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**STEPHEN F. AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL**

**Academy for Global Studies**

**PRE-AP BIOLOGY 4123H SYLLABUS 2017-2018**

**Teacher:** Miss Steiner **Email:** devon.steiner@austinisd.org

**Room:** 149 **Website:** biologywithsteiner.weebly.com

**Classroom Phone:** (512) 841-5859

**Course Goals**

* Prepare students to take Advanced Placement Biology by providing an academically rigorous and challenging course based on the major themes in biology (according to the *AP Biology Course Description*).
* Produce global citizens who are educated and able critical thinkers on topics, which require scientific literacy for full comprehension.
* Produce scientifically literate students who can think independently and critically and use the knowledge gained in the class to make environmentally, socially, and scientifically responsible decisions about the living world and their role in it.

**Textbook**

*Biology* by Kenneth Miller and Joseph Levine, 2015, by Pearson Education, Inc. Online access available to all students

**Course Supplies**

* Students must have all supplies by the end of the first week.
* 1-subject spiral notebook, college ruled with plastic cover. Must be 8.5” X 11”
* Colored pencils
* Pens and #2 pencils
* Highlighters

**Course Topics**

\*Nature of Science \*Cell Cycle, Differentiation & Meiosis

\*Ecology \*Biochemistry \*Genetics & Mutations \*Water

\*Food insecurity \*Evolution, Taxonomy & Classification

\*Poverty & Unequal Distribution of Resources \*Viruses & Body Systems

\*Cells \*Plants

\*DNA & Protein Synthesis

**Course Policies**

* Students are expected to check BLEND on a daily basis for exam dates and other important events.
* Grading Policy as follows:

60% Major Grades – Exams and Projects

40% Minor Grades – Class Work, Labs, Daily Assignments and Homework

* Semester grades are determined by averaging each six weeks grade (25% per six weeks) with the semester final exam grade (25%)
* Projects will be assigned each six weeks and are worth a major grade.
* Students who are absent for any reason (excused, unexcused, school-related) are responsible for getting the work they missed and district policy must be followed.
* Personal responsibility is the rule in the classroom. Students and teacher will be punctual, prepared, productive, and polite in class to maximize their learning experience.

**Late Work Policy/Missing an Exam**

* Students may submit assignments up to 4 calendar school days after original due date with a 10 pt penalty per day late.
* After 4 days a student may earn up to a 50 for completion of assignment or alternative assignment comparable to original assignment.  ALL LATE WORK must be turned in no later than 1 week prior to the last day of the grading period. NO EXCEPTIONS
* If you miss an exam, you MUST communicate with Ms. Steiner in person, via email or phone and you MUST come in and take the exam the next day you are on campus. Failure to do this can result in consequences.

**Tardy & Truancy Policy**

* The Austin High Tardy and Truancy Policy will be implemented in my class. A student will be marked absent if they arrive 45 after the start of class. Students will be assigned Saturday school if they are tardy to class three or more times per six weeks.

# Test Improvements

* + Students will only be eligible if they have completed the review prior to taking the unit exam.
	+ If a student scores a 74% or below on an exam, then the student will come during tutorials and complete test corrections **in class**.
	+ The student will earn ½ the value of the original question for each correct answer.
	+ The earned points will be applied to the original exam score, not to exceed 75%.
	+ Students must complete test corrections during the **two day window** provided by teacher.
	+ Students are expected to bring their INB for test corrections.

**Tutoring**

* If a student is struggling with the content, I strongly encourage him/her to come in for tutorials.
* Please make prior arrangements with me if extra help is needed.
* I am available for tutoring Monday-Thursday mornings & by appointment. Please let me know in advance if you plan to attend tutoring
* The tutoring center is also available each morning and after school, and a late bus is available

**School and District Policies**

* Students and parents must sign an AISD Laboratory Safety Contract in order for students to participate in lab.
* Students and parents must sign an Academic Integrity Policy.
* Students are expected to comply with the guidelines established in the Stephen F. Austin Student/Parent Handbook.
* Students are expected to dress, behave, and speak in an appropriate manner in the classroom.

**Electronics/Technology:**

* Students are expected to bring their own personal technology device issued by the school. These devices should be fully charged and ready for use.
* Cell phones will be placed into the cell phone caddy at the beginning of each class, and can be retrieved before the end of class.

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Student signature

TAKE THIS FORM HOME TO GET SIGNED AND RETURN TO MS. STEINER

 **STEPHEN F. AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL**

**Academy for Global Studies**

 **PRE-AP BIOLOGY 4123H 2017-2018**

 **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY AND LAB SAFETY CONTRACT**

**Teacher:** Miss Steiner **Email:** devon.steiner@austinisd.org

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Academic Dishonesty Policy: Austin High School Science Department

According to the Austin High Student/Parent Handbook, Academic dishonesty includes, but is not exclusive to: using notes or study aids without permission during a quiz or test, falsifying someone else’s work as one’s own, including plagiarism, looking at another person’s quiz or test without the teacher’s explicit permission. Consequences for academic dishonesty include: zero for the assignment without an opportunity for making-up the assignment, a call home, the mistrust of your instructor, the refusal of your instructor to write a letter of recommendation for you. Austin High personnel may assign additional consequences if the dishonesty persists.

Teachers are trying to evaluate your knowledge of the subject area. You may want to make the following adaptations so that your work presented for this class represents only your honest effort. Never copy work from a friend whether this is for homework or on an exam. Be careful about accepting help from tutors, friends or parents - we want your work. Be sure to try to answer the question or solve the problem before asking for help. Do not ask peers for exam information. Do not give peers exam information.

A**ISD Science Laboratory Safety Contract**

• I will act responsibly at all times in the laboratory.

• I will follow all instructions about laboratory procedures given by the teacher.

• I will keep my area clean in the laboratory.

• I will wear my safety goggles at all times in the laboratory and protective clothing when necessary.

• I know where the fire extinguisher is located in the laboratory and have been trained to use it.

• I will notify the teacher of any emergency.

• I know whom to contact for help in an emergency.

• I will tie back long hair, remove jewelry, and wear shoes with closed ends (toes and heels) while in the laboratory.

• I will never work in the laboratory alone.

• I will never eat or drink in the laboratory unless instructed to do so by the teacher.

• I will only handle living organisms or preserved specimens when authorized by the teacher.

• I will not enter or work in the storage room unless supervised by a teacher.

• I understand that there are options available to me concerning animal dissection.

• I understand that students will be removed from the science activity area by the teacher if:

1. Their personal appearance or dress is such that they can cause injury to themselves or other students.
2. They are behaving in such a manner that they cause injury to themselves or other students.
3. They are not following the prescribed safety rules for the science activity area or the particular science activity being conducted.
4. They are going beyond the limits of the science activity into areas that may lead to an unsafe situation.
5. They have not completed the pre-experiment activities that will allow them to work safely in the laboratory.

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 **Pre AP Biology** Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION NEATLY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**print parent's name**), have read the course syllabus. I have discussed the contents of the Academic Dishonesty Policy and AISD Science Laboratory Safety Contract with my child and feel that my child understands the guidelines and the consequences for violating the guidelines. I would like to inform the school that my child has the following physical or medical situation that could affect his/her learning in a science class (ex: specific allergies, etc.).

 1.

 2.

 3.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**print student's name**), have read each of the statements in the course syllabus including the Academic Dishonesty Policy and AISD Science Laboratory Safety Contract and understand the guidelines and the consequences for violating the guidelines. I agree to abide by all classroom rules, school policies, safety regulations, and any additional written or verbal instructions provided by the school district and my teacher.

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**Student Signature**  Date

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**Parent Signature**  Date

**Parent Home Phone** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Cell Phone** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Work Phone** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please only provide contact information if you can be reached at that number/address.