

Chinese Christian Schools
Biology
COURSE SYLLABUS
2010– 2011
Ms. Trisha Chung

Welcome to Biology! This course is designed to allow students to examine biology in detail and to understand its applications in the living world. Specifically, students will explore the relationship between biology and health, as well as the environment.

It is my hope that each student will master concepts in science and apply these concepts to his/her life and in turn impacts this community. To be able to accomplish this, each student will be engaging in many different activities throughout the year to ensure that learning will be challenging and interesting. Each student will be participating in laboratory activities, scientific projects and reports, and written and oral assignments.

As their teacher, I am committed to each student's success, in that they acquire and understand the necessary material; the student is then responsible for putting the time and effort into the class to master its content. If a student needs extra instruction or have questions they can schedule an appointment with me after school. Parents are also encouraged to contact me regarding any concerns about their child. The best way to reach me is through email.

Contact Information:

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Textbook: Levine, Joseph and Miller, Kenneth. (2010). *Biology*, Boston, Massachusetts: Pearson Prentice Hall.

This course includes the following topics:

- The Basis of Life
- Genetics
- Change and Diversity
- Monerans, Protists, and Fungi
- Plants
- Invertebrate and Vertebrate Animals
- Human Biology
- Organisms and the Environment

Organization: Being organized is the key to success in any class! Students are strongly urged to keep a separate binder for Biology. I recommend 3 sections for: (1) lecture notes/ handouts, (2) classwork/ homework, and (3) labs. Loose-leaf paper is preferable over spiral-bound paper for notes and applicable assignments. ALL handouts and work should be kept for reference!! Verifications in grading must be supported by the students OWN records, not just the teachers'!

Classwork, homework, and labs may be stamped for on-time credit, but turned in at a later time. When the teacher grades the assignment, the stamp verifies that the work was completed on-time. No stamp indicates no credit for that assignment, *or a particular portion of that assignment*. It is the students' responsibility to retain any work that may be turned in at a later time than when it is due. No exceptions are made for "lost" assignments, unless the issue is discussed with the teacher prior to the turn in date for the assignment.

Please **bring pens(blue and green), pencils, erasers and two different highlighters to class each day.** In addition, students are recommended to bring or purchase colored pencils (a box of 8-12 pencils will do), as we will use these occasionally to complete activities in class.

Make-up Work / Tests: Students must notify the teacher if there is a planned absence, (i.e., for a school activity), so arrangements can be made. If a student is absent on the day an assignment is due, then it must be turned in (or stamped) on the day of return, for full credit. Otherwise, the assignment is considered late. When a student is absent on the day of a test/quiz, the student must make up the test on the day of return or after the same amount of days of absence. For example, if a student is absent for 3 days from school, then the make up test can be taken **BY** the third day after the student has returned. Keep in mind that make-up tests/quizzes are not necessarily the same tests as the scheduled tests/quizzes the student missed. **THE STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ARRANGING MAKE-UP WORK AND TESTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. A GRADE PENALTY WILL INCUR IF THE WORK IS NOT COMPLETED BY THE ARRANGED DATE.**

Missed labs must be made up within 2 days after you return and scheduled with the teacher. It is the student's responsibility to make up a missed lab and work assigned. I strongly recommend students being present on the day of laboratory activities, since not all of the laboratory activities are reproducible due to the perishable nature of the materials. Students will still be required to fill out lab and/or satisfy the "make- up" laboratory assignment.

Late Work: Students are expected to be responsible and turn all work in on time. Due to the different circumstances that occur in the school year, each student will be allowed to turn in the late homework the day after it is due for partial credit.

Grade Breakdown/Distribution: The following is grading outline for each semester:

- 40% tests and quizzes
- 25% homework, classwork, class participation
- 25 % labs, and projects
- 10% final exam

Semester grades are determined by the accumulation of work and tests given throughout both quarters. Quarter grades are determined by an ongoing grade by these percentages for the work done throughout the quarter.

If you have any questions about how your papers were scored, you must talk with **the instructor within 5 school days** of when the assignment was returned. Once the 5 days are up, there will be no more opportunity for discussion about the score. Of course, clerical errors may be addressed at any time. Be sure **to keep all of your papers** as proof of score.

Grade distributions are given according to the guidelines set in the Student Handbook.

Extra Credit: Extra credit will be given at the discretion of the teacher.

Classroom Rules and Safety:

In the class respect and safety are key. It is important that you respect others and yourself to make the classroom an enjoyable learning environment. All rules and safety measure revolve around behaviors that are respectful and encourages student to learn. **Consequences** will be given based on the discretion of the teacher in order to maintain a safe learning environment for all students.

To ensure that everyone has a positive learning experience, the following rules have been developed for students to follow.

1. Be courteous and respectful toward others and their belongings.
2. Listen to and follow directions given.
3. Do not talk when the teacher or another student is speaking in class.
4. When answering or asking questions or commenting during a discussion, raise your hand and wait until called upon.
5. If the bell rings and you are not in your seat, you are tardy.
6. No food, gum or drinks allowed, except bottled water and when permitted by the teacher.
7. Use appropriate, respectful language and behavior in the classroom.
8. Stay seated until the teacher dismisses you.

Cheating: Academic Honesty:

High integrity and academic honesty is expected. Students should not do anything that would bring their integrity into question. Cheating and plagiarism is taking (or lending) at inappropriate times a person's work, information, ideas, research, or documentation, without properly identifying the originator. All assessments (homework, labs, quizzes, exams, projects, etc) are expected to be completed only by the student. Collaboration and teamwork is allowed on homework, but individual work, distinctly original from the lab partners' work is always required or zero credit will be earned. DISHONESTY is not tolerated and will always result in a "0" on that test/assignment, a referral, contact home and possibly further disciplinary measures as per school policies. Students copying and students allowing others to copy their work are both academically dishonest and will result in a "0". Do not put your classmates in an uncomfortable position by asking to copy. Make the right choices!

Don't be afraid to seek extra help and to ask questions! If you need help in any assignment, project, or concept, please see me. Since I'm not always available, it is best to schedule an appointment to meet after school.

I have read and understand the policies and expectations stated in the 2010-2011 Course Expectations for Ms. Chung's Biology class:

Student name (please print): _____ Period: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/guardian name: _____

Relationship to student (*please circle one*): mother father guardian

Parent/guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Which is the more convenient way of communicating directly with you: by email or phone, (circle one)?
Please write your contact information below. If you provide a phone number, please indicate if it is a cell phone, home number, etc.
