



Greer High School

"Where Tradition Gives Rise to Excellence"

3000 East Gap Creek Road, Greer, SC 29651

CP Biology Syllabus - McConnell

Teacher: Mrs. McConnell

Room: 265

Phone: (864) 355 - 5779

Email: dmccconnell@greenville.k12.sc.us

Course Description:

Biology is the study of life, living things and their processes. Throughout the year, this course will provide an opportunity for students to develop analytical scientific skills, laboratory techniques, and an understanding of the internal functions of living organisms, as well as their interactions with the surrounding environment. Students will explore biological science as a process, cell structure and function, genetics and heredity, evolution, and ecology. This course places a strong emphasis on inquiry-based learning, allowing students to take responsibility for their own learning by engaging in problem-solving, decision making, critical thinking, and applied learning. **An end of the course test (EOC) will be administered at the end of this semester and will count as 20% of the student's final grade.**

Need to know:

Work will be posted on Google Classroom as quickly as possible.

Course Objectives:

- Teach students practical scientific skills, which they can use to investigate, study and explain the world around them.
- Give each student a deeper understanding of how biology impacts his or her daily lives.
- To encourage the spirit of scientific investigation and with it the attitudes of accuracy in thought and work.
- For each student to achieve the South Carolina PASS Standards for High School Biology.

Standards: This course is based on the [South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Science Standards 2021](#) located on pages 168 -197.

Materials:

- Interactive Composition Notebook (provided by Mrs. McConnell) and folder or binder
- Charged Chromebook
- Looseleaf Paper
- Pen (with easily visible ink) or Pencil

Academics, Athletics, and the Arts
An International Baccalaureate High School
www.greenville.k12.sc.us/greerhs
864-355-5700 Phone*Fax 864-355-5725



Greer High School

"Where Tradition Gives Rise to Excellence"

3000 East Gap Creek Road, Greer, SC 29651

- Markers, colored pencils, glue sticks, scissors (class set is available but students are welcome to bring their own)

Assessments: This course will be divided into multiple units, with 1 to 2 tests each unit. Each unit will also contain a variety of projects, laboratory activities, and quizzes.

The units covered: Scientific Inquiry, The Cell, Cell Energy, Genetics, Evolution, and Ecology

Grading policy: The Biology End-of-Course test will count for 20% of each student's final grade. The remaining 80% will be calculated as follows:

40%: Minor grades (classwork, homework, quizzes, labs, etc.)

60%: Test and Projects

The grading scale is:

A= 90 – 100

B= 80 - 89

C=70 – 79

D= 60 – 69

Attendance Policy: Student Handbook p. 11-12

Absences in High School are accrued per course. Any absence in excess of 5 may cause the student to lose credit for a 90-day / semester course. Absence excuses are at the discretion of the administration, not the teacher.

Tardiness: Students will be held accountable for promptness

- First offense warning
- Second offense warning/parent contact
- Third offense referral
- Fourth referral

Greer High students must be present a minimum of 45 minutes to be counted present.

Starter Work:

Please begin bell work as soon as you come to class. Bell work will generally review previous material or practice working with EOC-like questions.

Academics, Athletics, and the Arts
An International Baccalaureate High School
www.greenville.k12.sc.us/greerhs
864-355-5700 Phone*Fax 864-355-5725



Greer High School

"Where Tradition Gives Rise to Excellence"

3000 East Gap Creek Road, Greer, SC 29651

Communication: I am generally in my classroom from 8 am until class begins. However, if you have a question or concern outside of office hours, feel free to email me at dmccconnell@greenville.k12.sc.us

Academic Policies and Procedures:

- Assignments are to be turned into the labeled tray at the front of the classroom.
- Assignment due dates will be communicated with each assignment.
 - Ten points will be deducted from work turned in late.
- Any plagiarism or academic dishonesty will result in the grade of a zero, parent contact, and administrative referral.

Make-Up Policy

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to obtain any assignments you missed while you were gone on your first day back to class. Please contact me if you are unable to find an assignment **Missed tests or quizzes should be made up in class with your teacher.** *Please schedule a time with me to make things up.* Additional information is provided below.

Minor

- If a student is absent for a minor assignment, a zero will be entered in the grade book and coded as make-up.
- Students will have 5 days to complete the assignment for full credit.
- Students who refuse to complete work will be referred to administration.

Major

- If a student is absent for a major assignment, a zero will be entered in the grade book and coded as make-up.
- Students will have 5 days to complete the assignment for full credit with their teacher or in the Major Make-up Lab.
- If the student does not make up the assignment within 5 days, they will automatically be assigned to the Major Make-up Lab.
- Students who refuse to complete work will be referred to administration.

Classroom Policies and procedures:

- **Be respectful** (*of yourself, your classmates, your teachers, and class supplies*).
- **Be on time** (*Be in the classroom when the bell rings*).

Academics, Athletics, and the Arts
An International Baccalaureate High School
www.greenville.k12.sc.us/greerhs
864-355-5700 Phone*Fax 864-355-5725



Greer High School

"Where Tradition Gives Rise to Excellence"

3000 East Gap Creek Road, Greer, SC 29651

- **Be prepared** (*Bring your textbook/Chromebook, notebook, and pen or pencil*)
- **Be responsible** (*The classroom/laboratory room must be cleaned at the end of the period*).
- ID badges must be worn and visible at all times. If you do not have your ID on or I have to ask you to put it on, you will be sent to ISS (school policy).

Restrooms:

- You have two passes on SmartPass each day (this is an administrative decision), please be mindful of this if you ask to leave the classroom. If you have questions regarding this, please contact the administration.
- You may not leave the class for the first and last fifteen minutes of each class period.

Cell Phones/air pods and ear buds:

- District policy states all phones and other forms of technology must be turned off and stowed away in your book bag. Earbuds, iPods, and headphones are not allowed between the hours of 8:45-3:45. Phones may be used in the hallways or at lunch for educational purposes.
- Zero tolerance in accordance with district guidelines.
- If you are using an unauthorized electronic device in class, you will receive a referral. This includes using Chromebooks for noninstructional or unapproved activities. This also includes the use of personal laptops, iPads, e-readers, etc.

Attire: Please be aware of the school dress code. Hats, hoodies, blankets, and sleeping attire are not permitted (per school rules). Thank you for working with me on this.

Lab Safety: Each student will be required to sign a Laboratory Safety contract. Each student will also be required to score an 80% or higher on a lab safety quiz before they can participate in lab activities. You will receive a hands-on tour of the lab where you will be given the opportunity to ask questions.

- Any horseplay in the lab will be dealt with zero tolerance.
- 1st offense referral and parent contact
- 2nd offense banned from all lab activities

AI Statement

MagicSchool Syllabus Statement

Academics, Athletics, and the Arts
An International Baccalaureate High School
www.greenville.k12.sc.us/greerhs
864-355-5700 Phone*Fax 864-355-5725



Greer High School

“Where Tradition Gives Rise to Excellence”

3000 East Gap Creek Road, Greer, SC 29651

This year, students will use MagicSchool AI, a generative AI platform designed specifically for education. As tools like ChatGPT and Gemini become standard in the professional world, utilizing MagicSchool prepares students for the future workforce by teaching safe and responsible technology use.

Students will use these tools for real-time feedback and dynamic problem-solving. To ensure appropriate use, teachers retain access to all student chats. MagicSchool strictly protects privacy and does not collect or utilize student data. All AI software, including MagicSchool, complies with GCS Board Policy and Administrative Rule IA.

Generative AI Syllabus Statement

This course may utilize generative AI tools, such as MagicSchool and Google Gemini, to supplement traditional instruction. Greenville County Schools prioritizes the ethical use of these technologies for brainstorming and self-guided learning.

Critical Thinking First:

AI must not replace original thought or coursework.

Academic Integrity:

Using AI to complete and submit assignments as original work constitutes plagiarism.

Required Citation:

If teacher-approved, all AI use must be properly cited.

Content Awareness:

Students must remain vigilant regarding potential biases and inaccuracies in AI-generated content.

Policy Compliance:

All AI programs align with GCS Board Policy and Administrative Rule IA.

Academics, Athletics, and the Arts
An International Baccalaureate High School
www.greenville.k12.sc.us/greerhs
864-355-5700 Phone*Fax 864-355-5725