Course Introduction

Lab Biology

Gilbert High School

To Students and Parents,

Biology is a course that is designed to provide students with the understanding of the living world and its complex relationships that exist in this world. There are many wonderful things that will be introduced in Biology. Some of the topics covered in this class are the scientific method, theories on the evolution of life, classification of all living organisms, ecology, cellular metabolism, plant anatomy and physiology, and the anatomy and physiology of humans, which includes human reproduction and genetics.

Following you will find a full explanation of the course requirements, grading criteria, classroom rules and disciplinary policies. I would ask that both the student and parent read this introduction very carefully. Please sign and return the attached form indicating that you have read and understood this introduction. If you have any questions about the course or would just like to talk about Biology please feel free to contact me at Gilbert High School (480) 497-0177 during school hours or email me at katherine.powell@gilbertschools.net

Looking forward to a wonderful year,

Katherine Powell

Your success in a laboratory science will be based largely on your attitude. Students have the right to learn and to work to their full potential. The rules and policies are designed to insure the success of you the student and your fellow classmates. Please read the guidelines carefully because we are going to be using them throughout the year. Remember our rules and policies are designed for your benefit.

**Attendance and Work Policies:**

Attendance is extremely vital to your success in science. It is very difficult to make up work because so much of what is learned is done in lab. The Gilbert High School attendance policy outlined in the student handbook will be followed.

* Late work will be accepted with 50% being the maximum credit given (special circumstances subject to teacher’s discretion).
* Work may only be made up with an **excused** absence and it is the responsibility of the student to get the work from the instructor.
* You have the number of days you were absent to make up the work.
* Absences will follow the school policy.
* Tardiness will result in sweep. It is the student’s responsibility to get the missed work by the end of the school day. If it is a test day and you go to sweep, a zero will be given for the test. If a large project is due and you go to sweep, the project must be turned in by the beginning of your class period or a zero will be given for the project.

**Classroom Behavior:**

* Arrive to class on time and be prepared with required materials.
* Follow all safety rules at all times.
* Respect and treat others as you would like to be treated and that includes their stuff.
* Contribute in a positive manner to the learning environment.

**Discipline Procedures:**

* Verbal warning
* Student-teacher conference
* Parent contact
* Referral to an administrator

Grading Scale

100-90% = A

89-80% = B

79-70% = C

69-60% = D

59% and below = F

**Grading:**

20% Final Exam

80% Daily work/Tests/Quizzes

**Materials:**

* Three ringed binder
* Composition Notebook
* Lined Paper
* Graph Paper
* Pens/Pencils
* Calculator

**D/F Tutoring:**

As a way to help improve grades, I have mandatory lunch tutoring for any student whose grade falls below a 70%. They will be required to come in 2-3 times per week during their lunch time for at least 30 minutes until they raise their grade to a 70%. A contract will be sent home when a student falls below a C to be signed by the parents and the student.