

## **Biology I Course Expectations** **(2011-2012)**

**Instructor:** Brian Lenze

**Room:** 913     **Phone:** 799-6800

**E-mail:** [blenze@interact.ccsd.net](mailto:blenze@interact.ccsd.net)

**Class Website:** <http://www.mrlenze.com>



### **Course Scope:**

This is a one-year course that is designed around introductory biological concepts designed for the academically oriented student. Emphasis is placed on developing critical thinking skills, research skills, and laboratory techniques. Independent study projects and inquiry-based learning experiences are integral parts of the course requirements. The course fulfills one of the two high school graduation requirements for science and college entrance requirements for laboratory science.

### **Course Goals:**

1. To utilize the nature of science through scientific processes of inquiry.
2. To safely conduct original investigations.
3. To evaluate the development of biological concepts in a historical context.
4. To develop explanations based on evidence.
5. To explain how genetic information is passed from one generation to another.
6. To describe how all life forms, at all levels of organization, use specialized structure and similar processes to meet life's needs.
7. To describe how the ecosystems display patterns of organization, use specialized structure and similar processes to meet life's needs.
8. To investigate diversity of life as explained through biological evolution.
9. To analyze the transformation of energy related to living organisms.
10. To explore the chemistry of life processes.
11. To explore career opportunities related to biology.
12. To discuss moral and ethical issues related to biological concepts.
13. To demonstrate an understanding of character, ethics, safety skills, and manners appropriate for this course.

## Units of Study

### Quarter 1:

- Human Biology (begin and continue all semester 1)
- Unit 1: Nature of Science (continue through all quarters)
- Unit 2: Chemistry of Life
- Unit 3: Cellular Biology & Cell Transport

### Quarter 2

- Unit 4: Cell Replication
- Unit 5: Cell Energy
- Unit 6: DNA Structure and Function

### Quarter 3

- Unit 7: Genetics
- Unit 8: Evolution and Diversity (Start in quarter 3, continue in quarter 4)
- Unit 9: Human Biology (Review and Complete)

### Quarter 4

- Unit 10: Taxonomy and Classification
- Unit 11: Ecology

## Classroom Policies, Procedures, and Expectations:

- Follow all Coronado High School and Clark County School District rules, policies, and procedures (Refer to Student Planner and CCSD Behavior Guidelines for Secondary Students).
- No cell phones, headphones, PDA's or makeup are to be seen in this room. They will be confiscated and given to the dean.
- Be prepared, on time, with a positive attitude every day.
- Always demonstrate **RESPECT** for yourself, your classmates, the teacher, and all school property; keep your hands, feet, inappropriate comments, and profanity to yourself.
- Follow all instructions the *first* time they are given.
- Keep your work area clean before, during, and after all classroom activities.
- Safely conduct yourself and properly handle equipment during labs and activities (*see lab safety rules.*)
- Be honest, trustworthy, and strive for continued improvement.
- Be actively involved by participating, listening, producing quality work, and helping others do the right thing.
- You must be seated and ready to start the lesson the bell rings.
- The teacher assigns Seating and lab partners.
- Backpacks and other personal belongings not related to this class will be placed under your table; leave personal items out of sight.
- Bottled water with a lid is permissible; no other food or drink is allowed in classrooms.
- All assignments are posted on the board and will be copied by each student in the student planner. All assignments will be posted on the website.
- The student planner is used as a hall pass.
- All assignments will have the same heading (Name, Period, Date)

- Students must maintain a clean and undamaged room and equipment; student fine cards will be issued for non-accidental damages.
- Remain seated until you are dismissed by the teacher. ***Do not pack up early.***

**Class Rules:** *Procedures and expectations are different than class rules. There are 3 rules in Mr. Lenze's class.*

- 1) Be prepared**
- 2) Be respectful.**
- 3) Be here now.**

**Consequences:**

All students will behave appropriately in class. Behavior that interferes with or distracts another student from learning or interrupts teaching will not be tolerated. If you choose to break a rule or do not follow procedures, the following consequences may be initiated:

1. Verbal warning
2. Conference with student
3. A phone call home
4. Teacher detention
5. Dean referral

**Class Detentions/Talking during exams:**

Class rules are in place to ensure the learning process is fair to everyone. Consequences of not following these rules may result in a before or after school detention. Detentions usually last 30 minutes, and if the first detention is missed without prior notification, a second one will be given. If these are not attended, a referral to the Deans office will be issued. Student may be asked to assist with classroom tasks during their detention, such as school errands, cleaning the desks, or setting up lab equipment. No lunch detentions will be given.

**Attendance/ Tardies**

Attending class everyday and being on time shows responsibility and respect. *Students that exceed ten unexcused absences in a semester will receive a failing grade and lose class credit (This is a CCSD Policy).* Students are expected to be prepared and ready to start class when the bell rings. Any class activity missed due to unexcused tardies will not be made up and will result in a zero grade. Arriving late is disruptive to the class, please make your best attempt to be present and on time! There is a tardy lock out every period, so students will be sent to the Dean's Office if tardy.

**Grading Policies:**

Quarter Grades will be weighted as follows-

Tests/ Quizzes	40%
Projects/Labs	30%
Classwork/ Homework	20%
Participation	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Semester Grades

Quarter 1 =	45%
Quarter 2 =	45%
<u>Semester Exam =</u>	<u>10%</u>
<b>Total for Semester:</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Grading Scale-

90%-100%= A

80%-89.9%= B

70%-79.9%= C

60%-69.9%= D

Less than 60% = F

**Checking Your Grade:** Grades can only be checked before or after school, or online through Parent-link.

### Citizenship Grading Scale-

"O" = Student has achieved a superior performance in the areas of self control, respect, attitude, cooperation, preparedness, and excellent attendance.

"S" = Student has achieved average performance in the areas of self control, respect, attitude, cooperation, preparedness, and good attendance.

"N" = Needs improvement.

"U" = Student has achieved below average performance in the areas of self-control, respect, attitude, cooperation, preparedness, and poor attendance.

### Tests/Quizzes

Tests may be in the format of a written test (e.g. multiple choice, true/false), essay exam, or performance based assessment (i.e., practical). A unit exam will be given at the closure of each unit. This will be approximately every 2-4 weeks. Quizzes will be given every 1-2 weeks. The quizzes are a quick way for the teacher to monitor your understanding of homework, labs, class work, and vocabulary. Upcoming exam dates and schedules quiz dates will be listed on the class website. Most of the weekly quizzes will be provided on the class website. Students have one week (Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - until the following Tuesday 12:00 p.m.) to take the quiz online before it closes. They may take the quiz as many times as they wish before the deadline.

### Homework

Students will complete a various number of assignments ranging from reading assignments, concept maps, projects, lab reports, and quizzes online. All homework is due at the beginning of class the following day unless noted otherwise. Late assignments will be penalized 25% each day late. All assignments will be accepted for 50% credit up until the day of the current unit exam. **All assignments will be posted online on the calendar section of my webpage.** Students and parents can download and print off all the assignments from the course. Each assignment will be posted the day it is assigned and not before. If the online calendar lists the assignment as homework then it will be collected the following day unless noted.

### Labs/Activities

Lab work is an integral part of this course. Please make every attempt to be present on lab days. There will be various lab experiences, some more involved than others. Lab work will include handouts, lab projects, and presentations. Lab safety and lab report guidelines appear in a separate document.

## **Notebook**

It is extremely important that you keep an organized notebook and bring it to class every day. You are required to have a 3 ring binder to keep your work in. A sample notebook is provided in class as a reference tool. You may have other classes in the same 3 ring binder, but IT NEEDS TO BE SEPARATED FROM THE OTHER CLASS PERIODS!

Have a tabbed section for each of the following:

- QODs
- Notes
- Class work/Homework
- Labs/Projects

## **Participation**

To obtain full participation points, students need to be on time, begin the POD (a question posed to students at the beginning of class which they are to answer in their notebooks) and follow all rules, procedures, and instructions.

**Extra Credit:** *No extra credit will be available.*

## **Make-Up Work:**

- Late Work-* Students are expected to turn in all assignments on time. Late assignments will be penalized 25% each day late. All assignments will be accepted for 50% credit up until the day of the current unit exam. This policy excludes tests, online quizzes, most labs, and projects. See below for further grading procedures on these items.
- Tests/Quizzes-* Students who are absent on the day of a previously announced major quiz or test must be prepared to take the assessment immediately upon return from the absence (during class). If this is impossible due to extenuating circumstances, the student will have 3 days to schedule a make-up session. The test or quiz must be made up within one week.
- Homework/classwork/notebooks-* After an absence, you have 3 days to make contact and obtain appropriate make up classwork and homework. You are expected to obtain the work the day that you return to school and complete the work in the same amount of time your classmates had.
- Labs-* If you miss a lab due to an absence, you will also have 3 days to obtain your makeup work. Due to the difficulty of doing labs after school, you will be assigned an alternative form of the lab. Alternative forms include, but are not limited to virtual labs and dry labs (which is where we provide you with the data). The lab alternative will cover the same material, but in a different way.
- Projects-* Any previously assigned projects or major assignments are due when the student returns. The project will be penalized 25% for each day late. After the third day late (-75%), the project will not be accepted.
- Prearranged Absences-* work is due the day a student returns from a prearranged absence.

- If Absent*- Most assignments will also be available online (on the class website, click on "My Calendar"). Handouts and notes will be available in the back of class, online, or from a friend. Upon returning from (or even during) an absence, check these sources for your assignments. It is the students' responsibility to obtain make up work, not the teachers! Notes missed must be hand copied into your own notebook. If you need any assistance obtaining make-up work, please do so before or after school, not during class.

**Supply List**- these materials need to be with you each day, your teacher may do random checks for them. If you do not bring these materials, you may lose participation points. If you have difficulty getting any of these supplies, please see the teacher before or after school for assistance. IT IS NOT REQUIRED, BUT YOU MAY WANT TO ALSO GET A PENCIL CASE TO HOLD EVERYTHING!!

<input type="checkbox"/> Pens
<input type="checkbox"/> Highlighter
<input type="checkbox"/> Pencils (#2)
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-ring Binder (1.5 inch minimum)

<input type="checkbox"/> Paper (lined)
<input type="checkbox"/> Colored Pencils (12 colors minimum)

**Student Assistance**

Any student who requires additional help with an assignment or needs to speak to me should see me after school. Please let me know when you want to come in to make sure I am available. Tutoring is also available after school Monday - Thursday in my room 2:11 to 3:00. Please make arrangements a head of time if you are coming in for tutoring.