**Biology Class Syllabus 2019-2020**

**Teacher**: Mrs. Kaitlin Shaw **Class Website:** www.shawbiology.com

**Email:** shawk@issaquah.wednet.edu **Room numbers: 1305/1308**

**Primary Topics of Study:** Nature of Life, Ecology, Humans and Global Change, Cells and Cell Division, Cell Energetics, Heredity, Genetics, Biotechnology, and Evolution

(Image credit: Demetri Martin)

**Materials:** I will have many items available which will **stay in our classroom**, like colored pencils, glue sticks, scissors, markers, extra lined paper, etc., but you will need to provide:

1. **Composition notebook (80 page minimum, lined or graph)** – I recommend a composition book because spiral notebooks tend to fall apart throughout the year (trust me on this one!). This will be where ALL of your biology work will live for the year, so you want to keep it ***organized and tidy***. I will help you with this! ☺ **(P.S. Don’t buy one because of its cute cover!** We are going to make our own as one of our first assignments.)
2. **Safety Goggles** – For purchase from the bookkeeper, or borrow extras in class

**Technology:**

**Phones**: You will be assigned a number in a cell phone holder and you will drop your cell phone in it EVERY DAY at the beginning of class.

**Computers**: There are 16 desktops in my classroom for us to share. You are welcome to bring a personal laptop or iPad, but it must be used appropriately. If you are not using it for classwork, it will be put away and I will contact home.

**Class Values**:

* Be KIND and RESPECTFUL to yourselves, each other, your classroom, and your teachers every day.
* TRY your best every day. Your best may look different some days depending on what is going on in your life outside of school and that is OK, but effort is *always* noticed and appreciated.
* Take RESPONSIBILITY and ownership for your behavior and your work.
* COMMUNICATION. Talk to Mrs. Shaw ANY TIME, but *especially* if you are struggling or if something comes up and you anticipate having trouble completing your work. Stop by during Nest, send me an email, or leave a note on my desk – whatever is easiest for you!

**Grading Scale: More information about grading is available on my website.**

A 100 - 93% B 86.9 - 83% C 76.9 - 73% D 66.9 - 60%

A- 92.9 - 90% B- 82.9 - 80% C- 72.9 - 70% F 59.9% and below

B+ 89.9 - 87% C+ 79.9 - 77% D+ 69.9 - 67%

**\*\*For more information on grading practices and explanations about our policies as a Biology department, please visit my website!\*\***

**Re-Take Policy:** Students will be allowed to retake any test on which an **80% or lower** was received. Only **one** re-take attempt allowed per test. Students may score a maximum of 80% on their re-take. Re-takes must be completed before the following unit’s test date.

**Students may attempt a re-take once the following steps are completed:**

1. STUDENT MUST TURN IN ALL MISSING ASSIGNMENTS.
2. Your notebook must have at least 80% of the required items for the unit.
3. Teacher must receive an email, note, or phone call from a guardian confirming witnessing the test/quiz/lab grade.
4. Test corrections must be completed. We will go over my expectations for these after your first test.
5. A paragraph write up of what you learned from the experience.

**Need Extra support?** Check Mrs. Shaw’s website for more information about what your options are for support outside of regular class time.

**Late Work:** You may turn in work, without penalty, by the end of the unit (the class period of the unit assessment). **The only exception to this policy is in regards to projects, in which failing to complete your project on time may result in partial points lost.** Keep in mind that grading late work is LOWEST priority. After the end of the unit, it will be 50% off and can be turned in until the Friday before finals week. No credit will be given after a semester is over. **The only exception to this policy is in regards to projects, in which failing to complete your project on time may result in points lost.**

**Academic Dishonesty:** DO NOT CHEAT. Read your school handbook and understand the **various** types of academic dishonesty (***there are many***). School policy and district guidelines for discipline will be strictly followed.

**Mrs. Shaw’s Class Schedule**

**Period 1**: Room 1308

**Period 2**: Room 1308

**Period 3**: PREP

**Period 4**: PREP (**I have 2nd lunch)**

**Period 5**: Room 1305

**Period 6**: Room 1305

**Period 7**: Room 1305

**Mrs. Shaw’s Availability**

**Tuesdays and Wednesdays:** Nest time

**After School:** 15 minutes after the bell rings at the end of the day

***\*All other times by appointment only\****

**Safety:** There are many hazards in a science classroom; as such safety must be a priority to everyone in the class. In order to protect students and staff, all students will be held accountable to the Issaquah School District science safety rules at all times. Students violating these rules may be removed from the class and receive no credit for the activity. In accordance with district policy, non-compliance may result in further disciplinary action. For further information, please refer to the Issaquah School District Safety Rules agreement.

**Hall Passes:** High school students are expected to know appropriate times to use the restroom and not interrupt class (i.e. not during lecture or important class activities). Students will sign out on the sheet on Mrs. Shaw’s desk and turn their cell phone into the holding box (this may be returned to the cell phone holder upon return). Students must sign back in when they return.

**Truancy and Absences:** I will follow the same attendance and tardy policy that is laid out by Issaquah High School in the student handbook. To avoid being marked tardy students are expected to be in class, seated, and working by the time the bell rings. Furthermore, following an absence, **it will be the responsibility of the student to determine and complete missed work**. Every document, save for tests and quizzes will be on the website, under the current unit, and the date the assignment was given. Students will be expected to check the website BEFORE asking the teacher for missed work.

**Please sign and return your syllabus. After I check it off you will put it into your notebook ☺**

* I/we have read and understand this biology information sheet in its entirety.
* I/we understand that excessive absences undermine a student’s ability to learn effectively and the responsibilities of the student (as outlined in the table above) if an absence is necessary.
* I/we know how to contact the teacher and/or where to find information about the class.
* I/we am also aware of what is expected of my student in class and what the rules and policies are as well as the consequences for failure to adhere to said rules and policies.
* I/we understand, this document acts as a contract for the class and that parents, students and the teacher will and must adhere to it. (If a change is deemed necessary, a notification will be posted on the class website.)
* As a parent/guardian, I will provide my student with all of the positive support that he/she needs to succeed in class.

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(student name - printed) (student signature) (date)

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 (parent/guardian signature) (date)