

## Course Syllabus

### **Course Description**

This class will explore and study the definition of life and the processes of life. The main unifying themes include a detailed study of the basic cellular structures and processes of living organisms, as well as detailed investigation of plants and animals, along with their relationship to the environment. Laboratory dissection and fieldwork is required. Careful consideration is given to the creation-evolution debate, as the theories of evolution are compared to the biblical account of the origin of life.

### **Curricular Mapping**

This course will continue to increase appreciation and love for God as creator through study of His intricate design of life. The basic methods of scientific study and research will be developed more thoroughly. Students will learn extensive biological vocabulary and processes.

### **Course Objective**

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Select the problem, hypothesis, data, control, and conclusion of an experiment using a lab format.
2. Recognize and classify living organisms according to their external characteristics and demonstrate in both oral and written responses.
3. Compare the structures and functions of living organisms in a lab setting.
4. Describe the body system of the organisms using the frog dissection and other dissections.
5. Develop their psychomotor skills in laboratory exercises.
6. Care for and operate the compound microscope through a variety of lab exercises.
7. Make slide preparations properly.
8. Develop dissecting skills through the use of varied preserved specimens.

### **Text**

*McDougal Littell Biology California Edition, Houghton Mifflin Company 2008; ISBN: 0618725105*

*[Students may borrow this textbook from the instructor during summer]*

*McDougal Littell Biology Study Guide, Houghton Mifflin Company; ISBN: 0618725601*

*[Please purchase a new copy]*

### **Course Outline**

Unit 1 Introducing Biology

Unit2 Cells

Unit3 Genetics

Unit4 Evolution

Unit 5 Ecology

Unit 6 Classification and Diversity

Unit 7 Plants

Unit 8 Animals

## **Grading**

Tests: 50%

Homework/Lab/Projects/In-class work: 50%

Semester Finals are worth 20% of your semester grade

## **High School Grading Policy**

Please refer to the policy and procedures posted online in our Student Handbook.

## **Class Policies**

1. Respect your peers, teachers, and school property to create an enjoyable and learning environment.
2. Do your own creative work.
3. Stay focused on your creative work.
4. Come to class prepared, on time and excited to learn.

## **Classroom Expectations**

Students are expected to follow these rules:

1. Be seated at the beginning of class with textbooks, notebooks, pencils, and homework out on your desks.
2. Raise your hands first and wait until called upon before speaking.
3. Use the bathroom before class starts.
4. Turn in any homework at the beginning of class.

## **Attendance and Tardies**

It is important that you be in class. Your participation is valued. Nothing can take the place of being in class, hearing the lectures, seeing the demonstrations and videos, doing the laboratory experiments and interacting with your classmates. If it is necessary for you to be absent from class, it is your responsibility to get the notes from a reliable classmate. You will be held responsible for everything that went on in class. You will also need to pick up and/or access online any handouts that were given out. Follow your chapter outline and do the assigned reading and homework. Unexcused absences are reported to the office and will affect your grade.

\*\*\***Summer Policy**\*\*\* If you miss 3 or more days of class, you will NOT receive credit for this class.

## **Make Up Work**

Make-up work is only accepted from students who have excused illness absences. Being gone from class due to school activities, planned appointments or family vacations, requires your work (homework, make-up labs, and / or exams) to be turned in before your absence. If you do not turn in your work on or before the due date, you will receive a 0% for the work. However, the work will still need to be done and placed in your notebook to receive full credit on your notebook.

## **Homework**

Students are allowed one school day (not class day) for every day they were absent, due to illness, to get their written work turned in. No late work is accepted. Any copy work turned in will be given an F, along with the paper off of which it was copied. Do not loan your homework to any other student.

1. All homework is to be written in complete sentences. You do not have to write the question. For example, if the question was "What is your school's name?" you would not answer, "MVCS." A complete sentence would be, "My school's name is Monte Vista Christian School."
2. You may use pen (blue or black), but preferably pencil on your homework. Handwriting must be legible.

3. Homework is due at the beginning of the period, unless otherwise stated. No late work is accepted for a daily grade.
4. If you are absent due to an illness the day an assignment is turned in; please write “ABSENT” at the top of the paper when you turn it in. You will turn it in the day you come back.
5. Do not copy answers from the textbook word-for-word. Re-phrase answers in your own words.

#### **WHEN WORKING IN THE BIOLOGY LAB:**

1. No long hanging necklaces, bulky jewelry, or excessive bulky clothing.
2. Read the lab before coming to class. Review safety precautions before you begin. Only use the materials and equipment authorized.
3. Remain at your lab station at all times. Do NOT go to another student’s station to work with them just because your partner is absent that day.
4. NEVER bring food or beverage into the lab.
5. Know the proper fire drill procedures and where the fire equipment is located and how to use the equipment.
6. Know the proper earthquake procedure when in the lab.
7. Work areas and apparatus must always be kept clean and neat.
8. ALL accidents must be reported to the teacher immediately, no matter how minor.
9. NEVER WORK ALONE IN THE LABORATORY. You should only be in the lab under the supervision of your teacher and with your assigned class.

#### **Binder**

You are to have your binder in class with you every day. It is to be kept neat and orderly, so that you may be able to present to the teacher any past work that may be called on for review. Binders will be collected and graded frequently. The grade that you receive will be written on the front of this syllabus. The notebook grade will be part of your homework grade and will be graded on neatness and completeness.

#### **Checklist for your Binder**

1. 3-ring binder with 2 inch rings.
2. Keep this syllabus in the very front of the notebook.
3. Keep your assignment sheets for the semester in the front of the notebook right after the syllabus in numerical order.
5. Binders may be cleaned out after every unit test.

**LABS:** Because of space and time, a lab can only be run on the day that it is scheduled. If you are not in class, you will be unable to do the “hands-on” part of the lab. The next best thing to do is a dry lab. This is done by following the “Dry Lab Format.”

**TESTS:** If you are in class on exam day, you are expected to be ready to take the exam. Missing the review session is no excuse. If you are absent on exam day, the day you return to class you must take the make-up exam. Exam dates are announced at least one week in advance, so students can plan their schedules accordingly.

#### **School Policies**

Students are subject to all academic policies of the school as printed in the Student Handbook. Furthermore, it is each student’s responsibility to read and follow all Academic policies of the school.

#### **Addendum**

The teacher retains all rights to make changes to this syllabus anytime. Students will be notified if this occurs.

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

SCIE 2520, Biology (Summer 2014)

Terms of Agreement

This syllabus is a contract between the instructor and the student with a parent/guardian witness. As an instructor of this course, I am committed to abiding by this syllabus. As a student of this course, you also are expected to abide by this syllabus.

By signing this Terms of Agreement, you are affirming that you have read and agree to abide by the guidelines, policies and agreements stated in this syllabus.

As a student of this course, I have read and agree to abide by the guidelines, policies and agreements stated in this syllabus.

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Student Signature Date

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Printed Name

As the parent/guardian, I have read and agree to support this student in an effort to follow the guidelines, policies and agreements stated in this syllabus.

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date