

# AP Biology

## Ms. Edmunds's Class Ground Rules 2018-2019

Believe it or not, each year your teachers learn from their classes. I take what I learned each year and then I change the next year's class. So, I have some new ground rules for my AP class this year. I want you to be fully aware of the changes I am making in my classroom.

**Curriculum** - This year we will be getting new text books and using them! I will add in any NJCTL's AP Biology curriculum that I found helpful to the material supplied by Campbell. We will have a Google Classroom and I will post my PowerPoint presentations and other info there!

**Tests** – Tests will be given during class and are always announced at least two days in advance. Typically they have 15 to 20 multiple choice, 1 or 2 quantitative problems, and 1 or 2 open ended problems. The open ended questions may have multiple parts. In the past I have allowed students to correct their tests for up to half credit back and that may continue. I can't speak to details at this time as the Science Department is going to have a united policy on how this will happen. There will be guidelines as to whether you are eligible to make a test correction or take a retake.

**Absences** - I take absenteeism very seriously. If you are not in class, you are not being introduced to the material. And if you are absent on a test day, you have additional time to study that the rest of the class did not get. Thus, make up tests are usually different and determined by past students to be harder than the test that the class took. We can discuss this in detail if you want to know why.

**Exams** – midterm and final count in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> marking period as two tests.

**Quizzes** – are typically unannounced but open notes OR I have given announced quizzes that you need to study for. Open notes *does not mean* using electronics to open the notes on my site or the NJCTL site. Let me reiterate this with more detail: you cannot look at notes on your phone, laptop, Chromebook, or any other electronic device for an open note quiz. Also, students will not share their notes with their neighbors. Because....continue reading....

**Notes:** I expect that you are taking notes in class AND are printing out my PowerPoint presentation. I expect that you will take the summer assignment graphics and put them into the notes for the section.

**Cell Phones** – are not to be used in class unless we are looking something up. Please keep them in your bag or pocket. If you are looking at a cell phone, you are not listening to me!

**Labs** – yes, we have labs. Each write up is different and will be determined when we do the lab.

**Grades** – I use the point system. Tests are usually 80-100 points, quizzes around 20-30 points, labs range from 40-70 points. All points noted here are approximate.

**Lunch time in class** – depending on whether we have class in the AM or PM, when your class is before or after PAC/lunch, you will be here 30 minutes of the PAC/lunch period. So, if you are third period on day 1, you will come for 3<sup>rd</sup> block and then stay 30 minutes into PAC/lunch time. You are welcome to eat your lunch during this time if we are not running an experiment. You WILL miss band or chorus on these days and those teachers know that AP Biology "outranks" their class on these days.

Remember, this class is getting you ready for college!