**Mrs. Gilbert’s Biology II Syllabus-Fall 2016**

1st Block Plan

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Room number: 376

**COURSE OUTCOME:**

**Course Description:**  Throughout the year we will be studying the four big ideas (see topics section below). A lot of material will be covered this semester, so it is essential that you do not fall behind. We will be doing various labs and activities to reinforce material covered in class throughout the semester. This course includes preparation for the classroom EOC and the AP exam in May.

* **Standards:** Curriculum standards can be viewed on AP central under AP Biology course and planning guide. I am using a combination of #3 and 4. Also, they are posted in the classroom.

**INSTRUCTION:**

* **Topics:**

**I. Big Ideas** : Big idea #1: The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life. Big idea #2: Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce, and to maintain dynamic homeostasis. Big idea #3: Living systems store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information essential to life processes. Big idea #4: Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties.

**II. Science Practices:** #1: The student can use representations and models to communicate scientific phenomena and solve scientific problems. #2: The student can use mathematics appropriately. #3: The student can engage in scientific questioning to extend thinking or to guide investigations within the context of the AP course. #4: The student can plan and implement data collection strategies appropriate to a particular scientific question. #5: The student can perform data analysis and evaluation of evidence. #6: The student can work with scientific explanations and theories. #7: The student is able to connect and relate knowledge across various scales, concepts, and representations in and across domains.

**III. Major Concepts:** Chemistry, Cells, Genetics, Evolution, Botany, Anatomy, Ecology, Photosynthesis & Respiration

* **Materials Needed:**  5 subject spiral notebook, carbon free lab notebook, black pen, pencil, index cards, 4 function calculator with square root, & loose leaf paper

**Text:** Campbell, N., & Reece, J. (2008). *AP Edition: Biology.* United States: Pearson. Replacement cost $ 124.47

* **Fees:** There is a $30 fee for this class. It includes dissection specimens, lab chemicals, food (for models), carbonless lab notebook, and paper products.
* **Resources**
* ***School-based*:** United streaming video clips, The “Planet Earth” video series, The PBS “Evolution” series, and a biome video series, are some videos that may be viewed in class. Any videos to be shown not included above that are not already pre-approved for view by the Knox County Science department will have a permission note sent home about them prior to their being shown.
* ***Outside*: film clips (ratings), novels, speakers, etc.:** We might have guest speakers from the Knoxville Zoo and IJAMS Nature Center. We may go on a field trip(s) to the Knoxville Zoo, Tennessee Aquarium, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, or Ripley’s Aquarium. We will also watch portions of the movie “Contagion.”

If you do not approve of a specific resource listed in this syllabus, please make your request to me in writing and an alternative assignment and/or materials will be provided. The request should include your name, the child's name, the specific activity/materials in which you do not want your child to participate or to which you do not want them exposed, and the nature of your objection.

* **Safety Procedures:** A lab safety agreement will be discussed and must be signed by the student and parent/guardian before the student will be able to do labs.

**ASSESSMENT:**

**Grading Policy:** A 93-100 B 85-92 C 75-84 D 70-74 F 0-69

**Grades will be determined based on the following point system.**  Tests~100 points each ; Labs (including lab reports)~20-100 points each; Projects~50-100 points each; Notes~ 2-5 points each day; Opener~1 point each day; Book assignments~20-50 points each= Total~75% of your final grade and EOC~25% of your final grade. **3 points will be added to your final average for honors.**

**With TN ready standards literacy is a school-wide goal. Therefore, we will be reading current event science articles, short answer questions on tests, reading aloud, and having reading discussions all based on being able to pick important evidence out of the text.**

**The EOC is a classroom exam and the date it will be administered will be discussed in class. Remember that this will count 25% of your final class average.**

**Explanation of Interactive Notebook:** In the 5 subject spiral notebook each section will be divided by unit. It will include: standards, notes, openers, daily work, & articles. It will be graded every couple of weeks. (More details will be discussed in class and a sample will be kept for students to reference when they are absent.)

**Make-Up Work Policy:** All make-up work is the responsibility of the student. If the student is absent it is his/her responsibility to check the interactive notebook at the front of the room to see what he/she missed. Make-up tests should be taken care of before school, after school, or during tutoring. A student has one week from the date of the missed test or quiz to make it up before the grade becomes a zero. Specific details will be discussed in class.

**Re-do Policy:** The re-do policy applies to attempted work, not to be confused with missing work. If a student feels the need to re-do an assignment he/she will have the opportunity. A re-done assignment will have a maximum value of 90%. Before being allowed to re-do an assignment the student must first have tutoring of some type, this will be at teacher discretion. The assignment may not be exactly like the original assignment and must be done outside of regular class time (such as during enrichment, before school, or after school). There are some exclusions to this re-do policy, such as: EOCs, labs, or any other assignment specified by the teacher ahead of time.

**December Dash:** \* A student must have an average of 65-69.4 and have passed the EOC to be eligible for Blitz.\* Students who are eligible for BLITZ must complete an application to participate in the BLITZ program.

**Aspen Policy – Teacher Commitment to Post Grades to Aspen *at least* once per week.** One way in which I am able to communicate with the student and parent is through Aspen. In order to give timely feedback, I will update grades at least once per week.

**GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:**

* **Students: Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend class every day. However, if they are absent they are expected to make up the work missed.

**Classroom Policy/Procedures:**

1. Be on time with book, paper, pencil, and homework. This means that you are in your seat and ready to go when the tardy bell rings (otherwise you are tardy)!

2. Don’t disturb other students who are trying to learn. Talking when instruction is being given should not occur. Be respectful.

3. Do not mark on any furniture, lab equipment, or other items in the classroom. If you mark on them you will get to clean them!

4. Follow all lab safety rules.

5. No eating or drinking in class. The only exception to this rule is water.

6. No bathroom breaks will be given the first 15 minutes of class. Also, no breaks will be given the last 15 minutes of class. You will only be given eight passes to leave class per semester, so use your passes wisely. You will not be allowed to use another student’s passes. Also, if you do not have your passes with you in class you will not be allowed to go.

7. Stay in your seat until the bell rings to end class. Failure to follow this rule results in all students staying after class.

**Tardy Consequences:**

Every time you are tardy you will sign the tardy log and serve tardy detention. If you choose not to complete your tardy detention you will be assigned ISS or another punishment deemed appropriate by an administrator.

**Cell Phone Policy:**

Cell phones are not allowed unless the student is given permission from the teacher such as during experiments and to do approved research.

**Honor Code:** Plagiarism will not be tolerated. If a test is copied or a project is not properly cited the result will be a zero for that assignment. If another type of assignment is copied in any way, unless it is partner work, the grade will be split between the students. For example, if two students copy each other’s work and the work receives 100% both students will receive 50% instead.

**Board Policy 1-431: The board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion-and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective, and respectful manner in accordance with the following:**

* **Music, art, literature, or drama with a religious theme or basis are permitted as part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs, provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;**
* **The emphasis on religious themes in the arts, literature, and history shall be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of these areas. Such studies shall never foster any particular religious tenets or demean any religious beliefs; and**
* **Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated. For example, students are free to express religious belief or non-belief in compositions, art forms, music, speech, and debate.**
* **Teacher: Intervention Strategy:** Tutoring will be offered during enrichment (details will be discussed in class).

**\*This syllabus is subject to change with notification.**

I have read the syllabus and agree to follow it. I will not receive my exit passes or be allowed to do labs until I have signed this syllabus. I also understand that I must sign a lab safety agreement to do labs.

I have read the syllabus and understand it. Any questions I have are listed below and will be answered through the e-mail provided or through the parent portal. I also understand that I must sign a lab safety agreement for my child to do labs.

Questions:

Best way to contact parent/guardian: Phone- E-mail-