

# AP Biology Course Syllabus

## Course: AP Biology

Instructor: Steven Peterson

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Course Length: Two semesters

**A-G Compliance: D- Laboratory Science, 1 year of credit**

**College Credit: CSU and UC with a score of 3 or better on the AP Exam**

Advanced Placement Biology is designed to offer students a solid foundation in college level introductory biology, based on the belief that many students are ready for college work while still in high school. Students should be prepared for complex science texts and reading, including a minimum of 30 min to 1 hour or work outside class each day (about 5-8 hours a week). As a college level course, the amount of material covered as well as the complexity of the topics will be high. An ongoing expectation, therefore, is to learn the material as it is presented and come to class each day understanding the previous day's material. Students must be certain that they are willing to accept this challenge and be committed to keep up with the work. Upon completion of the course students should be able to have the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science.

## Materials Needed for Class Everyday:

1. Lined paper
2. Pen / Pencil
3. Lab notebook (composition book)
4. Chromebook (charged everyday)

Recommended: Scientific or Graphing Calculator (TI-30 is great)

Class Text: Biology by Sylvia S. Mader, 13th edition ©2019

Accompanying Online Resources: Google Classroom, Remind App, AP Advantage, Collegeboard.org, <https://www.khanacademy.org/>, <http://www.bozemanscience.com/ap-biology>

## Grading:

Grades will be based on the following categories:

**Assessments: 50%**

**Lab Work: 20%**

**Classwork: 15%**

**Projects: 15%**

Grade distribution	
90-100%	= A (5)
80-89%	= B (4)
70-79%	= C (3)
60-69%	= D (2)
0-59%	= F (1)

<b>Semester 1 Gradebook Categories</b>	<b>% of Grade</b>	<b>Semester 2 Gradebook Categories</b>	<b>% of Grade</b>
Classwork/Lab/Projects Unit 1 – Chemistry of Life Unit 2 – Cell Structure and Function Unit 3-Cellular Energetics Unit 4-Cell Communication and Cell Cycle	50	Classwork/Lab/Projects Unit 5 –Heredity Unit 6 – Gene Expression and Regulation Unit 7 – Natural Selection Unit 8 – Ecology	50
Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tests/Quizzes</li> <li>● Personal Progress Checks</li> </ul>	50	Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tests/Quizzes</li> <li>● Personal Progress Checks</li> </ul>	50
SEMESTER 1 TOTAL	100	SEMESTER 2 TOTAL	100

### **Rules and Consequences:**

As an AP Biology class, our goal is to create an environment that is positive, nurturing, and makes learning enjoyable. To do this we all need to contribute to an organized, respectful classroom. By adhering to the Classroom Norms listed below, we will all achieve our goals. The consequences for violating the norms will vary depending on the offense, and we will follow our school’s progressive discipline plan. Consequences can range from a warning, a call or email home, a detention, or a referral / class suspension in extreme cases. Please be on TIME to class every day!

### **Classroom Norms:**

1. No food, drink, or gum in class. Water is acceptable.
2. Be respectful to each other and the classroom
3. Use pleasant and appropriate language in class
4. Be mentally and physically prepared for class every day
5. Appropriate and respectful use of lab equipment is required
6. All school rules apply in this classroom

### **Electronics in Class:**

Please make sure to take care of the technology you are using as it is one of the few ways that we can relay information and content that pertains to your success. There will be times where you will use your own devices to build a video project, so by signing below you allow us to use your images to be shared with the school google page for presentation purposes.

Please review this syllabus with your parents/guardians. Please sign the syllabus and return it to class. This is to assure that you have seen and understand our policies. We are looking forward to a great year together.

Thank you,  
Steven Peterson

I have read and understand the above biology syllabus.

Student Name:

Period:

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Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

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Student Signature

Date