**AP® Biology**

Welcome to AP Biology! I am excited to learn and grow with you this coming year as we gain a greater appreciation for our Creator through biological science.

**Contact Information:**

Stephenie Hopper

Room: A203

Ext- 1475

 Stephenine.hopper@sfcakings.net

(Please be aware of the unusual spelling of my first name)

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| *Textbook:* |  | Urry, Cain, Wasserman, Minorsky, & Reece. (n.d.). *Campbell Biology* (11th ed.). New York, NY: Pearson. |

*Materials* –

* National brand laboratory research notebook
* 3-ring binder
* Something to write with
* Assigned work for the day
* Do *not* bring-
	+ Food or drink (see handbook for directive)

*Technology*

“All high school students are required to have a fully functioning laptop in class each day. Cell phones and other tablets are not acceptable devices.”

* Any use of the laptop computer or other electronic devices for anything other than educational purposes will result in suspension from bringing personal electronic devices to school and possible further disciplinary action (student handbook).

*Category Weights & Course Expectations*

Calculation of your grade is based on your home learning (10%), quizzes & lab activities (30%), tests (50%), in-class activities and preparation (10%).

**Course Description and Overview**

This course is a college level course that follows closely the syllabus recommended by the College Board and prepares students for the Advanced Placement examination in Biology. This course is designed to provide a more in-depth study of the biological sciences for students who have a special interest in Biology or its related fields. It will emphasize comparative Anatomy and Physiology, Ecology, Microbiology, Genetics, Cytology, and Biochemistry. Individual research work and laboratory work will be expected of all students. Students enrolled in Advanced Placement are required to take the College Board Advanced Placement test on May 11, 2020.

*AP Biology Big Ideas:*

• Big Idea 1: The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life. (approximately 15% of course instructional time)

• Big Idea 2: Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce, and to maintain dynamic homeostasis. (approximately 30% of course instructional time)

• Big Idea 3: Living systems store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information essential to life processes. (approximately 30% of course instructional time)

• Big Idea 4: Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties. (approximately 25% of course instructional time)

**Assessment Practices**

Traditional exam assessments will include cumulative tests and vocabulary quizzes. Exams model the format of the AP Biology Exam, with a combination of multiple-choice and free-response essays at the end of each Unit. Quizzes include the vocabulary for the unit.

There will be a vocabulary quiz for every chapter covered and a cumulative unit test. The unit tests will take two days. The first day will be free response questions and the second day will be a minimum of 35 questions up to 70 multiple choice questions – we will talk about this in class and what you feel comfortable with.

**Expectations**

* Be familiar with the student handbook in regards to student expectations, absences and tardies.
* Remember the work you turn in is a reflection of your effort on the assignment. This is a college level course I expect college level work.
* If you are tardy unexcused and miss a vocabulary quiz, you will not be able to make it up later. It is a zero. If you are absent for a vocabulary quiz, it is your responsibility to come to me for a makeup date. I will not seek you out.
* Do not cheat, the expectation is for you to pass the AP Exam, not buff your grade. The amount of work you do, money spent on the exam and book, as well as the money that could be saved in college should be motivation to get this done.
* Attendance- with the rigorous requirements of the AP Biology curriculum, it is imperative that you try to be present every day. This class will move at a very rapid pace compared to other high school courses you have taken. It will be your responsibility to read while absent and makeup missed assignments upon returning. You must take the responsibility to make-up all missed work within one week upon returning to school or zeros will be recorded for the missing assignments. If you are absent on your lab day, you must stay after school to complete the experiment. If you are absent for an extended time, please make arrangements to pick-up any notes or assignments that were distributed in class. Arrangements can be made by sending me an email.

**Labs:** Students are required to complete labs set forth by The College Board Advanced Placement Program. Students are expected to read each lab carefully before coming to the laboratory and are responsible for following all correct laboratory and safety procedures. Due to the large amount of time and money required for laboratory set-up, it is essential that you are always present on lab days. Within one week of completing the lab, students will turn in lab reports in the National Brand Laboratory Research notebooks in the format provided by the instructor.

**Availability:**

* Help sessions and study sessions are available every Wednesday from 2:50-3:30. There is no need to make arrangements as I will be there waiting for you ☺. All other days after school, please let me know if you would like to come in and I will make sure to be in my room unless I have a scheduled after school duty. As we progress in the year, we may need to come up with a schedule for specific days for AP Biology, as I will need to help my chemistry and AP Psychology students as well.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM: Wednesday, May 11th, 2022**

**A Final Note:** Do not be intimidated! If you want to succeed, you will. It will take work, but if you trust me and do what I request, I will provide you with all of the tools necessary to be successful. By his time next year, you will have a completely new perspective on the world around you and with a bit of luck, even yourself. Please feel free to email me if you have questions.

I look forward to a GREAT year!

Mrs. Hopper

Please read the AP Bio syllabus and then sign and return this sheet by August 16th.

My child and I have read the syllabus given.

Student name printed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_