**Biology Syllabus 2016-2017**

![C:\Users\melissa\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\G2UE9F0A\BMC_Biology_tree[1].jpg]()Ms. Christiansen

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Website: [http://mschristiansen.weebly.com](http://mschristiansen.weebly.com/)

**Course Objectives**

1. To gain an understanding of living organisms.
2. To cover the Nebraska Life Science Standards.

**Course Topics**

The course includes but is not limited to the following topics:

1. Unit 1: The Nature of Life
2. Unit 2: Cells
3. Unit 3: Genetics
4. Unit 4: Evolution
5. Unit 5: Microorganisms and Fungi
6. Unit 6: Plants
7. Unit 7: Animals
8. Unit 8: Ecology

**Dissections/Labs**

Biology is a unique class that allows students a hands on opportunity to learn. Lab is a privilege, not a right. Missing work will result in missing lab. Students will be using professional dissection tools, chemicals and materials. Safe, respectful, and responsible behavior is a MUST within this class. Students will show correct use of dissection tools, chemicals, and lab materials. Students must also show respect towards dissection organisms (We are dissecting, not mutilating!) **Carelessness or irresponsible behavior will not be tolerated -failure to meet expectations will result in all lab privileges being withdrawn.**

**Grading**

Homework quizzes and tests:

* + There will be many unit and chapter tests which will make up the majority of your grade. Study and take all tests seriously!
	+ An accumulated midterm (December) and Final exam (May) will be given – Hand written notes will be allowed.
	+ A Bio- English paper and presentation assignment will be given during the genetics unit. Students will receive a grade in BOTH Science and English.
	+ “Science in the News” is to be completed every two weeks (see handout for details).
	+ Various quizzes and homework assignments will be given throughout the year.

Grading will be based on points. Generally tests and projects will be worth more points than homework, quizzes, bell ringers, and “Science in the News”.

**Grading Scale**

A = 93 -100 C = 77 – 84 F = 69 and below (failing, no credit for semester)

B = 85 – 92 D = 70 – 76

**Extra Credit**

1. Extra credit questions may be given on quizzes or tests at teacher’s discretion.

**Communication**

Assignments will be posted on my website[http://mschristiansen.weebly.com](http://mschristiansen.weebly.com/) Parents are encouraged to access students’ grades on Sycamore and contact me as needed.  If internet access is not available, please contact me and I will get student information to you

**Class Materials**

 Students are expected to come to class prepared (With book, pencil or pen, calculator, notebook and any assignments.) If this becomes a problem, daily “prepared” points will be given to the class, and any student not prepared will not receive points for the day.

Materials needed (By August 26th) for the class includes:

1. Pens or pencils
2. Spiral notebook
3. 1 Large Tri-Fold poster ( This will not be needed until winter) used for Bio-English presentation
4. 12 pack colored pencils
5. 8-10 pack markers.
* The markers and colored pencils will be collected and kept in the classroom to be used as a group set and distributed when needed… please do not purchase anything fancy… they are to be shared.

**Make up Work & Late Work**

If you are absent **YOU** are responsible to get the missed assignment(s). Two days make-up time is allowed for the day missed. If you miss 2 days in a row you still have 2 extra days to get the assignment completed.

1. Assignments are due the following class period unless otherwise stated – It is expected that you come and ask all questions, **BEFORE** the class period that the homework is due.
2. If the student has not completed the assignment by the start of class, a 50% late grade will be given if the assignment is received before the following class period. Anything after this will be given a 0 % - I always give **PLENTY** of time for work in class- This means that if you use your time **WISELY**, there should be **NO** homework.

**Classroom Rules**

1. Be Respectful
	1. I can be Respectful by:

 1.)

 2.)

 3.)

1. Be Responsible
	1. I can be Responsible by:

1.)

2.)

3.)

Please Sign and Return by Monday, August 26th.

By signing this you and your parents have read the syllabus and understand the requirements for the course.

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_