



## BIOLOGY COURSE SYLLABUS: 2018-2019

**Ms. Rago**

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**Class website:** <http://www.msrago.com>

**Ms. Clark**

[cbiology@protonmail.com](mailto:cbiology@protonmail.com)



**Textbook:** *Biology* (Miller and Levine, 2019);  
*Biology Foundations Student Workbook*

**Purpose of this course:** This course provides students with an in depth look at living organisms and their environment. We will study structure and functions of living things and how they interact with their surroundings. This course will involve research, investigation of problems, and critical thinking skills. This class will also develop your social, communication, and leadership skills.

**Course Units:** May change in response to student needs, testing, and calendar changes.

*Unit #1: Chemistry of Life*

*Unit #2: Cell Structure & Function*

*Unit #3: Cell Reproduction*

*Unit #4: DNA: The Central Dogma*

*Unit #5: Genetics & Biotechnology*

*Unit #6: Evolution and History of Life*

*Unit #7: Classification*

*Unit #8: Plant Structure & Physiology*

*Unit #9: Human Body Systems*

*Unit #10: Ecology*

*Unit #11: Diversity of Life*

*Unit #12: Human Growth & Development*

### Four Class Rules:

1. The GOLDEN and MOST important rule = **R-E-S-P-E-C-T!**
2. Be prompt
3. Be prepared
4. Ask for help

### Behavioral/ Academic/Tardy Consequences:

1. Warning
2. Parent Phone call
3. Referral to Dean for assigned consequence (*Determined by administrator*)

## Class Supplies:

1. **2 Composition notebooks (1 for each semester)**
2. Folder with 3 prongs (for holding additional loose-leaf paper/ notes handouts)
3. Pen/Pencil/Highlighter

**Please bring these supplies to class EVERY DAY!!!**

Additional supplies to have:

- **COLORED PENCILS**
- *Calculator*
- *School Planner*

Due to the "hands on" nature of this course, we will be collecting a **\$15.00 donation** using <https://palmbeach.schoolcashonline.com>  
This request is a one-time voluntary payment. No penalty of any type will be imposed against a student based on the failure to pay. **\*Please visit the website above and look for the Science Department \$15 Lab Fee\***

## Grading:

89.5- 100 A

87-89 B+

80-86 B

77-79 C+

70-76 C

67-69 D+

60-66 D

0-59 F

**\*Grades will be available for parents and students to check online through the SIS portal.**

**Tests/ Quizzes: 50%**  
**Classwork/ Homework: 20%**  
**Labs/ Projects: 30%**

## Course Assessments:

Formal assessments of the Biology content knowledge will include unit tests, quizzes, lab, homework, and notebook checks. The final exam is the Florida Biology End of Course (EOC) Exam.

- **END OF COURSE EXAM:** The End of Course (EOC) Exam for Biology will be administered around April/May. **For the 2018-2019 school year, the EOC exam grade will count as 30% of your overall Biology course grade.**
- **CLASS NOTEBOOK:** A composition notebook will be used for all class work. These notebooks will be collected and graded at the end of **EACH QUARTER.**
- **HOMEWORK:** Most homework assignments will be checked at the beginning of class. Some homework assignments may be collected unannounced. **\*\* LATE HOMEWORK will be accepted with a deduction of 10% for every day late, until it is worth nothing. Unless excused absence or discussed with teacher PRIOR to due date, there will be NO EXCEPTIONS!**

## CLASSROOM PROCEDURES / POLICIES:

### 1. ABSENCES:

a. **EXCUSED ABSENCES:** If you have an **EXCUSED** absence or tardy, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed from the class assigned Homework Helper. ***All makeup homework will be due within the specified school handbook time frame!*** If you are absent the day of a test, it must be made up **AFTER SCHOOL** within 5 days, and arrangements must be made with me. Any make up work not turned in on time will result in a zero.

b. **UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:** Students may still turn in work within the Student Code of Conduct designate time frame (2 days) ***but*** will receive a 10% reduction in the grade for homework, and record the **LOWEST PASSING GRADE** (e.g., “D” or “60”) for TESTS and PROJECTS that meet standards or proficiency. *IF the work is not meeting the standards, a grade of zero will be issued.*

2. **AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING:** Tutoring will be available for students **by appointment only**.

3. **TECHNOLOGY:** Cell phones and head phones will **NOT** be allowed, unless stated in lesson by teacher.

4. **NO GUM, CANDY, FOOD OR DRINK IS ALLOWED IN THE CLASSROOM.**  
*(Water is allowed in a closed container)*

5. **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** Academic dishonesty, on any assignment, such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion, is unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action. Consequences issued are outlined in the Student Handbook.

### 6. **Beginning of class and teachers’ bell:**

- Greet Ms. Rago, Ms. Clark, and fellow classmates.
- Sit in assigned seat and take out your class notebook.
- Copy down the daily Quick Question off the board and answer in your notebook.
- When we ring “teacher bell”, we need your attention. All conversations are to stop and be attentive for further instructions. A second ring of the bell is a warning for the entire class and a **third ring results in the entire class receiving an extra homework assignment.**

**\*PRINT PAGE 4, COMPLETE INFORMATION, AND RETURN TO TEACHERS!**

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THIS PAGE IS TO BE PRINTED & RETURNED  
TO MS. RAGO and MS. CLARK!



**BIOLOGY SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (*PLEASE PRINT!*)

Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Student Allergies/ medical issues you would like us to know about:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Declaration of Understanding:**

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the information outlined in Ms. Rago / Ms. Clark's syllabus. I understand that all school rules also apply in this classroom. I am aware of what is expected of me in Biology class and the class procedures needed to ensure a successful year. ***I will work to my fullest potential with consistent effort and a positive attitude.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (Print)      Student Signature      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (Print)      Parent Signature      Date

**\*REMINDER:** <https://palmbeach.schoolcashonline.com> to make voluntary Science Department \$15 Lab Fee Donation. **THANK YOU!**

***RETURN THIS PAGE ONLY TO MS. RAGO / MS. CLARK***