**Ms. Deiadra Edwards**

**Course Syllabus 2025-2026**

**Course Description and Objectives**

In the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (IB MYP), learning goes beyond the classroom. Students explore how subjects apply to real-life situations, encouraging critical thinking, problem-solving, and global awareness.

The Seventh Grade Georgia Standards of Excellence for science are designed to give all students the necessary skills for a smooth transition from elementary life science standards to high school biology standards. The purpose is to give all students an overview of common strands in life science including, but not limited to, diversity of living organisms, structure and function of cells, heredity, ecosystems, and biological evolution.

**Textbook**

McGraw Hill K-8 SSO

**Unit/Concept Names**

Unit 0-Think Like a Scientist, Unit 1-Stability & Change Living (L.S) System, Unit 2A-Structure & Function L.S, Unit 2B- Structure & Functions L.S., Unit 3-Patterns in Living Systems.

**Richmond County Board of Education Grading Policy**

* Minor Grades 60% (Examples include quizzes, labs, and other graded assignments to assess certain standards in a unit of study.)
	+ **Minimum number** of minor grades per 6-week progress report period = **5**
* Major Grades 40% (Examples include unit tests, essays, research papers, project-based assignments, and other culminating assessments to measure mastery of standards that comprise a unit of study)
	+ **Minimum number** of major grades per 6-week progress report period = **2**

**Academic Grading Scale**

 A (90-100) B (80-89) C (75-79) D (70-74) F (below 70)

* Parents are encouraged to monitor their child’s grades using the district Infinite Campus Parent Portal.
* Please contact the front office at 706-737-7288 for information to gain access to Infinite Campus.

**Academic Dishonesty**

The Student Code of Conduct, Rule 1(A)(t), states that no student shall cheat, alter records, plagiarize, receive unauthorized assistance or assist another in any type of academic dishonesty. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty will be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher and a supervising administrator, taking into consideration any written materials, observation, or information from witnesses. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the task may be entered as “incomplete” and the student required to redo the assignment or retake the assessment.

**Homework**

Homework is aligned to the learning target and used to check for understanding and provide feedback. It is an extension of class to allow time for completion, reinforcement, and preparation for the next lesson. It is standards-based, designed to provide an opportunity for independent practice, and be relevant to what students are currently learning. Students will receive feedback for any homework assignment they complete, but homework is not graded.

**Late Work**

Late work is defined as assignments that are submitted after the specified deadline. This does not apply to work submitted late due to absence from school. Students are expected to submit assignments on time. Multiple incidents of late work may result in teacher-student-parent conferences to examine and correct the student’s work habits through an academic contract. Students in grades 6-12 may have their scores reduced by 5% per 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. Completing work in a timely manner during the learning unit is essential for academic success. If the score is reduced for late work, the teacher must make a notation in the Infinite Campus comment section of the gradebook to reflect the reduction for late work. Students and parents should refer to the teacher’s course syllabus for specific late work procedures.

**Make-up Work**

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. Teachers should provide reasonable timelines for completing make-up work. Generally, such work should be completed within 5 days of returning to school. A student should not be required to take a quiz or test on their first day back at school if the assessment was first announced during their absence.

**Relearn & Reassess (R&R Procedures)**

Students have the opportunity to submit a relearning plan for any **major assessment**. Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, a student will be given a minimum of one opportunity to be reassessed. Students scoring below 70 on a major assessment are expected to complete a relearning plan unless exempted with parent approval.

Teachers have discretion to determine if R&R opportunities will be given for any **minor assessment**.

**Cell phones** are not permitted in class, per school policy, and should not be seen nor heard. Students should turn cell phones off and place them in their bookbags.

* First offense will receive an explicit verbal warning.
* Further offense will receive a parent phone call.
* Repeated offenses will result in phone confiscation. In this case, a parent will need to request the phone be returned in person.

**Student Expectations**

**Completing all assignments, graded and non-graded, on time. Planning for completing long-term assignments coming prepared daily with paper, pencil, textbook. Checking their work for accuracy and completion. Maintaining academic integrity and honesty. Monitoring their grades and their progress toward learning goals. Collaborating with their teacher to establish and complete relearning plans, when appropriate. Promptly asking their teacher for assistance related to grading concerns.**

**Materials needed for course**: folders, pencils, pens, composition notebooks, hand sanitizer, Kleenex. Donations are accepted!!

**Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further guidance on Richmond County School System’s policies and procedures.**

**My contact information: Email:** edwarde@richmond.k12.ga.us

**Remind Messages:**

**Tutt Middle School Phone Number:** 706-737-7288

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Please sign and return this portion of the syllabus to affirm that you have reviewed this document:

Student’s Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_