

Golden Valley High School Science Department, Mr. Powers
Classroom Policies, Rules, and Grading for Biology

Objective: This course will provide the student with principles in Biology focusing on the areas of life sciences, genetics, evolution, physiology, and ecology. This course is intended to prepare students for college level lab requirements and one year worth of high school science requirements.

A. Class Requirements

1. Each student must have the following for class:
 - a. Three-ring binder (Colored paper will be provided for dividers. If you plan to use nicer dividers you are welcome to pursue this on your own).
 - b. Paper.
 - c. Pencil or a Pen (**navy blue or black**). Note: I DO NOT give out writing utensils. You must secure the appropriate writing utensil BEFORE THE BELL to avoid disciplinary measures. **ABSOLUTELY NO OTHER INK COLOR (BESIDES BLUE OR BLACK) IS ACCEPTED ON ASSIGNMENTS AND FOLDER WORK. CHOOSING TO USE ANOTHER COLOR WILL RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC ZERO EVERY TIME.**
2. Binder Requirements: **Starts-ups** and **Notes** for each chapter or unit are collected before the chapter test to represent the **Binder portion of your grade**. Inappropriate graffiti and/or pictures are not allowed on your binders.
 - a. Your binder should be ordered in the following manner to maintain your personal organization for this class: "Startups", "Class Notes", "Homework", "Tests and Quizzes". Always keep your returned work to study and ensure your grades are correct. You will have a total of four separators.

B. Classroom Environment Rules = **Character Counts**: Citizenship grades are determined based on the following rubric of classroom behavioral expectations. Violations of the rubric will deal with the behavioral consequences listed below.

Six Pillars of Character Counts					
Trustworthiness	Respect	Responsibility	Fairness	Caring	Citizenship
Be honest, reliable, and mindful of your own good reputation. Have the courage to do the right thing. Clean up after labs and activities.	Treat others with respect. Use good manners. Be considerate and tolerant of differences. Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements. Clean up after yourself and respect school property.	Do your best and do what you are supposed to do. Make wise choices and hold yourself accountable. Exercise self-discipline. Do not copy classmates.	Be open-minded and listen to others. Play by the rules, take turns and share. Take advantage of no one and blame no one carelessly.	Be helpful, compassionate and kind. Express gratitude. Forgive others and yourself.	Come prepared. Participate and cooperate willingly. Be positive and honor the rules. Arrive to class on time.

- Water is allowed in the classroom. **Gum, food and cell phones are NOT allowed.** Remove all hats once you enter a room.

Behavioral Consequences:

- First Offense: Verbal Warning.
- Second Offense: One on One discussion between student and teacher plus parent contact.
- Third Offense: Referral to counselor.
- Fourth Offense: Referral to associate principal and possible removal to ISS depending on severity. Guardian/Student/Teacher/Administrator conference.
- Fifth Offense: Referral to Office Administration.
- Severe Clause: Any action or incident deemed "Severe" in the opinion of the teacher will result in the immediate removal of the student from the classroom and a written referral.

- C. Absences and Teacher: When a student is absent or excessively tardy, the following is the procedure he or she follows on return to school:
1. Before or after class or school ask the teacher for the missed assignment(s) or test(s).
 2. If a test was missed, then the student may make it up during the week of his/her return.
 3. For unexcused absences, no academic penalty shall be assessed; however, a citizenship grade penalty may be. For truancies, penalties to both academic (50% of points possible) and citizenship grades shall be assessed.
 4. If a student is tardy at least 10 times during a semester, they will **automatically receive an unsatisfactory citizenship grade.**

- E. Testing:
1. Vocabulary Quizzes...any time!
 2. Chapter tests announced at least 3 days in advance.
 3. Final will be announced at least one week in advance.

- G. Grading Outline:
1. **Quarter Grade**
 - a. **Vocabulary**.....20%
 - b. **Class Binder**.....20%
 - c. **Assignments and Labs**.....30%
 - d. **Quizzes and Tests**.....30%
 2. Semester Grade
 - a. 1st Quarter of the semester.....50%
 - b. 2nd Quarter of the semester.....50%

Grades will be based on the total number of points earned with the following minimum as a guideline.

90-100% = A
75-89.9% = B
60-74.9% = C
50-59.9% = D
0-49.9% = F

I, _____, have read the above rules and understand them.
 (Print Student's Name Here)

_____ (Student Signature) _____ (Date)

I, _____, the parent/guardian of _____
 (Print Parent's Name Here) (Print Student's Name Here)
 have read the above rules and understand them.

_____ (Parent/Guardian Signature) _____ (Date)