

Zoology

Course Syllabus

Instructor Information

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Course Description

Zoology

1 semester (Fall)

1 credit

Grade 9-12

This course discusses the branch of biology that deals with animals and animal life, including the study of the structure, physiology, development, and classification of animals. Some of the topics discussed include the classification of animals, and characteristics of selected groups including cnidarians, roundworms, mollusks, and arthropods. Students should expect reading homework, projects, quizzes, tests, and laboratory write-ups. A high level of understanding in problem solving and the scientific methods is necessary for success in this course.

Curricular Information

Required Reading: Textbooks, scientific articles and laboratory instructions will be provided in class.

Standards: The following link will take you to the Idaho State Standards for this course: [Idaho Content Standards for Science](#). Out of those standards, this course will cover the following standards:
HS-LS-1.2, HS-LS-2.2, HS-LS-2.3, HS-LS-2.5, HS-LS-2.7, HS-LS-4.5
HS-ESS-3.3, HS-ESS-3.6

Supplies Required for this Course:

1 subject spiral notebook or 3-ring binder

Pencils and pens, colored pencils and highlighters

Ruler

Shoebox

Graph paper, ruled paper

Modeling and building materials

Calculator

Latex or Nitrile Gloves

Daily Time and Effort Expectations:

Students will be required to finish and turn in all assignments on time, or no credit will be given. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with the reading for the class. Check grades on Powerschool regularly, and study for tests/quizzes. Since we have a four-day week here at STEM, attendance is very important. It is not always possible to make up labs due to absences. If the absence is excused, students shall have the ability to make up missed work at the rate of one day per day missed.

Notebook Checks:

The notebooks are for organizing materials for your reference. We will be using the notebook throughout the course. The notebook will be graded for this class.

Notebook grading rubric:

Notebook should have tabs indicating different units, a table of contents, and each page should have a date and page number. Additionally, all handouts should be glued or taped into the notebook in date order and in the correct section.

	4	3	2	1
Missing Work	No sections of the notebook are missing.	One section of the notebook is missing items.	Two sections of the notebook are missing items.	Three or more sections of the notebook are missing items.
Headers/ Footers	No required header(s) and/or footer(s) are missing within the notebook.	One or two required header(s) and/or footer(s) are missing within the notebook.	Three or four required header(s) and/or footer(s) are missing within the notebook.	More than four required header(s) and/or footer(s) are missing within the notebook.
Organization	All assignments and/or notes are kept in a logical or numerical sequence.	One or two assignments and/or notes are not in a logical or numerical sequence.	Three or four assignments and/or notes are not in a logical or numerical sequence.	More than four assignments and/or notes are not in a logical or numerical sequence.
Neatness	Overall notebook is kept very neat.	Overall notebook is kept in a satisfactory condition.	Overall notebook is kept in a below satisfactory condition.	Overall notebook is unkept and very disorganized.

Suggestions for Success:

The following are suggestions to help you to maintain or improve your grade in this course.

1. Show up on time to class EVERY DAY. Tardies and absences contribute to lost learning experiences that cannot be recovered just by making up assignments.
2. Bring all required materials and a good attitude.
3. Keep up from the get go. It is extremely difficult to get out of a hole later on.
4. Keep your handouts, lecture notes, and study questions organized in a notebook.

Google Classroom:

Google classroom will be used primarily as a resource. Schedules for each unit will be found there that are hyperlinked to source material. There may be a few assignments completed online, but most work will be done on paper. A printable calendar will be provided for every unit. Please feel free to print it out to review due dates and upcoming tests, projects, and quizzes.

Course Evaluation:

The percentage breakdown for evaluation will be as follows:

Skills Practice	35%
Includes, but not limited to: Classwork, some labs (demonstrations), and homework	
Assessments	50%
Includes, but not limited to: Tests, quizzes, projects, and formal labs	
Cumulative Final Project or Exam:	15%

Course Schedule:

<u>Unit/ #Weeks</u>	<u>Topic(s) Covered</u>	<u>Labs/Projects</u>
1 3 weeks	Taxonomic systems, characteristics of kingdoms, phylogenetic trees and cladograms, using dichotomous keys.	Taxonomizing a Dog Common Ancestry Stations Dichotomous Key Labs
2 2 weeks	Phylum Cnidaria, examples and unique characteristics, anatomical structures, body plans of cnidarians and their advantages, impact in ecosystems and roles in food webs, coral bleaching	Classes of Cnidarians Speed Activity Life cycles of cnidarians Coral Reef Virtual Field Trip Escape Room
3 2 weeks	Phylum Nematoda, examples and unique characteristics, anatomical features, physiology of this group, parasitic roundworms	Parasitic roundworms project Dissection activity
4 3 weeks	Phylum Mollusca, examples and unique characteristics, major classes in the phylum, anatomical features of squid, roles in food webs, relationships with other organisms	Mollusk virtual field trip Squid dissection Invasive mollusks research Escape Room
5 3 weeks	Phylum Arthropoda, examples and unique characteristics, major subphyla and classes, anatomical structures and functions, impacts on ecosystem, roles in food webs, relationships with other organisms	Arthropod modelling activity Crayfish dissection Collection project
6 4 weeks	Phylum Chordata, Class Ichthyces examples and unique characteristics, major orders in the class, anatomical features of sharks, roles in food webs, relationships with other organisms.	Living fishes lab Dogfish shark dissection

Classroom Policies and Expectations:

Students are expected to adhere to the classroom rules set by the teacher in their assigned classroom or grade level, as well as to set the example for others in accordance with the North Idaho STEM Charter Academy Student Handbook. Professional appearance and behavior should be demonstrated at all times by students serving in this role. Assigned mentor teacher(s) will include observations about appearance and behavior in their evaluations.

Grading Scale

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Proficiency descriptors</i>
A+	97-100	Assignments are fully completed in a timely manner and of excellent quality; the student shows superior level of initiative and seeks to <u>go beyond the minimum requirements</u> . Errors are rare or nonexistent.
A	93-96	
A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	Assignments are fully completed in a timely manner and typically of above average quality; the student is conscientious and meets all requirements with few errors.
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	Assignments are generally complete (met minimum requirements) and of good quality; assigned tasks have occasional errors.
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	Assignments are generally incomplete or of poor quality; the student makes frequent errors in work.
D	63-66	
D-	60-62	
F	0-59	Work is poorly done, if at all. Overall performance is inadequate to pass the course. Note: No name = No credit Illegible = No credit Late = No credit (will <u>STILL</u> complete and submit the assignment)

Academic Honesty Policy:

“On my honor, I will maintain the highest possible standards of honesty, integrity, and personal responsibility. This means I will not lie, cheat, or steal, and as a member of this academic community, I am committed to creating an environment of respect and mutual trust.”

Violations of this code include, but are not limited to:

- Copying another student’s work or allowing your work to be copied
- Allowing someone other than yourself to complete work in your name

- Using unauthorized assistance on an assessment
- Allowing someone other than yourself to take an assessment
- Falsifying or manipulating data
- Submitting the same work for multiple courses without instructor's permission
- Giving answers to other students
- Lying to an instructor
- Plagiarism: direct copying is plagiarism. Only original work may be submitted for an academic course.
- Tampering with or destroying the work of another student

Consequences for Academic Dishonesty:

At the instructor's discretion, the student **will** lose partial or full credit for the assignment. Student will be on notice that the incident will be recorded in the gradebook and parent will be informed. Future academic dishonesty incidents will result in a grade of zero for the assignment, a meeting with the principal, and possible loss of credit, suspension, or expulsion. Direct copying is plagiarism. Only original work may be submitted for this (and any other) academic course. If you have any questions about avoiding plagiarism, please visit the [OWL at Purdue's "Avoiding Plagiarism" web page.](#)