Rules and Conduct

- *Del Oro High School's Technology Policy:* When entering the classroom, cell phones must be placed in the phone sleeve carrier. All electronic devices (cell phones, Chromebooks, tablets, etc.) are only to be used for academic purposes during instructional time as determined by the teacher. Inappropriate use may include text messaging, storing phone numbers, AirDropping, checking the time, taking a photo, playing a game, being on social media, etc. Student use of cell phones, or any other recording device, without the prior consent of the teacher may disrupt and impair the teaching process, and such use is prohibited and the student subject to disciplinary action. Electronic devices such as earbuds/AirPods must be taken out at the teacher's request to ensure students are attentive to the presented lesson. Misused cell phones/electronic devices will be confiscated and brought to the Assistant Principal.
- *Academic Integrity:* Unfortunately cheating is becoming a bigger problem in high school. Students may feel pressured by parental expectations, peer pressure and/or collegiate requirements and succumb to the temptation to cheat. My policy is that if you cheat on an assignment or test, you will receive a zero on that assignment/test and you will not be allowed to make it up. This will also be posted to your academic profile. The second incidence of cheating will result in an "F" grade for the entire course. Cheating is defined as any of the following; looking at another person's test, giving or receiving answers on a test, talking during a test, changing answers while correcting a test or plagiarism (using another person's ideas or words without giving them credit), and/or using electronic devices to cheat.
- *Safety:* All students are required to read and acknowledge having read the [Lab Safety Contract](#) by signing the syllabus acknowledgment link below. Failure to exhibit appropriate behavior while in a science lab will result in immediate dismissal from the lab and forfeiting of the points for the lab as well as possible administrative disciplinary action. If you observe behavior or lab equipment that could cause a safety concern please report it to the instructor immediately.
- *Restrooms:* You may use the restroom during times when I am not providing direct instruction. Only one person may leave at a time. You must take the Hall Pass with you.

Out of Class Help:

I will make every effort to help students willing to take the time to come in for additional help. The best time to do this is before school from 8 to 8:25am by appointment or during Enrichment/Intervention 11:33-12:13pm. After School help is rarely an option because I will be coaching.

Exams:

There will be a comprehensive midterm and final exam given. These exams will consist of questions that cover material that has appeared on previous tests throughout the semester. The grade on the midterm and/or final may replace the previous unit test grades if the exam grade is higher than the unit test score.

Materials:

2 pocket folder, college-ruled notebook (for notes), red pen, colored pencils, pencils, graph paper, composition notebook (for labs)

*Once you have gone over it with your high schooler, please fill out the [Electronic Course Outline Verification Form](#).

*Please email me at jisaac@puhsd.k12.ca.us if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank You,
Mrs. Isaac

The Placer Union High School District (PUHSD) is committed to ensuring equal, fair, and meaningful access to employment and education services and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. PUHSD prohibits discrimination, harassment (including sexual harassment), intimidation, or bullying in any employment practice, education

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program, or educational activity on the basis and/or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics of age, ancestry, color, ethnic group identification, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, immigration status, marital status, medical information, national origin, disability, parental status, political affiliation, pregnancy and related conditions, race, religion, retaliation, sex, sexual orientation, military or veterans status, homelessness, foster status, or any other basis prohibited by California state and federal nondiscrimination laws consistent with Education Code 200 and 220, Government Code 11135, and Title IX.

If you believe you have been subjected to discrimination, harassment (including sexual harassment), intimidation, or bullying you should contact Title IX Coordinator (Students) Steve Caminiti 13000 New Airport Road, Auburn, 530.886.4402, scaminiti@puhsd.k12.ca.us; Title II (Students) and Section 504 Coordinator Carrie Warda, [13000 New Airport Road, Auburn, 530.886.4443, cwarda@puhsd.k12.ca.us](mailto:cwarda@puhsd.k12.ca.us); and/or Title IX and Title II Coordinator (Staff), Elena DalFavero [13000 New Airport Road, Auburn, 530.886.4426, edalfavero@puhsd.k12.ca.us](mailto:edalfavero@puhsd.k12.ca.us).