**Biology Syllabus 2018-2019**

**Instructor:** Mr. Shehni                        **Room**: 230        **Email**: cyrus.shehniyilagh@redoakisd.org

**Phone**: 972-617-3535 ext.6230                      **Conference time**: 6th period 1:30-2:15 pm

**Textbook**: Biology. (Houghton, Mifflin, and Harcourt. 2015)

**Course Description:** Biology is devoted to the study of living things and their process. This course will provide opportunities, throughout the year, for the students to develop scientific process skills, laboratory techniques, and an understanding of the fundamental principles of living organisms. Students will explore biological science as a process, biomolecules, cell structure and function, genetics and heredity, evolution and classification, diversity or living organisms and their ecological roles, plant structure and function, and animal structure and function. An end-of-course test (EOC) will be administered in May, which covers objectives for both semesters.

**Objectives/goals:**

1. Teach students practical scientific skills, which they can use to investigate, study, and explain the world around them.
2. Give students a deeper understanding of how Biology impacts their daily lives.
3. For each student to achieve commended performance on the EOC.
4. To encourage the spirit of scientific investigation and with it the attitude of accuracy in thought and work

**Classroom Guidelines:**

1. ALL SCHOOL RULES WILL APPLY IN THE CLASSROOM! (Dress code will be checked daily. No food or drinks other than bottled water.)
2. You may not have your phone out for any reason unless instructed to do so by the teacher.
3. RESPECT EVERY INDIVIDUAL IN THE CLASSROOM. (No profanity, rude gestures, put downs, bullying, or disruptive behavior.)
4. Bring your own supplies to class.
5. COME TO CLASS EACH DAY PREPARED TO LEARN AND WORK. (Listen to and follow directions. You will not be allowed to disrupt the learning process in this classroom, nor will you be allowed to sleep.)

**Course Tools**

* + 1. You will need a spiral bound notebook for this class; bring it every day to class.
		2. Appropriate writing utensils. (2 pens and 2 pencils)
		3. Textbook: Biology

**Grading System**

**Tests 50% Classwork 50%**

* 1. The Final Examination at the end of the semester is worth 1/7 of your semester grade.
	2. My scale is the standard **90% = A; 80% = B; 70% = C; 60% = D**
	3. ***No late homework will be accepted.***

If you are absent, you are still responsible for the work we completed Assignments and worksheets are posted on canvas

**Extra Credit**

As I prefer you focus your efforts on what we a currently covering, extra credit assignments will be very limited.

**Classroom Expectations**

You are young adults and have reached a level of maturity that requires you to accept full responsibility for your actions. My expectations are simple and need to be followed.

* + - 1. Treat your peers the way you would want to be treated.
			2. Do not talk while a fellow classmate or instructor is talking.
			3. Do not eat, drink, or chew gum in class (water will be allowed).
			4. Follow directions and do not distract others from learning.

If expectations are not met, the school discipline policy will be implemented

**Classwork:** For each day you are absent, you have the same number of days to make-up your assignments.

**Attendance**

Missing one day can cause your grade to be affected significantly. Each day of instruction builds on the previous day; missing a day can throw off the sequence for many days to come. The only reason you should miss school is family emergencies and when you are ill. You will find this course challenging and rigorous. If you accept the challenge, you will learn higher order thinking skills, organization, good study habits, reading techniques and of course, biology! *This syllabus is a general description of the course and is subject to change.*

**To Parents**

***I need your help!***Students whose parents are actively involved in their academic pursuits perform at higher levels than students who are left to fend for themselves. The reason students earn less than a C in my classes is because they do not complete all the assigned work. **I assign homework frequently**so students can learn good study habits, be challenged with higher level thinking and become proficient at what we are studying. Will you help me and your son or daughter? I cannot follow them home every day and make them do the work, but you can. I can inform parents when students do not complete assignments, but that does not change the fact that they did not do them. It is much better if parents encourage their son or daughter to complete each assignment as it is due and then go over their work with them before they turn it in. Students who earn less than a C in biology do so because they do not complete all of the assignments, not because they tried and did not understand. Current class grades are posted and regularly updated on Skyward. A login will be provided for you during the first week of the semester; please e-mail me if you are having issues accessing your child’s grade.

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**To Students/Parents**

I have received the information on Mr. Shehni's Biology Course Syllabus, Course Requirements, and will make every effort to hold my son or daughter accountable for their actions in Biology class.