



Thurston High School

Ms. Katelyn Rozema

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Course Website: <https://sites.google.com/southredford.org/ms-rozemas-classes>

BIOLOGY SYLLABUS (2025-2026)

Length of Course: Full Year Course

of Credits: 0.5 credits / Semester

Grade(s) if applicable: 9-12

Prerequisite/Recommendation: None.

(This course IS required to graduate high school in the State of Michigan.)

Course Description:

Biology is designed around the five life science topics outlined in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS): 1. Structure and Function, 2. Inheritance and Variation of Traits, 3. Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems, 4. Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems, and 5. Natural Selection and Evolution. Students will investigate and learn about Viruses, the inheritance of Genetic Diseases and Disorders, Bacteria and Antibiotic Resistance, and how Plants and Animals are able to grow!

Course Standards:

- ☐ Explain and apply concepts of the Living Characteristics.
 - ☐ Explain and apply concepts of Homeostasis and Feedback Mechanisms.
 - ☐ Explain and apply concepts of Cell Membrane Transport Mechanisms.
 - ☐ Explain and apply concepts of Mitosis (Cell Division).
 - ☐ Explain and apply concepts of DNA and RNA Structure / Function.
 - ☐ Explain and apply concepts of Protein Synthesis.
 - ☐ Explain and apply concepts of Reproduction and Meiosis (Cell Division).
 - ☐ Explain and apply concepts of Gene Inheritance and Probability.
 - ☐ Explain and apply concepts of Genetic Diversity and Natural Selection.
 - ☐ Explain and apply concepts of Evolution and its evidence.
 - ☐ Explain and apply concepts of Photosynthesis.
 - ☐ Explain and apply concepts of Cellular Respiration.
 - ☐ Explain and apply concepts of Ecology and Organism Relationships.
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Attendance:

So as not to disrupt the teaching and learning environment and in order to get the most from classes, it is extremely important that students are **in class and on time every day**. Excused tardies require a pass from the adult who can vouch for your whereabouts. Students who are absent must email the teacher in order to inform them of the reason for the absence and/or to get make up work.

Required Materials:

1. Notebook OR Ample Loose-Leaf Lined Paper
2. Folder OR Binder
3. Pens
4. Pencils
5. Recommended: Highlighters and Markers

Textbook:

There is no assigned textbook for this course. All course content will be delivered to students in a clear and organized manner, and will be accessible via the Course Website (see Page 1). All notes, handouts, media, review materials can be found on the Course Website.

Learning Management System:

Canvas will not be used for posting and submitting assignments for this course. However, the link to the Course Website can be found on the Homepage (in Canvas) for this course.

THS GRADING SCALE:

- 93-100 = A
- 90-92 = A-
- 87-89 = B+
- 83-86 = B
- 80-82 = B-
- 77-79 = C+
- 73-76 = C
- 70-72 = C-
- 67-69 = D+
- 63-66 = D
- 60-62 = D-
- 59 or below = E no credit

Grades will be updated regularly in MiStar. Students can monitor their progress via Student Connect and by reviewing returned task assignments and notebook checks. It is each student's responsibility to keep completed assignment sheets and updated notebooks.

Assessment Categories & Weighting:

- ***Formative Assessments will be 30% of the student's overall grade.***
 - Formative Assessments are tasks that help students practice learned content and measure their learning progress.
 - **These types of assessments could be (but may include more):**
 - Quizzes
 - Some CERs and Labs
- ***Summative Assessments will be 70% of the student's overall grade.***
 - Summative Assessments are tasks at the end of a learning cycle or unit that reflect a "final measure" of student learning.
 - **These types of assessments could be (but may include more):**
 - Models
 - Projects
 - CER Writings
 - Tests / Exams
 - The Final Exam

Assignments & Late Work:

Students are expected to complete all assignments in class, even if the assignments do not count for a score/grade. Your teacher has created and provided all assignments to help ensure student success with the course content and skills. Any work missed due to excused absences may be made up (by the end of the corresponding Marking Period). It is the responsibility of the **student** to obtain and complete any work missed due to absences. In such a case the **student** must contact the teacher, immediately upon return, to arrange make-up work. ***Late assignments will NOT be accepted or available beyond the corresponding Marking Period.***

Assessment Retakes, Redos, Revisions:

Students are able to retake, redo, and/or revise any SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS up to 1x. In order to retake, redo, and/or revise any Summative Assessment, students must first complete the corresponding QUIZZZ (online review tool) AND score a 75% or higher. ***Students are NOT able to retake, redo, and/or revise any Formative Assessments unless told otherwise for individual assessments.***

Behavior Expectations:

All students are expected to be prepared for class and respectful to others.

Ask yourself, "Are my words and actions helping MYSELF, MY PEERS and MY TEACHER be successful?"

Students are also expected to adhere to the following:

[THS Student Code of Conduct](#)

[Computer and Equipment Expectations](#)

Electronic Devices and Accompanying Accessories:

Cell phones and any other personal electronic devices (earbuds, headphones, smart watches, tablets, laptops) are **NOT** allowed in the classroom at any time. Students are expected to turn off and secure their own device. Students are subject to disciplinary action if they refuse to store away their device(s). ***Refer to the THS student code of conduct.***

Food and Drink Information:

Students may NOT eat and/or drink anything other than water in the classroom. Neither food or drink is permitted in the lab area at any time. **If you choose to not follow this policy, your teacher is not responsible for ensuring all classroom surfaces are clean, sanitary and/or safe. Proceed with caution.**

Lab Attire:

During labs, students will be handling chemicals and using sharp tools. Therefore, students will be expected to wear pants, close-toed shoes, goggles, gloves and aprons. **The goggles, gloves and aprons will be provided by your teacher.**