

Biology Syllabus

Class Information

Instructor: Ben Klein

Office Hours: 7:30am - 3:45pm or by appointment

Office Location: 705 W 13th Room: 802

Phone: (308)324-4691 ext. 2802

E-mail: ben.klein@lexschools.org

Textbook

Inspire Biology. McGraw-Hill Education. Columbus, OH. 2020.

Course Overview

This course studies the interactions of living things and the environment surrounding them. General topics include: scientific method, evolution, classification, cell biology, genetics, ecology, and the survey of organisms within the six kingdoms. The course is enhanced with laboratory experiences, group activities, and projects. Emphasis is on cooperative learning and problem solving. Students will be able to present projects through computer-aided programs.

Class Requirements

- iPad
 - 3-Ring binder (1 inch or 1-1/2 inch is preferable)
 - Loose leaf notebook binder
 - Writing Utensils (I prefer you use pencils)
 - ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
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Classroom Rules

- Work Hard
 - Be nice
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Expectations

- It is always okay to do your best and ask for help.
 - It is always okay to be kind and helpful.
 - BOTTOM LINE: It is **never** okay to be disruptive. Being disruptive means you are interfering with learning or being hurtful.
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Accountability

- Students will be held accountable for their actions. When those actions are disrespectful and/or disruptive to learning environment, students will follow process with the classroom teacher before they re-enter the learning community.
 - Students who choose not to own their actions will be given time to think away from other students until they are ready to re-join the learning community.
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Grading

- Grades will be based on the district wide grade scale.
 - Semester Grade Break-down
 - Q1 - 45%
 - Q2 - 45%
 - Semester final - 10%
 - Quarter Grade Breakdown
 - Assessments - 60%
 - Class Work - 40%
 - Assignments will be due when the instructor asks for them, any assignments turned after that point will be considered late.
 - Late papers will only be eligible for 50% credit. After 1 week late papers will not be accepted. Only in extenuating circumstances and with teacher approval will late work be accepted.
 - Plagiarism/Cheating/Academic Dishonesty
 - Anyone found cheating or plagiarizing work will be forced to follow the guidelines as written in the Student Code of Conduct. For a definition of cheating please refer to the code of conduct handout.
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Extra-Credit

- As a general rule, extra-credit will not be given. Bonus points on assignments maybe earned on occasion through various means, but are extremely rare. Students will be made aware of when these opportunities arise.
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Absences

- The students will be held accountable for all missed assignments, notes, etc for any absence. (You must come to me and ask what you missed).
- Regarding homework (e.g. vocabulary powerpoints, study guides, and reading & writing actives) it is still expected that you turn those assignments in prior to the due date and time. However, exceptions can be made to this rule if the the student makes arrangements with me (Mr. Klein) and those arrangements are acceptable to both parties. This will be rare!
- If you are absent from class where you miss a quiz or exam, you have 2-days to make up the quiz or exam from when you return to school. I understand that you may have multiple assessments to make up from other classes, to alleviate that stress and give

you the best chance for success on the assessment it is essential that you speak with me to FORM A PLAN for making up the missed assessment.

- Students that miss school because of a pre-excused reason need to notify the teacher (Mr. Klein) as soon as possible. **If you are attending a school function, your work must be made up a head of time unless prior arrangements have been made.**
 - If you miss a lab, you need to read three articles from sciencenews.org and write a five-sentence summary of the articles. Articles are available in the science room. Please ask your instructor for articles.
 - If you are absent due to illness/injury or a death in the family, follow the two-day rule: you'll have two days to make up work per day of absence. After five days in a row, only one day will be given for each additional day of absence.
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Special Notes

- No use of the phone in the room without permission.
 - Students will be considered tardy if they are not in their seat with their materials at the ready when the bell rings.
 - Being in class is important, students need to be in class. Passes for the restroom or other locations will only be allowed on extremely (i.e. emergencies) rare occasions.
 - I have lots of materials in the room for students to use. If you choose to use these materials inappropriately, you will not be allowed to use the materials.
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Remote Learning Addendum:

In the event that this class must meet remotely due to suspension of face-to-face instruction in response to directed health protocols determined by local health departments, Nebraska State Department of Education, and/or governmental mandate the following rules must be met. These rules (and expectations) are in addition to rules set forth by the Lexington Board of Education and Lexington Public Schools Administration regarding remote learning.

- Be dressed appropriately for school.
- Eat and use the restroom before the meeting begins.
- Let family members and visitors know you are zooming.
- Be sitting in a chair at a table/desk. If possible, have a wall behind you.
- No uninvited guests.
- Have the needed supplies. Scientific calculator, pens/pencils, printed copies of the notes, worksheets, cheat sheets, etc.
- Arrive on time to your meeting.
- If you are having problems connecting, contact the teacher by email ASAP; or let a peer in the class know so they can tell the teacher.
- Turn on your camera and be visible on camera.
- Do not change your background once the meeting begins.
- Mute yourself when others are speaking.
- Use the “hi hand” to let the teacher know you have a question.
- Use the “thumbs up” to let the teacher know you understand.
- No non-class related chats.
- No recording of class without permission.
- You are in school during your Zoom Meeting, behave accordingly.

Communicate with your teacher if you are having problems or need help. They cannot help you if they do not know you need help.

Declaration of Accountability

By signing this paper the student agrees to be held accountable for all the expectations and rules set forth in this syllabus for Mr. Klein's Biology class. In addition the student agrees to follow all laboratory safety rules. Violations of rules will result in disciplinary action as outlined in the Student Handbook and the Student Code of Conduct.

Take this syllabus home and go over it with your parents. After you and your parents have carefully read it and understand it, please sign and return it .

PARENTS/GUARDIANS: If your child falls behind with his classwork, you will be contacted during your child's class time. If your child causes repeated problems in class, you be contacted and asked to come in for a meeting to resolve this issue. Home visits are made by teachers as needed.

Student: _____ (print)

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian _____ (print)

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____