Biology

Miller

**Course Syllabus 2024-2025**

**Course Description**

   This course’s curriculum is designed to continue student investigations that began in grades K-8 and high school biology. This curriculum is extensively performance and laboratory based. It integrates the study of the structures and functions of the human body, however rather than focusing on distinct anatomical and physiological systems (respiratory, nervous, etc.), instruction focuses on the essential requirements for life.

**Textbook**

Inspire Biology (McGraw Hill)

**Unit/Concept Names**

Unit 0: Think Like a Scientist (4 days: August 6th – 9th)Unit/Concept Names

Unit 1- Stability & Change in Population Over Time

Unit 2: Homeostatic Systems for Temperature Regulation & Protection

Unit 3A: Structure and Function of Molecular Genetics

Unit 3B: Structure and Function of Molecular Genetics

Unit 4: Patterns in Heredity & Selection

Unit 5: Stability & Change in Ecosystems

**Major Course Projects and Instructional Activities**

At least one project will be assigned each grading period. This will be an extension or enrichment of the concepts discussed. Students will have 1 to 3 weeks to complete each project depending on the complexity of the task.  Some tasks and/or projects will be completed in class (specifically the unit culminating tasks – these MUST be completed in class only).

**Course work/Classwork**

Students will receive a variety of assignments designed to enhance their learning. If a student is absent, the student is responsible for the missed assignment.

Students are expected to submit work on time. Doing so exhibits pride in producing quality work and fulfilling student responsibility. This work habit is a behavior that supports academic achievement and demonstrates characteristics from our Richmond County School System Profile of a Graduate. Late work can negatively impact learning and your ability to demonstrate mastery of the standards.

When the assignment calls for students to produce original work, students will not use Artificial Intelligence (AI) to generate the assignment for them. Assignments are given to help students learn and demonstrate what they know. While there may be appropriate times for students to use AI during the learning process, using AI to generate original work in place of the student completing the work, is considered

Academic Dishonesty and can be punished according to the rules outlined in the Code of Conduct.

*See RCBOE IHA-R Grading Practices*

**Late Work (Grading Policy- See RCBOE IHA-R Grading Practices)**

Students may have their scores reduced by 5% per school day for a 25% maximum reduction (five school days). ***Late work submitted after the fifth school day will only be accepted at the teacher’s discretion.***

**Make-Up Work (Grading Policy)**

Students are expected to make-up assignments and assessments that were missed due to absence from

school. Students are responsible for asking teachers for the make-up work upon returning to class.

Make-up work should be completed by the student within the time specified by the teacher. All work should be on Canvas and turned in by the due date. If you are not in class to complete something that you can’t complete at home, please make arrangements with me to make it up (some labs).  **Major projects are due on the due date!**

**Evaluation (Grading Policy)**

* Minor Grades (Quizzes, Class work, Graded Writing Assignments, Group Work, etc.)
* Major Grades (Unit & Chapter Test, Projects, Tasks)

**Relearn and Reassess Plan**

For any major assessments, students will have the opportunity to submit a relearning plan for parent and teacher approval. Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, as determined by the teacher, students will be given a minimum of **ONE** opportunity to be reassessed. Only students scoring below 70 on a major assessment can complete a relearning plan unless exempted with parent approval.

Reassessments may be different from the original.

The reassessment score will replace the original score (the scores will not be averaged).

Reassessments should be completed **within 7 school days** of receiving the original grade. Teachers should have discretion to extend the timeline to address extenuating circumstances.

*See teacher class page for Relearn/Reassess*

**Classroom Procedures & Expectations**

**Be in your seat ready to learn** when the bell rings. Your supplies should be on your desk.  **You will not be allowed to leave for any reason after the bell rings.**

**Required materials-** Textbook ($131.07), wireless device to use in class, notebook, paper, writing utensils, internet accessibility, color pencils, and project supplies. **Extra Needed Items for Classroom**-**paper towels, soap, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, tissues, and additional lab items throughout the year.**

**Respect everyone** in the classroom. Do not speak unless you have raised your hand and have been called on.  Do not get out of your seat unless you have been given permission.  Do not touch anything or anyone unless you have been given permission.

**Work hard**. Give 100% effort as much as possible. Academic dishonesty will result with a zero and makeup work will not be given.

**Labs are a privilege**. Enjoy and learn from them, but if you cannot act like a mature individual you will not be allowed to participate (a zero will be given without makeup work). You must follow all lab safety rules!

**Tutoring**-I am available for tutoring and make-up work most Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays after school with appointment.

The overarching expectation in this class is to represent WAR (W, Accountable, Respectful)

Below are the expectations for how to W.A.R. in class!

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Wholehearted** | ·        Persist in learning even when the answers don't come easily, and even when it doesn't make sense the first time.  ·      Responsible for one's actions, self, and belongings. |
| **Accountable** | ·        Be prepared for class and on time.  ·        Complete homework and class work on time. |
| **Respectful** | ·        Speak positively to others.  ·        Follow all classroom procedures. |

**Course Materials**

\* 3” 3-ring Binder                                                       \* 1 Package of Dividers (5 Total)

\* 1 - Composition Notebook                                 \* Pencils (mechanical pencils preferred)

\* Handheld pencil sharpener                                 \* Highlighters

\* Loose Leaf Paper                                                    \* (6) two pocket plastic folders w/ 3 holes

\* Coloring Utensils (crayons, coloring pencil, or markers)

**My contact information:**

Email: millean1@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us

Remind messages:  @d3a2a2

**Resources:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Gizmo** | Standards aligned interactive online simulations.  Complete with student documents and teacher resources for each lesson. | Gizmo Icon.png |
| **Padlet** | Collaboration board using a variety of media attachments. | padlet icon.PNG |
| **Nearpod** | Standards aligned interactive lesson, videos, gamification, and activities.  Partners with Flocabulary and PhET.  Integrates with Canvas. | Nearpod Icon.png |
| **Flocabulary** | Flocabulary is a learning program for all grades that uses educational hip-hop music to engage students and increase achievement across the curriculum. |  |

To sign up for class reminders, please visit:  
[YourLinks to an external site.](https://www.remind.com/join/brittmath7) REMIND Information here

**Student Contract:**I understand that all work should be completed on time.  I understand that my teacher may deduct five points per day and communicate this in my Infinite Campus gradebook. I also understand that work turned in after the learning has occurred may not be graded (no more than 5 school days from the due date). I understand that using Artificial Intelligence to complete assignments where I am asked to produce original work will be considered Academic Dishonesty.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_                                                                                                                     Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Contract:**I understand that my child is expected to complete assignments on time. I will

remain in communication with my child’s teacher and monitor missing and late work as noted in Infinite Campus Parent Portal. If my child continues to submit work late, I understand that a parent-teacher conference will be needed to co-develop a plan of action. I understand that my child should not use Artificial Intelligence to complete assignments where students are asked to produce original work.

Parent Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_                                                                                                                    Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_