

Heather Carroll

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Biology 2026-2027

Hello, and welcome to my class at Northeast High School. Biology is the study of how living things work, interact, and change over time. In this course, students will investigate why living systems — from cells to ecosystems — are organized the way they are, and how disruptions at one level can have an effect on others. By the end, students should be able to look at a real-world scenario — a disease outbreak, a collapsing food web, a genetic condition, etc. — and explain its causes and effects using the core concepts they have learned.

Please read the following expectations/procedures.

1. Effort= the first step to succeeding in my class.
2. Active Listening= Follow directions the first time they are given
3. Promptness= Be in your assigned seat when the bell rings for class
4. Preparedness= Bring all necessary materials to class
5. Responsible= Responsible for your actions
6. Respectful= Respect the class time of their classmates
7. Turn assignments on time
8. Electronic devices including cell phones, smartwatches, and earbuds are not allowed to be used in our classroom unless authorized by the teacher for instructional purposes.
9. Follow all laboratory safety procedures and guidelines
10. No Food or drink (this includes drink bottles, canned drinks, candy, and gum) Bottle water is permitted.
11. No profanity should be used in our classroom.
12. No cheating at any time! Any suspicion of cheating will result in an office referral and an alternative assignment provided.
13. General policies are aligned with the school and district. All other school rules will be enforced.

Assignment Requirements:

1. My expectation is that all work is turned in on the due date and all student work is their own.
2. Late Assignments will not be accepted unless communicated otherwise.
3. Students will receive 2 homework passes per semester.

Make-up Work:

1. When absent, you are responsible for determining your missed assignments. You will have one day for every day missed to make up the work.
2. Arrangements will need to be made to make up tests, labs etc.
3. A make-up area is provided in the room. When absent, pull assignments from the day you missed. All online instruction will be posted within the learning platform on the corresponding day.
4. A zero will be entered for assignments in PowerSchool until the makeup work assignment is made up.

The following items are needed for Biology students in my class:

1 Composition book	Pencils/ Pens
Agenda	Colored Pencils
Earbuds	Clorox wipes/ tissues would be appreciated

Grading Policy: PowerSchool grade is the grade of record. Nine weeks' grades will be calculated based on percentages.

30% Assessments 30% Other (quiz) 40% Classwork (labs, classwork, homework, etc)

1st semester grade: 40% 1st nine weeks, 40% 2nd nine weeks, and 20% final exam

2nd semester grade: 45% 3rd nine weeks, 45% 4th nine weeks, 10% EOC (TN state test)

Extra Information:

1. If you or your parent/guardian should need to speak with me, I can be reached 30 minutes before school begins and until 3:00 pm. I can be reached by email at the following address: Heather.carroll@cmcss.net or parent square
2. I look forward to meeting with each of you during parent-teacher conferences (September 17th and February 4th).
3. Students will utilize Google Classroom for some assignments and some assignments will be paper and turned in in class. Google Classroom can be found on the Classlink page.
4. The science department has a no-retest policy. The lowest quiz score will be dropped every nine-weeks.
5. In April, you will take an End of Course test. The test will cover all material covered during the entire school year and will count as part of your final grade for the second semester. This test will be issued by the State of Tennessee.

Grading scale

90 – 100 A

80 – 89 B

70 – 79 C

60 – 69 D

Success in this class will be a direct result of the amount of time and effort you put into learning the material.

In order for this plan to be effective, I need your support. After reviewing the classroom procedures/expectations, please sign and return the form to me.

Thank you,
Heather Carroll

**Biology
2026-2027**

Academic standards, chosen by the Tennessee State Board of Education, provide a common set of expectations for what students should know and be able to do at the end of a specific grade or course. Local school districts determine the order in which these state-mandated standards are addressed in their schools. For a breakdown of standard pacing and course objectives for Biology students in the Clarksville Montgomery County School System, please visit the Academic Resources link under the Students & Parents tab on the CMCSS homepage.

It is the policy of the Clarksville Montgomery County School System to follow the dictates of state statutes in the selection and use of all instructional materials. Parents or legal guardians may request to review any instructional materials used in the classroom of the parent or legal guardian's child following the guidelines set forth in Instructional Policy INS-A073 found at: <https://employees.cmcss.net/misc/ViewISO?filename=INS-A073.pdf>

The chart below outlines the units of study for Biology. Specific details for major assignments will be shared with students and parents or legal guardians as the standards related to the assignments are addressed in class.

Unit	Topic
1	Intro to Biology
2	Cellular Division
3	Protein Synthesis
4	Genetic Variations
5	Energy Within
6	Ecology
7	Population Changes
8	EOC Review
9	EOC Window and Enrichment

Classroom Behavior Policy: Horseplay and Lab Safety

To ensure the safety of all students during science instruction, horseplaying in the classroom or lab environment will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Safety is a top priority, especially when working with lab equipment, chemicals, and materials that require responsible behavior.

Definition of Horseplay

Horseplay includes, but is not limited to:

- Running, pushing, or shoving
- Throwing objects or materials
- Misuse of lab equipment or materials
- Loud, disruptive, or reckless behavior that could result in injury or damage

Consequences for Violations

1st Offense:

- Consequence:
 - Completion of a 3-page written safety reflection paper
 - Disciplinary referral issued
 - Restricted from lab participation until paper is submitted and approved

2nd Offense:

- Consequence:
 - Loss of lab privileges for the remainder of the school year
 - Alternative assignments provided in place of hands-on lab work
 - Disciplinary referral issued

This policy is designed to protect every student and maintain a safe, respectful learning environment. By choosing to follow the expectations, students ensure that everyone has the opportunity to engage in science safely and successfully.

AI Usage Policy

The Clarksville Montgomery County School System is committed to providing a safe, positive, and productive educational environment to enhance the college and career readiness of our students. CMCSS believes that all students and employees should have access to technology (e.g. software, hardware, internet, and network access) when they act in a responsible, efficient, and courteous manner in compliance with all legal guidelines, which includes the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for educational purposes.

Academic Honesty

AI is not a substitute for schoolwork that requires original thought. Students may not claim AI generated content as their own work. If a teacher has expressly forbidden the use of AI for a particular assignment in order to collect original student work and assess academic mastery, including, but not limited to a test or a paper, students may be reprimanded for Cheating, Plagiarism, or Forgery, pursuant to the CMCSS Code of Conduct (STS M001).

Ms. Carroll's Policy

Students should only use AI if I explicitly state that AI can be used on the assignment. AI cannot be used on any test or quiz. Students who do not follow these guidelines will receive a disciplinary referral and an alternative assignment.

Please acknowledge syllabus at

