

Biology-Integrated

Instructors: [Mr. Zack Estrada](#)

Classroom: #2259

Prep Period (Office Hours):
2nd+6th hour (10:38-12:08)

Email: zestrada@bentonvillek12.org

Welcome to Biology!

Be prepared for an exciting year in a challenging and interesting class. We will cover a large variety of topics during the year, including ecology, biochemistry, cells, genetics, & human body systems.

 PAP Biology YAAG.pdf

WHAT DO I BRING TO CLASS?

- 1½" binder, pencils, paper, Chromebook and headphones.

What about a textbook? We have switched to a new curriculum, and no longer use a paper textbook. For supplemental information, you have the option to check out a textbook to keep at home – an online textbook is also available.

I MISSED CLASS, WHAT NOW?

Email or talk with us about missing assignments in a timely manner.

All work is posted on Google Classroom with deadlines when necessary!

NEED HELP?

Step one: Talk to us! We can't help you if you don't ask.

Step two: Determine what kind of help you need –

- Vocabulary: You can use Quizlet to study vocabulary terms.
- Falling behind or not understanding: come to tutoring. Check the Flex sessions or arrange a time with us before or after school.
- Don't like studying? Form a virtual group with your friends

HAVE A QUESTION?

There are many ways to contact me, depending on your preference: Email: zestrada@bentonvillek12.org

Drop in between classes, after school, or during the prep period: Feel free to stop by with any questions you might have or make an appointment with me. I am here to help!

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Grading FAQs:

Why do my grades look different?

Biology is using standards based grading. This is a system that allows us to report specific information about what students know and are able to do. This change strives to:

- track student achievement based on the Biology standards
- accurately base student grades on understanding of each goal
- make grades reflect a student's most recent understanding of each goal
- make students responsible for their own learning by encouraging student reflection and self-assessment

Student's course grades will be determined by their evidence of course standards (100% weight.) Students may also receive practice/homework grades as feedback to track their progress in this course (0% weight.)

Students will also receive feedback in HAC (Home Access Center) on the achievement of their learning habits at least quarterly. Learning habits assessed will be time management and engagement in learning. Students will receive marks of either DC (Demonstrates Consistently), IC (Progressing but inconsistent) or NY (Not Yet, Rarely, or Not Observed.)

We grade based on achievement of the standards (Standard based grading.) Multiple opportunities will be offered to remediate any score that is not proficient.

What is the grade scale?

All goals that you are working on are recorded as an unassisted entry in grade book using the following scale:

- 10 – Advanced, no error
- 9 – Advanced
- 8 – Proficient
- 7 – Developing
- 6 – Beginning
- 5 – Minimal

Why did my grade change?

At any given assessment, your grade will reflect your understanding of a goal at that moment, so scores will change as understanding changes. Because the score reflects your current understanding, this also means that your score may go down. The score can go back up through retesting.

How can I raise my grade?

Students may retest each unit test. Any student that is not at least developing on a goal will retest on that goal.

Late Work

Students will have 2 weeks after the end of the unit to turn in any missing assignments related to the goal, after which they will be graded as a Z in HAC.

Academic Integrity

We feel honesty and personal integrity are two of the most important qualities in an individual. Every student can achieve amazing results with initiative and effort. Students' work should be that of theirs and no one else. Any academic misconduct (cheating, copying, plagiarism, etc.) will not be tolerated in this class. Students who are caught will be given a Z on the assignment and will be referred to the dean.

CHROMEBOOK Policy:

Students are responsible for their Chromebook and expected to bring it to class (**charged**) every day. We will not provide chargers or outlets for student-use. Failure to abide by the Chromebook policy will result in lunch detention, parent contacts, and/or referral to the Deans.

Classroom Rules

1. **Come prepared**
2. **Follow directions**
3. **Stay on task**
4. **Follow all school rules**
5. **Show and earn respect**

Strike Plan

Strike #1: Clarification

Strike #2: Verbal Warning

Strike #3: Class Removal

****Upon re-entry into the classroom, any additional disruption (Strike #4) will include detention, Dean referral, and parent contact.**

Phones and Technology

Phone usage will not be permitted in the class without teacher permission. Failure to follow phone usage policy will result in the following:

1st offense: WARNING

2nd offense: Student will place their phone on the teacher's desk or in their phone pocket in front of the room.

Failure to comply will result in the student immediately reporting to the dean.

Chromebooks are expected to be charged and brought to class everyday. Failure to bring a Chromebook to class (without a charger) will result:

1st offense: Warning

2nd offense: Parent contact

3rd offense: Detention

School ID

The administration (principles) deans, and teachers expect students to wear their school IDs at all times while on campus. Failure to comply with this school rule may result in a detention.