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| MCj01510210000[1]  **2017-18** | **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 * Genetic Inheritance | **2nd Semester**   * The Genetic Code and Biotechnology * History of Life * Mechanisms of Evolution * Organizing Life’s Diversity * Ecological Relationships |

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**Textbook**: Glencoe Biology.

**Communication:**

As a courtesy to all, current grading and attendance information will be communicated through **Infinite Campus** – I work to ensure this this info is always available for students and parents and update daily, so please check often to stay informed. I will assume that everyone is checking, **please contact me as soon as you have any questions or concerns.**

**Parents and Students may contact me:**

* By messaging me via Infinite Campus
  + <https://campus.columbus.k12.oh.us/campus/portal/columbusCity.jsp>
  + For student-level access: username is student number and password is the student’s birthdate
  + Students may access/print grade report in the CAHS library at lunch if needed
* by email: **Jsheets2192@columbus.k12.oh.us**
* calling the CAHS main office at 365-6006 and leaving a message

\*Please use the course webpage: **SheetsBiology.weebly.com** for class events, due dates and resources.

**Classroom Policies and Procedures:**

**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/device out of sight/hearing** at all times unless asked to use it in class. **Devices 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!).

**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 use **colored pencils** and **index cards**.

**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.

**Lab Fee:** There is a lab fee for all CAHS sciences; the fee for Biology is $5.00 payable via Infinite Campus

**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. **I will keep the website updated to make this easier on you!** You are expected to complete all assignments missed for knowledge and experience regardless of grade-earning status**.**

Any work due the day you were excused absent is due the day you return to school to earn full credit. If you arrive to school late, after class has met, it is your responsibility for dropping off due work. Access the class website for more information and resources to assist you due to missed class time.

**Missed quizzes may be made up due to an excused absence; you must arrange for make-up on the day of your return.** Missed quizzes that you do not arrange to make up may result in exemption or zero earned.

I**f you have an unexcused absence/tardy you may earn a zero for mandatory work/quizzes missed.**

Suspension is treated as an unexcused absence, though you may earn exemption status on assignments. You are expected to turn in all assignments due while you were out by the day of your return.

**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.

**Grades:** The district grading policy will be followed. Quarterly grade information will be updated continuously on the CAHS Infinite Campus online module. Most of the quarter grades are based on quiz/test scores, though there is some value given for class engagement and assignments. Quizzes will typically occur on Fridays.

**Classwork and Homework:** All paper-based assignments will be available in a student-accessible file located centrally in the classroom for anyone who needs a copy. **Homework may be mandatory or optional; optional HW will not be accepted after the “due by” date and will not be calculated into your grade if missing, incomplete or incorrect.** All collected homework is due on the date specified and at the very beginning of class. Any mandatory assignment that is turned in after the start of class is considered **late and will receive a reduction in points**. Classwork and optional HW will never be accepted 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 will not be tolerated.

**NEED EXTRA HELP?** I am available mods 13/14 and 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!!**