**BIOLOGY SYLLABUS**

**Cross Creek High School**

Instructor: Ms. Charmaine Bridges

Room Number: 501

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

Phone: 706-426-1628 (text preferred)

Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Welcome to Biology at Cross Creek High School! We are excited to explore the fascinating world of life science with you. Biology is the study of living organisms and the processes that sustain life. This course is aligned with the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) and will cover a variety of topics including cells, genetics, evolution, ecology, and the systems of the human body.

You’ll engage in hands-on labs, investigations, and discussions that connect science to the real world. This course builds on scientific skills developed in previous classes and prepares you for success on the Georgia Milestones Biology End of Course (EOC) Assessment. Be ready to actively participate, complete assignments with care, and study consistently outside of class to make the most of your experience.

 **Materials Required Daily:**

1. 3-Ring Binder with Dividers (8)
2. Folder with 3 Prongs and Pockets
3. Pen (blue or black ink only) or Pencil
4. Loose leaf paper and binder
5. ChromeBook (You will need it DAILY)

**Materials For the Course (not inclusive):**

1. Posters
2. Colored Pencils/Markers
3. Scissors
4. Glue Sticks

**Course Content Standards**

**STUDENTS WILL…**

**SB1:** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to analyze the nature of the relationships between structures and functions in living cells.

**SB2:** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to analyze how genetic information is expressed in cells.

**SB3:** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to analyze how biological traits are passed on to successive generations.

**SB4:** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to illustrate the organization of interacting systems within single-celled and multi-celled organisms.

**SB5:** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to assess how biological systems interact and respond to changes in their environment.

**SB6:** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to assess the theory of evolution.

**Grading System:**

Students are expected to participate in, and complete all aspects of required work to the best of their ability. Student achievement will be evaluated in a holistic manner, considering all aspects of performance.

Student grades will be recorded in the district mandated on-line portal, Infinite Campus.

**Your grade will be determined as follows:**

**Minor Assignments 60%** i.e. Classwork, homework. labs, and quizzes

**Major Assignments 40%**i.e. Tests and/or unit projects, cumulatives

**CLASSROOM CONDUCT:**

It is necessary for all students to present themselves in a mature and appropriate manner that creates the best learning environment for everybody. Students must maintain respect for themselves, other students, the instructor, and our community at all times. Inappropriate behavior will result in the involvement of the student’s parent/ guardian and the school administration to aid in both correction and disciplinary action.

**Expectations**: All students are expected to follow the rules of the classroom. The rules are posted in the room as a gentle reminder of how you are expected to behave in the classroom. In the event that you decide not to follow the rules, corrective action will be taken.

1. Come to class ready to learn.
2. Be ready to work when the bell rings.
3. Bring all materials needed to class—notebooks, pencils/pens, homework, etc.
4. Actively participate in class.
5. **Refrain from** grooming in class--brushing/combing hair, lotion, nails, applying makeup, etc.
6. Food/candy/snacks/drinks of any kind are **NOT ALLOWED** in class
7. Be responsible for getting the work they miss due to **excused** absences. To get this work you need to **SEE Mrs. Bridges.**
8. **RESPECT** others and other’s property—the school’s, student’s, and teacher’s.—**If it is not yours, please leave it alone.**

## **ATTENDANCE AND LATE WORK POLICY:**

In order to succeed in this class, a student must be present and engaged. After returning from an absence, it is the student’s responsibility to retrieve any missed assignments and notes. Students have **five (5) school days** to complete and submit makeup work. A **5% deduction will be applied for each school day the assignment is late**, up to a **maximum penalty of 25%**.

**Tutoring is available on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:15–3:00 PM.** All other days are available **by appointment only**. Students are encouraged to attend tutoring for additional help, review, or clarification of missed material.

 **STUDENT SUCCESS:**

I am very interested in the success of every student. If you are having trouble with a particular assignment or concept, do not hesitate to seek help from me. I am available for extra help after school by appointment . Students and parents are encouraged to also use email to contact me at **bridgch@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us**

I am looking forward to an amazing year. We will work and learn together. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Mrs. Bridges

**PARENT/STUDENT SYLLABUS FORM SIGNATURE PAGE**

**A Note to Parents & Guardians:**

 Please feel free to contact me with any questions and concerns you have regarding your child’s success. The best way to contact us is via email. My school email address is: **bridgch@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us.** Likewise, I will not hesitate to contact you if I think that it is necessary. If you do not use email, you may leave a message for me by contacting the Cross Creek High School main office at 706-772-8140, or schedule a conference with me through your child’s counselor.

As we begin this semester in Biology, I want to take a moment to inform you about some of the important topics your student will be learning and the expectations for this course. Biology is a comprehensive science that explores the structure, function, and diversity of life. Throughout the course, we will cover topics aligned with the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE), including cells, genetics, ecology, and the theory of evolution. **I recognize that some topics—particularly evolution—may be considered sensitive or controversial by some families. Please know that evolution is taught in accordance with the Georgia curriculum as a foundational scientific theory supported by extensive evidence. My approach is to teach this topic objectively, respectfully, and strictly from a scientific standpoint. Students are never asked to alter their personal beliefs but are expected to engage with the material as part of their academic responsibility.**

**Additionally, all Biology students in Georgia are required to take the Georgia Milestones End of Course (EOC) Assessment at the end of the semester. This standardized test covers the full Biology curriculum and will count as 20% of your child’s final course grade. We will incorporate regular review sessions, lab activities, and assessments throughout the semester to ensure students are well-prepared.**

Teamwork is vital to not only my success, but to that of my peers. As such, I commit to being a valuable and contributing member of my team. It is permissible to photograph the student referenced in this syllabus during curricular activities for posting on the course website, power-points, etc. The student will not be identified in any way (including his or her name).

We, the undersigned, have read and fully understand the guidelines for Mrs. Bridges’ Biology class. I agree to abide by these guidelines, and all school policies throughout the school year.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Student Signature & Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Parent/Guardian Signature & Date

**Parent Guardian Contact Information (TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN)**

**Name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Best Contact Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_