North Mason High School Science Department

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Course Syllabus

**Course Objectives:**

During your time in Biology, I would hope that you would meet the following objectives:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **UNIT** | **Power Standards** |
| 5. DNA  | Students will learn that the information for producing proteins is coded in DNA and DNA is organized into genes in chromosomes. |
| 6. Cell Cycle  | Students will describe the major events that characterize each of the 5 phases of the cell cycle (G1, S, G2, Mitosis, and Cytokinesis).  |
| 7. Genetics | Students will describe and model the process of meiosis and will also understand the results of Mendelian genetic crosses using Punnett squares and probabilities.  |
| 8. Evolution | Students will learn about the factors that underlie biological evolution: variability of offspring, population growth, a finite supply of resources, and natural selection.  |
| **Biology EOC Exam:** This exam will be administered in class by your science teacher June 4,5, and 6. **This is a graduation requirement** |
| 9. Microbiology | Students will understand the diversity bacteria and write a formal lab report titled, The Effect of Location on Bacterial Growth at North Mason High School.  |
| 10. Animal Kingdom | Students will learn about the diversity of the animal kingdom through a detailed study of invertebrates and vertebrates.  |

**Grading:**

**70% Assessment *of* Learning**: How much have you learned?

Tests, formal lab reports and projects will be worth a total of **70%** of your grade. Why? This biology class is based on specific state standards that all students need to know prior to graduation. Your grade will accurately reflect your understanding of these standards or what you know.

* Tests / Projects / Formal Lab Reports 70%

**30% Assessment *for* Learning:** The Learning Process.

Daily class work, homework, quizzes and your science notebook will be worth **30%** of your grade. Why? All class work is designed to help you learn and understand specific standards in the area of biology and science. The learning process requires **PRACTICE** and **REFLECTION**. Yes, quizzes are practice. Yes, you must study for them in order to cement your understanding of the required standards. Learning requires practice!

* Science Notebook 10%
* Homework, Daily work, Quizzes 10%
* Completion of EOC Scenarios 10%

**Mr. Lonsdale’s Policies and Procedures**



1. Class Signal - “May I have your attention please”

There is one of me and roughly 30 of you! I need to be able to gain everyone’s attention in a timely manner – less than 3 seconds!



**2. Food and Drink**

**No food** or drink is permitted in the classroom at any time. Water in a clear bottle is acceptable.

**3. Cell phones, iPods, and personal gaming devices etc**

These items are not allowed during class time while Mr. Lonsdale is teaching. All should be turned off and put away. If I see you with a cell phone or ipod while I am lecturing I will ask you politely to put it away the first time. The second time I will take it and hold it until the end of class. The third time it will be turned into the main office. There will be occasional days during individual work time where I will allow you to listen to your music, however you must always ask me first or I will let you know when it is an appropriate time. No electronic device will be allowed during test times.

**4. Entry Tasks –BIO PRACTICE**

Every other Monday you will pick up a “BIO Practice” handout. When you walk into class, there will be a question posted on the screen related to material being covered that you will be expected to answer. I expect you to begin working silently on the assignment in your seat. These sheets are graded assignments. If you are absent, it will be your responsibility to answer the questions on your own (not copied from a classmate). The entry task questions will be kept in Mr. Lonsdale’s notebook.  **Homework will also be stamped during entry tasks.**

**5. Absences**

Class time is very important. For every day you miss, you are behind 70 minutes in my class and almost 6 hours total for your classes. It is much easier to be in class. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up the work. Do not expect me to catch you up.

*Steps to follow once you return to school after an absence:*



* You can check the class web-site *before* returning to school so that you are prepared to stay after school on a Monday or Wednesday (Science Help Day) to get caught up.
* All work for each day will be found in the **hand-out box** located in the back of the classroom, so be sure to check for assignments & activities **first thing** when you come back.
* Talk to your lab partner.
* Then, at the end of class or after school,make sure to ask me if there was anything else you missed or that you don’t understand and I would be happy to help you.
* ***What should you NOT do once you return to school after an absence:***Come and ask me “what did I miss” at the beginning of the period.



**6. Make-up Work**

Make-up work for **LABS** will be done after school on science help days, which will be held on Wednesdays only. The lab must be made up on the closest Wednesday to your absence. Lab materials will only be set-up for one week. For **TESTS** and **QUIZZES** they will be made up during directed tutoring the following Monday upon your return. All other assignments are due the day of the unit exam and no work for the unit will be accepted after the exam.

**7. Test Retakes**

Test retakes are available during the directed tutoring time the following Monday after receiving your exam back in class. To re-take the exam, you are required to complete the exam review before you do the re-take. No exam review means no retake.

**8. Class Dismissal**

Mr. Lonsdale, not the clock, dismisses class. You will be dismissed only if all cleaning requirements are complete, I have stopped speaking, and you are in your assigned seat. One of my pet peeves is when students pack up while I am talking or line up at the door and wait for class to end. If you do this, you will not be dismissed.

**9. Late Work**

If you complete an assignment late, you should still turn it in for evaluation. Each assignment plays a role in your understanding of the unit. A single late assignment however is different than two or three late assignments. This will alert me that a parent conference is required in order to ensure your success in the course. Sometimes you may need to redo an assignment if you still don’t understand something – please do this. Learning requires practice!



**10. Mr. Lonsdale’s Desk**

The desk, table, and computer at the front of the room are part of “Mr. Lonsdale’s World.” Please stay away from this “world” as there are many teachers who will be sharing this classroom. We must be respectful to their belongings as well as mine.

**11. Leaving the classroom**

Class time is valuable and I expect you to complete your ‘out of class business’ before or after class. I understand that special circumstances do arise, and in these situations you may leave the classroom only if you present Mr. Lonsdale with a hall pass. You will not be allowed out of the classroom if you do not have a hall pass. You will receive 4 hall passes at the beginning of the trimester for your use this trimester only. You must wait until I am **finished giving notes or instruction**s and you are only allowed to leave when the class is on ‘work time’.

**12. Pencil Sharpeners**

Sharpen pencils before class starts. It is ok to use the pencil sharpener if your pencil does break, however, please be respectful when deciding when a good time to sharpen your pencil is.

**13. Student Movement**

No student should be wandering around class at any time unless given instructions to do so. There will also be assigned seating and at no time is it ok to sit in a seat other than your assigned seat. If you are not in your assigned seat, you will be marked absent.

**14. Participation**

Everyone is expected to participate in class. This includes answering/attempting to answer questions, participating in labs or demos, or anything else that Mr. Lonsdale dreams up for you to participate in. Have fun and be excited to be in this class every day and learn about the world around you.

**15. Tardy Policy**

You must be in the classroom when the clock on the wall reads the start of class time. If you are not, you will be marked tardy. Consequences will follow building policy.

First tardy – warning.

Second tardy – notification to parent/guardian.

Subsequent tardies – detention

**Student and Parent Signature Form**

By signing the line below I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (student) have read and understood the classroom policies and procedures. By signing this form I am stating that I am now entering into a classroom contract and I will be expected to follow all classroom procedures and norms.

By signing the line below I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian) have read and understood the classroom policies and procedures. By signing this form I am stating that my son/daughter is now entering into a classroom contract and will be expected to follow all classroom procedures and norms.

Student’s signature Date

Parent/guardian’s signature Date

Please sign and return ONLY THIS PAGE to Mr. Lonsdale by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for credit.