

BIOLOGY I
COURSE SYLLABUS
Mr. Ragozzino – Instructor
2011/2012

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The general understanding of plants and animals is essential for every student in order for them to further their education. The knowledge gained in biology will allow the student to understand the processes that occur in life. The main focus of this course is to allow the student to identify a relationship with themselves and the environment. Units covered are Principles of Cell Biology, Principles of Genetics, Principles of Evolution, and Principles/ Exploring Human Biology. Technology is also used throughout the course which allows the student to keep up with its changes. There is no prerequisite for this course.

INSTRUCTIONAL PHILOSOPHY:

The student is the central learner and the focus of the assignments illustrates that. The students are expected to apply the essential knowledge they gain in class to real-world situations and projects. The assignments consist of labs, research, projects, tests, dissection, and higher level thinking. Through the assignments, the students will display the ability to construct, identify, interpret, calculate, and dissect. The majority of the assignments allow the students to work in groups; however, individual performance is also assessed. Projects are presented to the class and discussed. The student is evaluated in several ways. Their assessment is based on exams, projects, portfolios/ journals, critiques, presentations, and participation.

COURSE GOALS:

1. Use the scientific method in order to hypothesize and solve a problem.
2. Use the appropriate language associated with biology and its content.
3. Allow the students to investigate and analyze the relationship between the environment and themselves.
4. Allow the students to investigate and analyze the relationship between DNA and cell division and themselves.
5. Use of dissection to relate to their own being.
6. Use technology to enhance the learning and allow the students to engage in other resources in order to solve or research a problem or an event.

ASSESSMENT PLAN:

Projects/ Portfolios/ Labs	45%
Test/ Quizzes	30%
Articles/ Homework	15%
Participation	10%

** Subject to change

GRADING SCALE:

A	92-100	Excellent
B	83-91	Above Average
C	74-82	Average
D	66-73	Below Average
F	< 65	Failure, No credit given