



## BIOLOGY HONORS ☺

Course Syllabus 2007-2008

Course Instructor: Ms. Davenport  
Classroom: Room 62A

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Telephone #: 567-6600 ext.129

### Course Curriculum:

The purpose of this course is to provide exploratory experiences and real-life applications in the biological sciences. The content will include, but not limited to, the following:

- ◆ The nature of science
- ◆ Chemical processes of life: atoms, molecules, and the properties of water
- ◆ Cells: structure, reproduction, and communication
- ◆ Genetics: principles, molecular basis of heredity, diversity, and biotechnologies
- ◆ Biological selection, adaptations, and changes through time
- ◆ Ecology: interdependence of organisms and the environment
- ◆ Microbes, plants, animals, and human structure and function
- ◆ Integrated curriculum: Living classroom presentation: “Enlightenment & Romantic Periods”

We will explore the advances and discoveries of biological concepts during these time periods and present our findings during the living classroom presentations. Every student **MUST** participate at the living classroom presentations.

### Materials needed:

- ◆ Planner
- ◆ Biology Portfolio: The portfolio **MUST** be a binder with dividers labeled the following:  
**Outlines/Notes, Vocabulary, Labs, Research, Journal, and Quizzes.**
- ◆ USB Drive with Biology folder
- ◆ Ruler, colored pencils, calculator, and writing utensil
- ◆ **\$10 lab fee** (checks made to IRCHS and the fee must be given to Mrs. Bartol at the Main office (room 10).
- ◆ Must purchase the book “Jaguar: One Man’s Struggle to Establish the World’s First Jaguar Preserve” by Alan Rabinowitz.

### Attendance:

Please see IRCHS Attendance Policy. In the event of class being dismissed early to work on projects and breaks for 2-hour classes, you are responsible for abiding by the 7-point contract you signed (on the first page of your planner) while you are not in the classroom.

### Grading:

Your grade will be determined on a TOTAL POINTS scale, with no one assignment having more importance than another on a percentage basis; assignments are weighted on the basis of their number of points – so, a 100 point project is ‘worth’ more than a 5 point homework, however you will have more homework than projects. The points all add up, so be sure to DO YOUR WORK, BE PERPARED FOR CLASS, and ATTEND CLASS!

90-100pts. = A, 80-89pts. = B, 70-79pts. = C, 60-69pts. = D, below 60pts. = F

### Grade Distribution:

Classwork	~10 points each
Labs	~20 points each
Portfolio/HW	~10 points each
Quizzes	~20 points each
Final/Projects	~100-200 points each

$$100\% \text{ Grade} = \frac{\# \text{ of total points earned}}{\# \text{ of total points}} \times 100$$

## YOUR ROLE:

- ◆ Do your homework each week
- ◆ Come to class on time after 5 min you must sign late sheet. After one late you must attend detention.
- ◆ Have the utmost respect for school property, Ms. Davenport, and our peers.
- ◆ **Be prepared** for class (with class materials) and a good attitude.
- ◆ If I am talking please listen and do not talk to your neighbor. When you do this you **prevent others from learning because you disrupt them with your talking**. You will be removed from the class after a warning.
- ◆ In the event that you must be absent from class, **DO NOT wait until the next class period to get your make up work**. There is a “While you were out...” folder to explain what we did and your missing work enclosed.
- ◆ **You have one week to make up work then it goes to a zero.**
- ◆ **Your cell phone will be turned off during class time!** If your phone rings or I see you checking or playing with the phone, I will take your phone and you can later retrieve your phone from the main office. People can call the office if they need to contact you for emergencies. Office phone number = 567-6600

## RULES OF THE GAME:

- ◆ Student is responsible for turning in all work **on time**.
- ◆ No late work is excepted! However, you are still responsible for doing the work. This policy is stated in IRCHS student contract. If you know you will be late on an assignment you **must** tell me ahead of time **not** the day the assignment is due. **RESULTS AND RESPONSIBILITY; NO EXCUSES!!**
- ◆ **Disrupting the class** is defined by talking, not listening, not on task, rude comments, coming in late, and throwing away trash during class.
- ◆ If students **violates** his or her **Charter School Contract** will be removed from class.
- ◆ A cooperative learning approach is used which requires students to work collaboratively to carry structured activities.
- ◆ Fieldwork/field trips are incorporated in Biology so the student can apply his/her knowledge directly to the real world. Students must keep abide by the rules out in the field.
- ◆ **Extra Credit** will be issued when the instructor feels it is necessary, rather than the student feels it is necessary.

## Extra Help:

My schedule is posted on the classroom door and on the door next to my desk, please make an appointment to meet with me for assistance.

## Conclusion:

I have high expectations for all my students and I know you can succeed with consistent effort, participation, practice, and patience.

## **“Jaguar: One Man’s Struggle to Establish the World’s First Jaguar Preserve” by Alan Rabinowitz.**

This book can be purchased on-line for \$10-14 or ordered from a book store

This book does have some bad language, drugs, and sex. However, Rabinowitz does not encourage this behavior he is simply telling his story about jaguars and the people of Belize. If you have concerns please feel free to discuss them with me.

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### Parent/Student Signature Sheet

**STUDENTS AND PARENTS! Please read the syllabus together and sign below.**

**Materials needed for class are due no later than Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup>**

**The lab fee is due next Thursday, 23<sup>th</sup>**

**Lab fee is needed for dissections and other lab materials.**

**I have read and understand the course requirements listed on the syllabus:**

Please indicate whether or not the student has access to the Internet at home:

Internet Access (circle one) **YES**    **NO**

Student's Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Please use ink for signature**

Parent/guardian's Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Best daytime phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary phone number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Please use ink for signature**

**\*\*\*PARENTS: please feel free to call at anytime. If I am unable to answer immediately, I will try to get back to you as soon as possible. Leave a message on my voice mail, my phone number is stated above. You can also contact me from NetClassroom.**

**REMEMBER: Your positive support of your child can make a major impact on their performance as well as their attitude toward education.**

### **HELPFUL HOMEWORK HINTS FOR PARENTS:**

1. **Check** your child's planner, calendars, and notebooks on a regular basis
2. **Make** homework part of a daily routine
3. **Provide** a quiet study area
4. **Provide** supplies and resources. This may include trips to the library or access to internet
5. **If** you have concerns, contact teachers as soon as possible

