COURSE SYLLABUS – PreAP BIOLOGY A

“Things turn out best for those who make the best of the way things turn out.”
-John Wooden

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Milan High School - Room 24

**COURSE TOPICS**

**Grading Scale:**

**A** = 100 – 93

**B** = 92 – 85

**C** = 84 – 75

**D** = 74 – 70

**F** = 69 and below

* Organic Compounds
* Cell Structure and Function
* Cell Energetics: Photosynthesis & Respiration
* Molecular Genetics
* Cell Growth and Reproduction
* Sexual Reproduction

**END OF COURSE TEST (EOC)**

At the end of PreAP Biology Part B, a **comprehensive** exam required by the state of Tennessee will be administered to all Biology I students. This test will count 25% of the final biology grade in all schools in Tennessee.

**GRADING**

* Grades will be based on the total points received divided by the total points possible. **Tests and quizzes count for approximately 85-90% of your grade.**
* All students will be expected to take a comprehensive final exam at the end of the course.
* Grades are determined from class work, quizzes, lab assignments, exams, and projects.
* Tests are composed of a variety of questions such as multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. In order to increase retention, **tests will include some material from previous lessons**.
* **Students, you are responsible for *your grades*!** Develop good study skills. Don’t wait until the night before a test to study, **review daily!** If we do not have written work, reviewing is your homework!
* Cheating will not be tolerated.

**ASSIGNMENTS**

* All assignments are due at the beginning of the period.
* Students are required to keep a notebook with all course assignments and information in it. Always put returned (graded) work back in your notebook.
* Late assignments will receive a reduction in points for each day late without excuse.
* There will be weekly reading and assignments from the textbook. There is a lot of work associated with PreAP – JUST DO IT!!!

**ABSENCES**

* In the event of an absence on the day of a test, you must make it up with Mr. Hall during open lunch.
* When returning from an absence, **it is your responsibility to find out what you missed! *Use the website.***

**CLASS PROCEDURES**

1. **Tardiness**: When the bell rings, you must be in the room *and in your seat* or you will be marked late.
2. **Bell Work:** This will be on the board, overhead, or projector when you enter the room. You are to immediately begin work on these assignments upon entering the classroom.
3. **MySpace:** The entire classroom is considered your own personal space except for Mr. Hall’s desk and its contents. Do not, for any reason, touch anything on my desk without permission.

4. **Textbooks:** Textbooks belong on shelves. If your book is found anywhere other than on the shelf, you will be assigned write-offs.

5. **Discipline:** The punishment for Level one offenses (talking at inappropriate times, using inappropriate language, being caught off task, etc) will be an assignment of write-offs. You will have one day to complete this assignment. If these are not turned in on the day following the infraction, a detention will be assigned (and I will find you in detention and make you do them anyway). Level one offenses will also result in a parent contact. If a few detentions do not curb your behavior then more drastic measures will be taken (office visit, parent conference, Saturday School, ISS, Alt School, etc).

6. **Leaving Class**: If you leave class for any reason (bathroom, checkout, office visit, guidance office, etc) you must sign out so that there is a record of when you left and where you went.

**CLASS EXPECTATIONS**

* We will be doing several laboratory activities throughout the course. I expect students to participate, be cooperative within a group, clean up, follow all directions, and follow all safety rules. **NO HORSEPLAY!!**
* No food or drinks in class including candy. You may bring water in a bottle. **Not in a cup.**
* Obviously, students should conduct themselves as young adults and all school-wide rules should be followed. Consequences imposed depend upon the type of misbehavior and the severity of it.
* We also have daily procedures that students are expected to learn and follow!
* **Be responsible for your own actions**. There is no “good” excuse for poor behavior.

**BATHROOM POLICY**

* Take care of your bathroom business during your breaks.
* Show up each day prepared (have your book, pencil, paper).
* You will be allowed one bathroom pass for EMERGENCY USE ONLY. You must have permission, sign out and back in, and have a hall pass.
* Should you use more than one pass, or show up unprepared, you will be assigned a demerit. After three demerits, you will be assigned a detention for ALL following demerits.

**CELL PHONE POLICY**

* The use of cell phones is strictly prohibited during Mr. Hall’s class time.
* Cell phones are to be used during lunch and during breaks only. If I **see or hear** a cell phone in my room then it will be confiscated. (Keep in mind; I can still “hear” a cell phone that is on vibrate). Be safe: turn your phone OFF!

**REQUIRED SUPPLIES**

* 3-ring notebook, loose-leaf paper, and dividers (no spiral notebooks)
* Pencils and/or **black or blue** ink pens
* Colored Pencils

**ATTENTION PARENTS! PLEASE READ!** I send out emails and text messages weekly informing you about your student’s progress, upcoming projects and tests, and other information. If you would like to get these, please provide me with the following information.

Email Address (please print carefully): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you would like texts: Cell Number with area code \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Service Provider (ex. Verizon, Singular, AT&T) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Phone (home/ work phone): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**After reviewing this syllabus, please sign, detach, and return this section to Mr. Hall.**

I have read and understand the procedures, expectations, and information in the Biology 1.A syllabus.

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 date student signature parent signature

**Parent’s Printed Name (please write legibly**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_