

2010-2011 Biology Course Grading

Homework (10%):

The purpose of homework is to reinforce what you have learned in class, in your reading, from lectures, or from laboratory experiments. Homework will be assigned on a regular basis. Most of the homework points will be given according to completion of the assignment. A portion of the class time will be spent reviewing the homework assignment. Late work will receive no greater than half the assigned value.

Laboratory Experiments (25%):

The purpose of laboratory experiments is to explore the process of scientific discovery. The experiments will help reinforce what is learned in class and in your reading. Many of the labs will be done in groups. Some of the groups will be randomly selected, teacher selected or student selected. Grading of the laboratory reports may be individual or group, depending on the laboratory experiment. Late reports will receive a 10% deduction on the grade per day. After three days, the lab will not be accepted.

Research Project (10%):

Each semester will focus on a specific topic. The first semester will focus on genetics disorders. The third quarter will focus on biodiversity and systems. The fourth quarter will focus on the environment.

Quizzes (10%):

Most quizzes will be announced while some maybe "pop" quizzes. Quizzes will vary in length and type. Students that are late or absent will receive a zero for the quiz. Two quizzes will be dropped at the end of the semester. For students with validated illnesses or other uncontrolled factors, arrangements may be made for make-ups after the two missed quizzes. All students must pass a **Safety quiz** with at least an 80% in order to participate in lab.

Examinations (25%):

Examinations may include multiple-choice, true-false, short answers, or essays. Any missed exam will be made up at the end of the quarter or end of the semester with a cumulative exam. If all exams are taken for the semester, your lowest test grade will be dropped. It is your responsibility to arrange for your make-up exam.

Final Examination (20%):

The first semester final will cover all material from the first semester and the second semester final will only cover the materials from the second semester. The examination may include multiple-choice, true-false, and/or short answer questions.

Class Rules:

- Come to class prepared
- Respect of self, classmates, teachers/administration, and school is expected
- Coming to class after the bell will result in a tardy, after seven minutes, will result in truancy. After two tardies, each tardy will result in a grade reduction in citizenship.

Grade Scale:

A: 100-89.5% B: 89.4-79.5% C: 79.4-69.5% D: 69.4-60% F: less than 60%