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** | **Objective** |
| **1. Ocean Systems**   * Biodiversity * Flow of Energy and Cycling of Matter * Stratification | * Evaluate how the ocean works as a complex and ever evolving system. |
| **2. Species Identification**   * Animal * Algae | * Identify several different types of algae and the organisms that use the algae as their shelter, food, and habitat. |
| **3. Hood Canal**   * Dissolved oxygen * HCDOP * HCSEG | * Explore the local community’s marine ecosystem through direct observation of the health of Hood Canal. |

**Classroom Norms**

1. Be courteous and **respectful** to each student, teacher, substitute, visitor, and animal. Respect the right of all students to learn and the teacher to teach.
2. Be **prepared** and on time. Be in your seat when class is scheduled to begin, and come prepared with your science notebook, textbook (when instructed to bring it to class), a pencil or pen, and paper.



1. **No food** or drink is permitted in the classroom during labs.
2. Cell phones, iPods, and personal gaming devices are not allowed during class time. All should be turned off and put away.

**Contact Information**

Phone 360-277-2203

E-mail: [mlonsdale@northmasonschools.org](mailto:mlonsdale@northmasonschools.org)

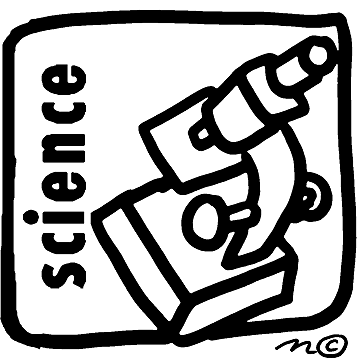
Facebook: www.facebook.com/NMHSMarineBiology

**If You Break a Rule**

1. Verbal warning
2. Parent contact
3. Detention
4. Administrative referral
5. Severe disruptions - Student sent immediately to the office. Ongoing behavior issues will earn additional administrative intervention.

**How will grades be earned in Marine Biology?**

**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 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 / lab reports / projects / quizzes 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 20%
* Daily work / homework 10%

**Grading Scale**

Grades will be posted regularly using your student number for confidentiality and can be viewed on-line. You are responsible for monitoring our success throughout the semester.

A = 93-100% B = 83-86% C = 73-76% D = 66-60%

A-= 90-92% B-=80-82% C-=70-72% F = 59% and below

B+=87-89% C+=77-79% D+=67-69%

**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. Entry Tasks**

Every other Monday you will pick up a “BIO Practice” sheet. 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 (2 sentences minimum!) I expect you to begin working silently on the assignment in your seat. These entry tasks 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 a notebook. You must answer the questions upon your return to class

**3. 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:*

* 1. All work for each day will be found in the “Biology hand-out box” located in the back of the classroom, so be sure to check for assignments & activities **first thing** when you come back.
  2. Talk to your lab partner.
  3. 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?”



**4. 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 IMMEDIATELY upon your arrival back to school. **All other assignments**, you have until the unit exam to turn them in.

**5. 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.

**6. 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.

**7. The Front Desk**



The desk, table, and computer at the front of the room are part of “The North Mason Staff 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. There may also be hazardous chemicals on my desk and I do not want any of you to get hurt.

**8. Going to the Restroom**

Class time is valuable and I expect you to go to the restroom before or after class. There is plenty of time between classes to take care of your business. I understand that special circumstances do arise, and in these situations you may go to the bathroom only once presenting of all material for the day is complete.

**9. 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.



**10. 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.

**11. 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.

**12. Tardy Policy**

I will follow the school tardy policy.

* First tardy – warning
* Second tardy – notification to parent/guardian
* Third tardy – detention
* Subsequent tardy – detention for each tardy
* 5 or more tardies are a referral given to the administration

**13.** **Extra Credit**

There will be no extra credit available in this class.

**14. Completion**

Any student who does not complete the field guide at the mastery level in all categories will not pass Marine Biology. This project is most of your grade and will be presented to the community, thus your best effort is required.

**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

* "Ecology consists of saying what everyone knows in a language that no one understands" - Charles Elton
* "Biology from cell to organism itself is an interdisciplinary knowledge" - Chikamori Sensei

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

**BIOLOGY SYLLABUS HOMEWORK:**

Answer questions #1-14 on a separate piece of paper. Take your time, be thoughtful, thorough, and use complete sentences.

1. Which of the course objectives from page 1 stands out to you the most and why? Be specific. I want details!
2. Which, if any, of Mr. Lonsdale’s four classroom norms do you think you may struggle abiding by and why?
3. Explain what an entry task is. Why are they important? What happens if you are absent?
4. Explain Mr. Lonsdale’s policy on going to the restroom.
5. What is the purpose behind assigning daily assignments, quizzes, and homework?
6. If you miss class, what should you do once you return to school?
7. What is Mr. Lonsdale’s class signal?
8. Why are you taking this class? What have you heard about this class?
9. Explain one of your favorite science experiences at any grade level and why it was a memorable experience.
10. Are there any challenges you are facing I would need to know about in order to help you succeed in this class?
11. What are two things you will contribute to our class?
12. Are there any specific things or topics that you would like to learn in this class?
13. What do you think the world “BIOLOGY” means and have you ever studied

biology before? Explain.

1. Develop 1 or 2 goals for yourself that you would like to accomplish during your time in Biology. These will be short term goals because you only have you for 24 weeks (trimesters 2 and 3). The following two quotes stress the importance of goals setting:

* "Ecology consists of saying what everyone knows in a language that no one understands" - Charles Elton
* "Biology from cell to organism itself is an interdisciplinary knowledge" - Chikamori Sensei