

Welcome to a new school year at Licking Heights High School and to Honors Biology. The goal of this course is to help you to understand how various biological systems function, to inspire an appreciation for living organisms, and to actively engage in the scientific process. In order for everyone to achieve these goals, I have provided the following information so that we can all have an exciting and successful year.

### **Materials**

I find that the most successful students are those that come to class prepared. The following is a list of materials that you should bring to class every day:

- Pencils
- Set of colored pencils or pens
- 2" three-ring binder
- Set of 5 dividers
- Set of dry erase markers

### **Expectations**

Always remember that you **DO NOT** have the right to disrupt another student's learning or my teaching. Any behavior that crosses either of these lines will result in a consequence. This could mean a verbal redirection, seat change, conference in the hallway, detention, phone call home, or any combination of these depending on the situation. Severe behavior issues will be sent directly to the office. Every day I expect that you:

- Be prepared
- Be on time
- Be respectful
- Be accountable
- Be consistent
- Remain in your seat and on task until I dismiss you from class.
- No food, drink, or candy will be permitted in the classroom.

### **Cell Phones**

If at any point I feel that the use of your phone in my class is a major distraction to you, another student, or to myself **I will take it**. I will keep it for the entire class period. Phones should not be out for any reason during a test/quiz. You will not be permitted to use your phone until every test/quiz has been collected in the room. I will take your phone if I catch it out during one of these times and you will receive a zero on the assessment, with no opportunity to make it up.

### **Absences**

If you are absent it is **your** responsibility to go to the homework center and to get what you missed in class. Extra copies of any worksheets will be provided in the appropriate folder. If you missed a day of notes you will need to get them from a friend in class or see me after class. If you have missed a day of lab, you will be expected to touch base with your group to get the data from them. You will have the number of days that you were absent to complete the make-up work. After the allotted period of time, "absent work" will be considered "late work" and may not be accepted. If, after you have checked the homework center and still have questions, ask Mrs. Ouellette after class.

## Grading Scale

The grading scale will change a bit each quarter to help students transition to the rigor of an honors class. This will also help them to become accustomed to the weighted scales they may experience in AP classes in the future. Practice, such as homework will contribute less to their final grade as we progress through the year while tests will contribute more.

| Category | 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter | 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Practice | 15%                     | 10%                     | 5%                      | 0%                      |
| Lab      | 35%                     | 35%                     | 40%                     | 40%                     |
| Quiz     | 10%                     | 10%                     | 10%                     | 10%                     |
| Test     | 40%                     | 45%                     | 45%                     | 50%                     |

*PLEASE NOTE: Progress Book does NOT reflect the weighted grading scale for an honors class. Please refer to your LHHS Student Handbook for the appropriate scale.*

## Practice

Practice includes classwork, homework, or any other short activity that is completed in to help you learn new skills or content. All homework assignments should be completed **ON TIME**. I do not accept late homework. Other assignments such as labs and projects may be accepted late, but for a grade reduction of 10% for each day that it is late. Make sure to keep all of your notes and assignments until the end of the year!

## Formal Lab Reports

Throughout the year you will be doing a variety of labs. Some of these will culminate in a formal lab report or research poster. Each will have a rubric that will accompany it that outlines the specifics of what you will need to do. Depending on the assignment and time of the year, you may be required to type these reports outside of class, as class time will be devoted to the design of the experiment and the collection of data.

## Projects/Collaborative Group Work

Throughout the year you will work collaboratively with other members of the class. If you should encounter a problem within your group, I expect you to come to me and attempt an intervention well in advance of the due date.

## Tests and Quizzes

Tests and quizzes may consist of multiple choice, data analysis, short free-response, and/or long essay questions. Students will not have more than the allotted time to complete any quiz or more than one class period to complete a test. If absent, a student will have up to two school days to complete the missed test or quiz. Failure to complete the test or quiz within those two days will result in a failing grade. No review guides will be given for tests or quizzes. Instead, students will devote some time in class during first quarter learning how to independently create a study guide.

## Topics

The following are topics that we will be learning about throughout this school year. This is the tentative order that the topics will be presented.

| First Semester |  | Second Semester |                                       |
|----------------|--|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Unit 1         | Characteristics of Life & Scientific Inquiry | Unit 6          | Genetics                              |
| Unit 2         | The Chemistry of Life                        | Unit 7          | Evolutionary Biology & Classification |
| Unit 3         | Cellular Structure & Function                | Unit 8          | Ecology                               |
| Unit 4         | Photosynthesis & Cellular Respiration        | AIR TEST        |                                       |
| Unit 5         | Cell Division: Mitosis & Meiosis             | Unit 9          | Diversity of Life                     |
| *MIDTERM       |  | *FINAL EXAM     |                                       |

*\*Midterms and final exams are cumulative for each semester.*

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## Honors Biology – Mrs. Ouellette

Please sign the form below after thoroughly reviewing the syllabus. Tear off this page and return to Mrs. Ouellette. Please keep the course syllabus for your records.

By signing below, I am acknowledging that I have read the Honors Biology Syllabus and understand what is expected of me during the 2018-2019 school year. I understand that I should come to class prepared, conduct myself in accordance with the 5 B's, and take responsibility for both my work and behavior every day in Mrs. Ouellette's class.

I understand that if I do not adhere to the outlined expectations that consequences will follow.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Name (Print)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Period**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

### Parents/Guardians:

Thank you so much for taking the time to read through this syllabus with your student. Please contact me should you have any questions regarding your student's progress. I look forward to getting to know you and your student!

I have read the "Course Overview" document and understand what is expected of my student this school year.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian Name (Print)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Relation to Student**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**