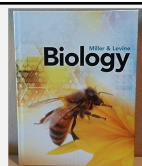


Mr. Loucks- Syllabus for Integrated Science: Fall 2025

mloucks@greenvilleschools.us (864) 355-2836 Room C219

| Office Hours | M | Tu | W | Th | F |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| Before School | 8:00–8:35 | 8:00–8:35 | 8:00–8:35 | 8:00–8:35 | 8:00–8:35 |
| After School | | 3:50–4:15 | Unavailable | 3:50–4:15 | |

Textbook



This course uses **Miller & Levine Biology (Savvas, 2021)**. Students can access the digital version of this text online through Classlinks using Savvas EasyBridge. Select readings of this text are encouraged throughout the course. A class set of textbooks is also available in our classroom for use at school.

Supplies Needed

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Students should have a 3-ring binder (1 inch is fine) to keep hold of notes and handouts for this course. | |
| You will need pencils, erasers, at least two pens in different colors, and loose-leaf notebook paper. | | Students are encouraged to bring a personal calculator. Some spare units are available for classroom use if needed. |

Course Objectives

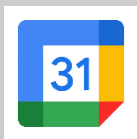
| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| | Use and apply the processes and skills of scientific inquiry and engineering practices. | | Show an understanding of the mechanisms for gene transfer and trait inheritance between generations. |
| | Show an understanding of the essential functions of life within cells and systems of cells. | | Demonstrate an understanding of physical and biological components in complex ecosystems. |
| | Show an understanding of energy capture and transfer from photosynthesis into ecosystems. | | Show an understanding of how natural selection affects change in organisms over time. |

Schedule Prospectus

Weekly modules will address these topics in this order. Topical coverage does not always align neatly within a week-long module, but topics will generally span 10 to 15 school days. Summative tests will be given approximately every two weeks. Click here [Standards](#)

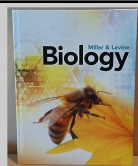
| | |
|--|---|
| Introduction Week <i>Scientific methods, lab safety, lab equipment</i> | Unit 4: Dynamics of Ecosystems <i>Ecosystems, biodiversity</i> |
| Unit 1: Structures of Organisms <i>DNA, proteins, mitosis</i> | Unit 5: Inheritance of Traits <i>Population genetics, meiosis</i> |
| Unit 2: Processes of Organisms <i>Photosynthesis, cellular respiration, macromolecules</i> | Unit 6: Evolution: Unity & Diversity <i>Speciation, natural selection, genetic drift</i> |
| Unit 3: Energy of Ecosystems <i>Carbon cycles, trophic levels</i> | EOC Review: Science and Engineering Principles, Cross-Cutting Concepts, Disciplinary Core Ideas |

Class Apps



(Google) Calendar

Be in-the-know about scheduled class events and assignment due dates:



South Carolina Biology Techbook (Miller and LevineSav vas).



(Google) Classroom

Your source for accessing handouts, lesson videos, lesson notes, virtual labs, and assignments:



PhET

Virtual labs and simulators for science.



Flipgrid

Record and submit video/audio responses.



Kami

Annotate PDFs for assignments and more!



EdPuzzle

Online lesson videos for blended learning and eLearning.



Pear Deck

Interactive Lesson Slides for in-person and online lessons.



Gizmos

Virtual labs and simulators for science.

Assignments and Scoring

Practice Work (Learning: Minor Grade)

Practice assignments are usually 10–20 questions. You are expected to check your own work in class or by using a provided answer key. These are graded for completion within 24–48 hours. Difficulty: Easy to moderate.

Checkpoints (Learning: Minor Grade)

These short assignments are to assess your understanding of a topic. They can be taken multiple times and are automatically scored. Usually just 10 questions. Graded for accuracy (best score goes in gradebook). Difficulty: Easy to moderate.

Projects (Mastering: Major Grade)

Meant to apply your skills to authentic, real-world problems. There are 2 projects each quarter. Difficulty: moderate to challenging. Graded within 3–5 school days.

Labs (Refining: Minor Grade)

Chemistry labs include a wide range of experiences with real chemicals, physical manipulatives, and virtual simulations. Graded within 48–72 hours. Difficulty: easy, to moderate, to challenging.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|---|---|------------|
| Major Assessments | 60% | A 90+ B 80–89 C 70–79 D 60–69 F 0–59 | 1st Quarter | 45% |
| | | | 2nd Quarter | 45% |
| | | | Final Exam | 10% |
| | | | Course Grade Calculation Formula: $(Q1 \times 0.40) + (Q2 \times 0.40) + (\text{Exam} \times 0.20) = \text{Total \%}$ | |
| Minor Assessments | 40% | | | |

Dear student,



08/11/2025

Dear Student and Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the beginning of a new and exciting Semester in the science department at Eastside High School. My name is Mark Loucks and I have been teaching in Greenville County for the past 17 years. This is my 14th year at Eastside and I am excited to be here. The science department now has nine teachers and we look forward to working with you and your child this year as we begin a year of discovery and exploration in each discipline.

We are so excited to share our love for science with your child during the first semester of the school year. The Eastside High School science department would like to welcome all of our new and returning students to what will be an exciting year.

The nature of science requires a variety of hands-on experiences to delve into the natural phenomena of our world. In order to provide these unique learning opportunities, Eastside High School, along with many of the other high schools in Greenville County, collects a lab fee to offset some of the cost. This fee serves to provide materials such as chemicals, gloves, dissecting specimens, and other consumable materials. When your student's teacher begins the fee collection process, you will receive an email via the address set up in your Backpack account detailing the amount and deadline for payment. Lab fees may be paid through [myschoolbucks.com](#) (preferred), cash, or check made out to EHS (\$10). My school Click here [Bucs](#)

If you have any questions or concerns as we embark on this new learning journey together, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher. We look forward to this exciting new year and welcoming your child into our classrooms.

I hope to have the opportunity to meet you at PTSA Open House on Monday 8/25/2025. I am looking forward to serving you and your child this year. Together we can make this an enjoyable and productive school year!

- Magic-school AI tools for students click [here](#)

Student Information Sheet/Movie Permission for Biology [Click Here](#)

Sincerely,

Eastside High School Science Department

Josh Branham, Department Chair

Josh Carroll

David Craig

Jessica Fredrick

Erik Hansen

Kayce Looper

Mark Loucks
Jackie Mills
Brian Nyvall:

CP Biology -This introductory laboratory-based course is designed to familiarize the student with the major concepts of biology including, cell theory, heredity, ecology, and biological evolution. Students develop critical thinking skills and science process skills through inquiry based learning experiences in preparation for advanced science courses. This course provides numerous opportunities for students to develop science process skills, critical thinking and an appreciation for the nature of science through inquiry based learning. Investigative, hands-on lab activities that address the high school inquiry standards are an integral part of this course.

Honors Biology - An introductory lab-based course designed to provide students a detailed study of the major concepts of biology including, cell theory, heredity, ecology, and biological evolution. These concepts will be addressed in greater depth than Biology CP. Students develop critical thinking skills and science process skills through inquiry based learning experiences in preparation for advanced science courses such as Advanced placement and Dual enrolment. This honors level course is for motivated students who need an in depth and challenging program. This course provides numerous opportunities for students to develop science process skills, critical thinking, and an appreciation for the nature of science through inquiry based learning experiences. Hands- on lab activities that address the high school inquiry standards are an integral part of this course.

General Expectations

Be Prompt: Time is precious.

Be in class and in your seat by the time the bell rings. As soon as the bell rings, the doors will be shut and locked.
If you are tardy, you must go to the Tardy Station at the front office to get a tardy pass before being admitted to class.
Complete assignments by their turn-in date and time unless an extension has been granted by IEP/504 accommodation.

Be Prepared: Are you ready?

Check in to Google Classroom daily to stay up-to-date on assignments and schedules.
Follow a routine of focused study to review notes and complete assignments.
Maintain an organized 3-ring binder for notes, worksheets, handouts, and class documents.

Be Positive: Like cations! (More on that later...)

Approach this subject with the attitude that you can learn and conquer difficult things.
Demonstrate a spirit of cooperation with your teacher and classmates.

Be Productive: Bring your A-Game.

Be an engaged and helpful team member during table team activities and lab experiments or procedures.
Listen, question, and make notes during intervals of direct instruction from Mr. Loucks.
Work until the bell rings, packing up no sooner than 2 minutes prior to the bell.

Be Polite: Please and thank you.

Lidded beverages (like coffee!) are permitted. Please do not eat during class unless permission has been given to do so.
Given that you are near lab chemicals, eating is not advisable. Getting crumbs in your Chromebook is not a great idea either.
Be considerate of others' personal space and possessions. Do not use crude, profane, or derogatory language.

Makeup and Late Work

Makeup Work: Work not completed or turned in due to a student's absence. *This policy is set by the district.*

- ❑ Students may be allowed to make up work due to absences that are excused, unexcused or related to discipline with no penalty within 5 days or a reasonable time according to GCSD board policy.
- ❑ If a student misses work due to an absence, it is the student's responsibility to coordinate time with the teacher within 5 days of return to make up the work. Any work not submitted within the 5 day makeup period will turn into "late work."
- ❑ Alternative assignments may be given for performance-based tasks that cannot be recreated in a make-up format.
- ❑ If a student is present on the day a test, quiz or project due date is announced and then absent on the day of the test, quiz, or project deadline, he/she must be prepared to take the test, the quiz, or to turn in the project on the day he/she returns to school.
- ❑ Field trips and participation in other extracurricular events (such as athletics) are considered attendance days. Work missed due to such events can be submitted electronically by midnight on the day that it is due. Items that cannot be submitted electronically should be submitted the following attendance day.
- ❑ Students are encouraged to utilize the before and after school tutoring programs to complete make-up and late work in a proactive manner.

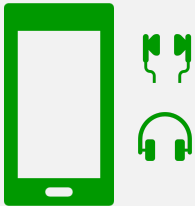
Late Work: Work not completed/turned in on time even though the student attended the class. *This policy is set by Eastside HS.*

- ❑ Late work is defined as work not completed/turned in on time even though the student attended the class.
- ❑ Any assignment which is not turned in on time will be deducted 10 points off the original grade earned for each school day the assignment is late, up to five days.
- ❑ After five days, the student will be assigned a 0 for the assignment.
- ❑ Late work will not be accepted after the end of a grading period.
- ❑ Students who have 504/IEP/ESOL accommodations specifically allowing for extra time may exceed the 5 day window to maintain compliance with their respective educational plan.
- ❑ Dual Credit courses may have varying late work policies that are aligned with their parent university.
- ❑ Students are encouraged to utilize the before and after school tutoring programs to complete make-up and late work in a proactive manner.

Mr. Loucks reserves the right to alter this policy based on extenuating circumstances. Life happens!

The best thing you can do is to communicate with Mr. Loucks when life gets in the way of schoolwork.

Classroom Policies



Phones and Audio Accessories: Acceptable Use.

Eastside High School is a Personalized Learning School with each student having access to a chromebook to use for instructional purposes.

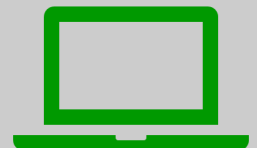
To increase student engagement and minimize distractions to the instructional environment, students are not allowed to use their personal electronic devices, which include, but are not limited to cell phones and earbuds, during any class.

Students may use their personal devices before school, after school, during lunch and during class changes. Failure to comply with this policy will be treated as a refusal to obey. A consequence matrix addressing infractions is included in the student handbook and located on the school's website.

Neither the school nor the district will be responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged electronic device or cell phone brought onto school property.

Your Chromebook: With you. Charged. Every day.

This device is expected to be your primary tool for interacting with the class apps and web resources. As stated in the Eastside Chromebook Handbook, *"Students are required to bring their Chromebook to school every day, fully charged."* Repeated failure to bring your Chromebook to school and/or failure to bring it with adequate charge will be met with disciplinary action. *Just as teachers and administrators are required to properly charge and transport their laptops to complete their work, so must you.*



**Cheating: Don't you dare!**

Copying from the internet or copying the work of other students and then presenting it as your own is both destructive to your own education and an insult to your teacher and classmates. If you are observed to be copying another student's work in this class, the copied work *will be confiscated* by Mr. Loucks, graded as a *zero*, and *reported to the Administration*, in addition to *parent contact*. If the copied work is for another class, your actions will be *reported to the appropriate teacher* in addition to *parent contact*.

Restroom Breaks: One at a time.

Requests to leave for a restroom break are nearly always granted. School policy is that restroom visits happen outside of class time such as before or after school, during lunch, or during class changes. School policy also requests that breaks not be taken in the first or final 10 minutes of any class period. Students who make frequent breaks during non-ideal times may be confronted.

