

Plymouth Regional High School
Chris Sanborn
Science Department
Course Outline for 2025 - 2026

Course Title	Biology
Length of Course	Year
Prerequisite(s)	Recommendation of 8 th grade teacher.
Course Description	This course will focus on the study of life emphasizing aspects of Unity, Continuity, and Diversity. A study of Ecological Interactions built around local water quality monitoring will act as a capstone experience for the course. A variety of other projects such as wildflower collections and tree identification may also be undertaken. This course is designed for the student who has demonstrated good study skills and an aptitude for science and who plans to continue his/her science education beyond minimum graduation requirements. The decision for placement into biology or Foundations in Biology is based on an evaluation of the student's ability and work ethic. Success in Biology depends heavily on reading comprehension, vocabulary acquisition, and written and oral communication skills. This class, along with Foundations in Biology are the only two classes that meet the Biological science requirement for graduation.
Units and Topics Covered	Unity of Life Continuity of Life Diversity of life Ecological Interactions
Skills	Lab safety, describing, analyzing, concluding, observing, organizing, independent learning skills
Writing	Lab reports, short and long answer questions, summaries, essays
Assessments	Tests, Quizzes, homework, in-class assignments, lab reports, notebook, special projects, mid-term and final exam
At the end of this course, students will be prepared for:	Introduction to Chemistry (3) or (H) Introduction To Physics (3) or (H)

GRADING CRITERIA: Grades will be given on a point system as follows:

□ Class work	10-25 pts
□ Homework	5-20 pts
□ Quizzes	15-40 pts

☐ Labs	20-50 pts
☐ Tests	100 pts
☐ Notebook	100 pts per quarter

PRIDE and Tradition

Pride and tradition, two cornerstones in the foundation of our school culture, are a legacy from our past and a vision for our future. Plymouth Regional High School is committed to preparing students to become productive and engaged citizens in a global community. Therefore, in addition to acquiring a core body of knowledge through local curriculum that reflects state and national standards, all students will develop the following skills and dispositions.

Practical Skills and Personal Growth

- *Develop viable skills that support success in the workforce*
- *Become a self - directed and adaptable lifelong learner*
- *Pursue interests and passions*
- *Reflect on successes and failures with resilience, tenacity, flexibility*

perseverance

Responsibility and Respect

- *Demonstrate responsibility for one's own mental, physical and financial wellness*
- *Take ownership for learning and behavior*
- *Show reliability for tasks, time and ideas*
- *Exhibit honesty, integrity, empathy, fairness and respect*

Innovation and Critical Thinking

- *Explore and design innovative solutions to complex and authentic problems*
- *Engage in creative expression*
- *Think creatively to transfer knowledge and apply skills to new situations*
- *Critically interpret, analyze, synthesize and apply information*

Diversity and Awareness

- *Value diverse opinions, ideas and abilities*
- *Recognize and respect other cultural perspectives*
- *Engage in new experiences to gain awareness*
- *Demonstrate civic, social, environmental and global responsibility*

Engagement and Communication

- *Impact the community positively through service and/or leadership*
- *Collaborate effectively to produce a unified product*
- *Speak and write for authentic purposes*
- *Listen actively for understanding*

BEHAVIOR:

My goal is to provide a learning environment which will enable each of you to develop and demonstrate the attitudes, skills and knowledge necessary for success. Respect and responsible behavior is expected to be demonstrated at all times.

EXTRA HELP: Students are welcome to see me after school or at other mutually convenient times whenever extra help is needed.

ATTENDANCE/MAKE-UP WORK:

It is imperative that you follow these guidelines for absences. Failure to do so will result in a *zero* on assignments.

- ✓ It is expected that students will attend class and be prepared to work at the start of class.
- ✓ You are expected to access your class-work and homework online through google classroom. It is expected that you will see me the first day you are back for any help or worksheets needed that could not be accessed online, even if you do not have class that day. **You will be expected to have your assignment completed or to be prepared for whatever is planned for the next class. (this includes tests and quizzes, planned or unplanned)**
- ✓ If you know you will be absent during a scheduled test or quiz period, you must make prior arrangement to take the test or quiz on the day you come back, whether we are scheduled to have class or not.
- ✓ If you participate in extra curricular activities and miss a class, you need to see me prior to leaving the building to hand in any assignment that is due and to find out what the class work is that day and any homework assigned.
- ✓ If you are absent on the day that a group assignment is due, send in your portion with someone you can trust.

MISCELLANEOUS: Unless specified otherwise in class, the following guidelines apply to ***all*** assignments:

- ✓ assignments must be complete and handed in on time
- ✓ work must include the proper heading
- ✓ appearance counts ...
 - use rulers to draw lines or when writing on unlined paper
 - check for spelling and grammatical errors
 - use standard size white lined paper with neat edges
- ✓ work must be done in pencil or standard blue or black ink
- ✓ **assignments are to be completed by the *individual*** unless group work is specified

***BINDER:** Students must maintain a 3 ring binder which will be devoted solely to the subject.
(2" binder recommended)

-Binder must have the following labeled sections in this order:

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Class notes | 4. Handouts |
| 2. Homework | 5. Quizzes/ Tests |
| 3. Classwork | 6. Labs |

-Everything from this class must be kept in this binder, in the appropriate section, and organized in chronological order.

SUPPLIES: Unless told otherwise you will need to bring the following items to class:

- 3-ring Biology binder
- appropriate writing utensil(s)
- whatever assignment is due
- Chromebook
-

MY SCHEDULE:**(Room 119)**

A Day	B Day
1 Foundations of Biology	1 Planning
2. Foundations of Biology	2. Biology
3 Biology	3 Biology
4. Planning	4. Duty