

Information to help with AP Biology

I am credentialed to teach AP Biology in several states. Edmentum owns two different curricula for AP Biology. I have taught students using both curricula. Students' AP test scores depend on how much work they do to get the information into their heads before the test.

- It should be independent of the curriculum they followed.
- I have had students using both curricula earn 5s on the AP biology test.
- Some students also earned 1s, 2s, 3s, or 4s on the test.
- I have not been teaching the course long enough to be able to draw any conclusions about students in which curricula earn which score other than students who made excuses during the class about why they could not do the work they were asked to do during the class, did not earn 5's on the tests.
- I give the same advice to all students.
- If I can copy and paste appropriate feedback in multiple situations or with more than one student, then various students get the same feedback.
- Students are not earning 5's on an AP test because Ms. Getz was their teacher.

Having said that...

- I do not know why students are enrolled in AP Biology with Ed Options Academy or with Apex Learning or if we offer the curriculum in both systems to all states. Up to this point, all students in a specific state use one company's curriculum. I have not had any states use the Ed Options curriculum and Apex Learning. I don't care enough to analyze who uses which curriculum. I know I write guide sheets for both curricula. (hint hint)
- Use whatever resources work for you to learn the material.
- You can access videos at Study.com because Ms. Getz pays for a subscription. I don't know if any students used those videos, but Ms. Getz will watch them if she needs a refresher. You should have received our access code during the first week of class. Ask Ms. Getz for it if you need it.
- When you started the class, you were given an access code for AP Central. To prepare for the test, you should watch as many videos in AP Classroom and answer as many multiple-choice questions as possible. They also offer constructed response questions. Do as many as you can and evaluate your work.
- Some students do well with Khan Academy, some like Boseman Science, and some use Mr. W's website. Mr. W's website costs money, like Study.com. If enough students enroll in AP biology courses and Ms. Getz is their teacher, she will consider paying for Mr. W's support. She did it in 2023-2024 and does not know if any students used his curriculum. Nobody indicated they used his stuff.
- It is possible to earn a B or C in the course and still earn a 4 or 5 on the AP biology test.
- It is possible to earn an A or B in the course and a 2 or 3 on the AP Biology test. Some students are skilled at manipulating the academic system to get points they really don't deserve. Ms. Getz tries not to reward plagiarism or use artificial intelligence to generate answers, but she can't catch everything. What is the point of getting the extra point on the transcript, to later fail out of college because you don't belong there? As far as Ms. Getz knows, cheating on an AP test should be impossible. At least, she hopes it is.

- The bottom line... if you put in the effort to learn the material, you should be rewarded with a high score for your transcript and an AP test score that lets you earn college credits.
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