

ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY HANDBOOK

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ONCE YOU WRESTLE WITH THE TEXTBOOK A BIT, YOU BEGIN TO SEE THE SCOPE OF THIS CLASS. THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO ATTACK THIS PROBLEM—1) MEMORIZE THE TEXTBOOK OR 2) PARE DOWN TO ESSENTIALS—MAJOR CONCEPTS AND VOCABULARY—AND LEARN THOSE. WE'RE TRYING THE SECOND APPROACH.

THE TEXT FOCUSES ON DETAIL. THE BOOK IS GREAT, BUT WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO COVER THAT IN DEPTH. YOU DON'T NEED TO KNOW ALL THAT INFORMATION TO DO WELL ON THE EXAM. IN FACT, TOO MUCH INFORMATION CAN PARALYZE YOUR BRAIN—IT FREEZES UP AND CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT IS IMPORTANT.

Extra credit assignments are **NOT** given in lieu of regular classroom work. Individual assignments will not be given out. It will be given to the class as a whole. Extra credit may be incorporated into a grading period, but I will choose what and when it will be offered.

Make up /Late work: Only students with excused absences and tardies will be able to make up missed work, quizzes, or tests. If you do not do make up work, you will receive a zero for that assignment. School policy will be followed for make up work. Excused make up work will receive full credit if done in a timely manner (school rule is 5 days after return to school). Missed lab activities will have to be done with a science teacher **AND** done before or after school and/or may be replaced with an alternate assignment. Late work will receive half credit!!!!

Plagiarism and Cheating: Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated and will be given a grade of zero. Cheating on all or any part of an assignment will result in a zero for **ALL** people involved. A word about Cheating—**DON'T**

- Rote copying from anyone's paper on any assignment--test, lab, wkst, homework--is cheating.
- Knowingly allowing anyone to copy your work--test, lab, worksheet, and homework--is cheating.
- Dividing assignments into parts and sharing is cheating
- Using an unauthorized cheat sheet during tests or quizzes is cheating.

Schedule: I try to keep a tentative schedule and at times discuss them with students allowing some choice in due dates of assignments and tests. You should plan your activities (work, sports, clubs, and social) around due dates. Many activities you will have several weeks notice on and others may be due the next day. Waiting until the last possible minute normally does not result in a desired grade. Some chapters may be assigned over fall, Christmas, and spring breaks. This may depend on how fast we are progressing through the material. Each unit usually has 2 quizzes and one test with related labs and assignments.

Class Rules

1) **You drink and/or eat...you clean it up!!**

•**Why?** Science rooms are also Laboratory rooms. Food/Drink do not mix with labs and vermin (roaches, mice, etc.) love junk food more than students do. They will set up housekeeping in any room that provides free food. Chewing Gum/Candy: "If I see it or hear it, it's gone." Same as food policy... I will not clean up after you!

2) You look just fine! Don't try to improve on perfection. Don't do your hair, makeup, or any other grooming during class. Don't share grooming materials with anyone else in class. This is unsanitary and a health hazard.

3) Don't leave a mess on your desk or on the floor around your desk. When we have class activities, cleaning