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| MCj01510210000[1]  **2016-17** | **CAHS Biology**  Mrs. Sheets, MS.Ed (SheetsBiology.weebly.com) |

**Welcome to CAHS Biology**! Please know that **I have high expectations** for your success in learning; I teach with the goal of inspiring you to find the subject matter as worthwhile and interesting as I do!

The focus of this college-preparatory course will be in **mastery of the content** as well as the further development of your inquiring mind. Biology at CAHS is rigorous and the pace swift.

Your daily participation is expected and appreciated. Just as in every CAHS course, **there is homework everyday,** as everyone is expected to study/review to master content and process skills. Some of what you need to know involves memorizing terminology and applying methodology, both can require a great deal of practice. Most of your quarter grade will be determined by quiz/test scores.

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**Course Themes:**

The following themes will be revisited throughout the year and will continue into your advanced Biology coursework at CAHS (AP and IB)

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| * Emergent Properties * Structure & Function | * Homeostasis * Evolution & Interdependence | * Unity & Diversity of Life * Energy Flows, Nutrients Cycle |

**Course Topics and Anticipated Timeline:**

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| **1st Semester**   * Characteristics of life and Introduction to Evolution and Interdependence * Nature of Science; the Process of Science * Chemistry of Life * The Cellular Basis of Life * Cellular Reproduction * The Genetic Code and Biotechnology | **2nd Semester**   * Genetic Inheritance * Mechanisms of Evolution * Organizing Life’s Diversity * Ecological Relationships |

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**Classroom Policies and Procedures:**

**Communication:**

Contact regarding academic progress and attendance will be made primarily through the **Infinite Campus** online module; I update information daily so please check often for current information! I also check my emails throughout the day, most evenings.

**Parents/Students may contact me:**

* by email: **jsheets2192@columbus.k12.oh.us**
* calling the CAHS main office at 365-6006 and leaving a message

\*Please check the course webpage: SheetsBiology.weebly.com for events and resources.

**Class Materials**: You will need a dedicated science **notebook** where you keep all of your notes/handouts and something to write with. Throughout the course you will also need **colored pencils** and **index cards**.

**Textbook**: Glencoe Biology

The textbook is available online <http://glencoe.com/ose/showbook.php?access_code=A9793B233E>

**There is a lab fee for all CAHS sciences; the Biology fee is $5.00 and is payable in the Main Office.**

**Class Rules:** Be prepared, follow directions, and adhere to all CAHS guidelines addressed in the Student Handbook. You are expected to behave respectfully; ways to do that include:

* Respecting yourself by getting enough sleep at home, getting work done on time, not cheating, and being prepared for class with the necessary materials every day.
  + Sleeping in class is inappropriate and unacceptable - If you are ill, you are expected to ask to see the nurse and/or make arrangements to go home.
* Respecting others by participating and being positive and helpful, following lab safety rules, and keeping your **phone out of sight/hearing** at all times unless told to do otherwise. **Phones may be confiscated for parent pick up per CAHS policy**
* Respecting property by not touching another’s personal possessions or class/lab materials without asking, taking care of the class/lab equipment and by not bringing any food or drink into the class (except water!).

**Grades:** The CCS District grading policy will be implemented. Assessments in the class will include tests, quizzes, projects, labs, and homework.

Quizzes will be frequent (1-2 times per week) and Tests will be every 3weeks or so. Tests will be a chance to revisit concepts asked about on quizzes – so be sure to review your recent quizzes before the test!

**Hall Passes:** Hall passes are to be used for immediate restroom use. Your timeliness, class behavior and recent usage may limit your use of the pass.

**Attendance**: Attendance is required and can affect your grade. **Success in any course depends on your presence, your attitude, and your effort.** You are responsible for all work/information missed while absent as well as any arrangements for make-up on the day your return. You are expected to complete all assignments missed for knowledge and experience regardless of grade-earning status

If you are excused absent, a quiz may be excused; tests must always be taken; see me to schedule any possible make-up for quizzes or tests on the day of your return. If you are unexcused absent/tardy or fail to arrange for make-up, you may receive a 0. **The majority of the class points will be from Quizzes and Tests.**

Suspension is treated as an unexcused absence, though you may earn exemption status. **You are expected to behave in a manner that allows you to avoid suspension.** Parents should arrange to pick-up work and you are expected to turn in all assignments missed by the time we meet on the day of your return to earn exemption status. **If you do not turn in missed work on the day of your return, you will earn a zero.**

**Tardiness**: You are expected to be in the room and **near** your seat and **ready to begin** by the bell. The CAHS tardy policy will be enforced; tardiness may result in a detention.

**Make-up work:** All assignments will be available in a student-accessible file each day and you **are responsible for obtaining all assignments missed** due to absence from class and for turning in due work within one day of your return. Any work due the day you were absent is due the day you return to school. Missed tests must be taken the day you return; it is YOUR responsibility to make arrangements with me the day you return.

**Late Work**: All collected homework is due on the date specified and at the very beginning of class. Anything turned in after the start of class is considered late and may receive a reduction in points. Class work will **never** be accepted late. If you are unexcused tardy to class, your due work is late.

**Academic Honesty:**  All work you submit must be your own and must not be shared for copying. The copied and the copier are both penalized. Cite all resources when reporting. Academic misconduct is not tolerated.

**NEED EXTRA HELP?** I am available some days after-school by appointment – JUST ASK and we can plan a time. I am also pretty easy to reach by email. **Also, don’t forget about the course website (SheetsBiology.weebly.com) it is for you!!**