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## Biology Syllabus

Mrs. Lowery

### Contact Information

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### Course Overview

In this course, students will conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific practices during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students in biology study various topics, including: structures and functions of cells and viruses; growth and development of organisms: cells, tissues, and organs; nucleic acids, protein synthesis, and genetics; biological evolution; taxonomy and classification of organisms; cell cycle and cancer; homeostasis processes; metabolism and energy transfers in living organisms; living systems; homeostasis; ecosystems, and the environment.

This is a **STAAR TESTED COURSE!**

### Biology Supplies

Mandatory (Daily class materials needed)	Preferred (Available in class as well)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Spiral or composition book (wide/college ruled - your choice)</li><li>- Writing utensils (pen/pencil)</li><li>- Highlighters</li><li>- Glue and/or tape (for notebook)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Colored pencils</li><li>- Markers</li><li>- Scissors</li><li>- Headphones/earbuds and laptop/tablets for <b>appropriate and responsible use</b></li></ul>

### Grading Policy

Daily grades (class activities, quizzes, and labs)	-- 40%
*LAB GRADES will be counted twice	
*QUIZ GRADES will be counted twice	
Major grades (tests and projects)	-- 60

### Extra Credit

Extra credit will be available throughout each unit. Extra credit work is not an easy, free grade replacement and will require scientific inquiry, research, and dedication. Please do NOT count on extra credit as an easy "grade replacement" or a last-minute pass opportunity before report cards are due.

## Class Procedures, Rules, and Consequences

Procedures	Rules	Consequences
<p>1. <b>When entering</b>, pick up daily materials at the front of the room, find your seat, and start the daily bell ringer.</p> <p>2. If applicable, please do not touch any lab materials sitting at the lab desks until instructed to do so.</p> <p>3. <b>By the end of class</b>, turn in all required assignments in the turn-in bin at the front of the room.</p> <p>4. Start packing up/cleaning for your next class <b>3 minutes</b> before the bell rings!</p> <p><b>ABSENT?</b> Check the hanging folders at the front of the room for your absence packet. <i>*A new due date will be given. You are responsible for obtaining all missing work and completing it by the due date.</i></p>	Be on time to class and prepared for learning.	<b>1st offense:</b> verbal warning
	Complete class work and homework <b>on time</b> . Our district has policies regarding late work. We strictly follow these policies.	<b>2nd offense:</b> student-teacher conference during or after class period
	Demonstrate academic integrity! We DO NOT tolerate cheating or any type of copying in this class.	<b>3rd offense:</b> parent contact through email
	Ask questions and communicate efficiently both in-person and through email.	<b>4th offense:</b> referral to administration to discuss behavior problems with AP
	Be respectful to everyone!	A student will be <b>immediately referred</b> to administration for severe behavior problems.
	<b>JHS 10/10 Rule</b> - Do not leave classrooms for any reason 10 minutes after the bell rings and 10 minutes before the bell rings for next class.	

### Phone Policy

Per DISTRICT & JHS policy, students **may not use their personal electronics**. Before entering the classroom students will put their phones and headphones in a designated phone caddy at the door. This phone caddy will then be placed in a locked science room. Phones will be returned at the end of class. **If a student refuses to put their phone in the phone caddy they will immediately be sent to the office.**

### Student IDs

Per DISTRICT & JHS policy, **Student IDs must be worn around their neck to enter the classroom**. If a student is not wearing their ID they will be sent to the AP office to obtain a temporary.

### Tardiness

Students are expected to show up to class on time and ready to learn. Students that acquire three tardies will receive parent contact. Additional tardies after will result in a referral to the office.

### Make-Up Work & Absences

Students that are absent will need to provide the attendance office with a letter of excuse to receive an excused absence. Please note that teachers do not code for excused absences and cannot change your student's absence in TEAMS. Students who miss any days in biology are expected to pick up their missing work packet from the front of the room. The packet will have their name on it and will include all the work completed for the day(s) they missed.

On Schoology, students can access our Google Slides calendar which contains all links to documents and any resources that we used for that day. Please refer to this calendar for the agenda, missed work links, information on what is due, and any new updates or announcements.

Schoology will be our learning management system for updates and teacher-student communication.

**Reassessments**

Per district policy, students <b><u>MAY</u></b> complete a resubmission on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Daily assignments</li><li>• Non-Major Grade Projects</li><li>• Tests</li></ul>	Per district policy, students <b><u>MAY NOT</u></b> complete a resubmission on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Major projects</li><li>• Midterms and finals</li><li>• Benchmark assessments</li></ul>
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**Re-submissions:** Students can receive a **maximum score of 70** on all **late or re-submitted assignments and tests**. Prior to a reassessment, students **MUST** participate in a re-teaching. This is accomplished as a tutorial before or after school. Students may resubmit assignments and retest only one time per assignment **within five (school) days**. Students have **two class meetings** from the time a missing **grade is posted in the grade book** to make up the missing work.

**Academic Dishonesty (District Policy)**

Students who engage in academic dishonesty, participate in cheating or copying, plagiarism, or unauthorized communication between students during an assignment or examination, shall be subject to disciplinary action and/or grade penalties, as determined by campus administration as outlined in board policy. A student shall be required to complete an alternate assignment/assessment with parallel learning objectives. Students will be required to demonstrate mastery of content and skills.

Credit shall be denied (a zero recorded in the gradebook) until an alternate assignment/assessment has been completed for a maximum grade of 75. For grades 6-12, it is the responsibility of the student to communicate with the teacher to initiate an alternate assignment/assessment within a reasonable period of time according to the campus handbook.

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**STUDENT AND PARENT SYLLABUS AGREEMENT**  
**Johnson High School 2024-2025**

By signing below, you and your parent(s) state that you have read the syllabus for Biology with Mrs. Lowery and agree to the procedures, rules, requirements, and restrictions of this class. Please note that you will be held accountable for all of the information provided to you here. Cut at the solid line above and turn in this small paper to your teacher for a free 100!

_____ Student name (printed)	_____ Student signature	_____ Date
_____ Parent/Guardian name (printed)	_____ Parent/Guardian signature	_____ Date