

BIOLOGY 2021-2022

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Biology Course Description:

This course explores life! Biology, quite literally, means the “study of life.” We will use microscopes to investigate and explore properties of life as well as different microscopic behaviors and phenomena. We also dive into topics such as genetics, ecology, and evolution.

Biology Standards: [click here](#) or visit the Georgia Department of Education website to view the GA Biology Standards of Excellence.

Class Procedures:

- ➔ **Be On Time:** students must be inside of the classroom (passed through the door jamb) before the sound of the bell ends.
 - EXCEPTION: Occasionally I will engage students in review activities in the hall as a “ticket into the room”, on days this activity is occurring students must be within a 15-foot radius of my classroom door. (must be passed 406/407 janitor closets)

- 1) **Bell Ringer:** Once the student has entered the class, they are to get out writing utensils and notebooks. There will be an opening activity on the white board they are expected to begin.
 - All students must attempt the Bell ringer; they will not be penalized for being incorrect but they will be documented in the internal discipline log for insubordination if they choose to not participate.

- 2) **Lecture Time/Informative Sessions:** This portion of class may utilize PowerPoint presentations, video lectures, Q&A Sessions, Notes, Guided Notes, Student Lead Peer to Peer Instructions, Small Group Case Studies, Read for Knowledge Activities, and/or Research and Apply prompts.
 - Risk-Free Environment: It is essential that students participate in discussions and be willing to put themselves out there in an attempt to find the answers/solutions to problems. In order for this to be possible there can be no threat of embarrassment from peers, and laughing at answers or putting down other students for giving effort will NOT be tolerated.
 - Students must be willing to fail and accept that they will fail/ be wrong more than they are right, especially during the learning phase. This is especially true during practice sessions.

- 3) **Work Session:** Practice Skills with use of Conceptual Knowledge Including the following:
 - worksheets, Multiple Choice Questions, Short Answers, Data Table & Graph Analysis, Developing Visual Aids, Flow Charts, Graphs Given Specific Data, Finding and Predicting Correlations & Tendencies, and Communicating and Expressing Knowledge.

- 4) **Closing:** Learning Target Summaries and the “Take home” Message.
 - Letter to the Teacher, Kahoots, Website Review, Google Classroom Review.



Cell phone use is prohibited at all times!

Emergency Contact Protocol.

In an emergency, please contact student through the front office. The front office or an administrator will follow the school procedure for notifying the student.

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INSTRUCTION

Every assignment will fall under one of 3 categories: Summative, Formative, or Daily. Each category is weighted differently, see table to the below right for weighted percentages for these categories. At the end of the year students will take the Georgia Milestone Assessment for Biology that accounts for 20% of their final grade for the course. The final grades are calculated by averaging together fall semester, spring semester and the final exam. See the image to the above right to see how this is calculated.

Fall Semester (1 st & 2 nd 9 weeks)	40 %
Spring Semester (3 rd & 4 th 9 weeks)	40 %
Final Exam (May)	20 %
40% + 40% + 20% = 100% Final Average	

Assignment Weights	
Summative	60%
Formative	30%
Daily	10%

Pacing & Curriculum

The curriculum for Biology has been separated into 8 Units. 4 Units in Fall Semester & 4 Units in Spring Semester. There will be a Unit Summative Assessment (60%) at the end of each unit. A detailed and dated pacing guide with all test dates will be posted in the classroom. Students will take a Mid-Term Summative Assessment as the final benchmark of the semester. Unit assessments are cumulative benchmark exams, meaning that the assessments will build with each consecutive unit. (see redo policy under class expectations below)

CLASS EXPECTATIONS

- Participation:** It is expected that EVERY student actively participates in learning.
- Failure:** Students cannot be afraid to fail (get answers wrong), thus “I don’t know how” is not acceptable, everyone can do something. Students that refuse to try will face disciplinary action.
- Contribute to the Learning Environment:** students must embrace the class setting where learning and participating is “cool” and expected by everyone. Support each other’s learning.
- REDO policy:** “If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again.” – Hickson. Students can redo almost every graded assignment for full credit regardless of original grade
 - Exception #1: Substitute Teacher:** If a student is present in class on a day with a substitute teacher, the assignment given that day must be turned in at the end of class without the option of a second attempt.
 - Exception #2: Redoing Homework:** Students will be assigned weekly homework that is given on Wednesday and due the following Wednesday. During that window of time, students can redo the homework as many times as they like; however, after that window closes, students will not be able to get credit for that homework.
- Passes Out:**
 - No passes out first 10 minutes or last 10 minutes (JCHS policy).
 - Only 1 student out at a time
 - I will contact parents of students who are using restroom privilege excessively.
 - Students on No Walk List are not permitted to leave for any reason.
 - Using the restroom is not an excuse to be tardy to class.
- ASK FOR HELP:** It is important that students learn to advocate for themselves. Ask for help when you need it, the teacher can NOT always tell when you’re not up to speed. If the student wishes, they can leave a Vlog request on the door white board anonymously.
- RESPECT:** Respect everyone’s right to be here and learn. Respect the property and privacy of your peers, teachers, and Jasper County Facilities and Employees.
- I Am a Mandated Reporter.** Mr. Fontaine loves all of his students, but will not keep your secrets. Teachers are mandated reporters, which means teachers are legally required to report what we hear or see as relates to your mental, physical, and emotional well-being.

MISSION:

The Jasper County Charter School System will provide superior and innovative learning experiences to prepare every student for life beyond school.

Vision:

The vision of the Jasper County School System is to provide dedicated staff and supportive learning environments to inspire and motivate every student to achieve individual success.