

FRANKFORT JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL

Course Information

- Biology* – The study of life.

Contact Information

- Mr. Baker-Donnan
- Room 10
- Conference/Prep Period: 7th Hour (2:13-3:05)
- 231-352-4781 ext. 209
- Email: kbaker@frankfort.tbaisd.k12.mi.us

Required Materials

- Biology: Living Systems text (will be issued in class)
- A pen or pencil
- Folder to hold corrected papers
- Notebook

Course Description

- Goal(s) of the course:
 - Create a working definition of Life and enhance content knowledge of living systems in our world
 - Improve skills in areas of research, communication, presentation and technology
 - Investigate social and ethical issues in Biology
- Learning Objectives:
 - Create an active, student-centered community of learners
 - Provide content in an authentic, relevant manner
 - Present material in a way that conveys inter-relation within a subject, between subjects, or on a global scale
 - Use pedagogic methods which stimulate interest for active learning of the subject matter

Student Responsibilities:

- Students will show enthusiasm and participate in class activities
- Students will be courteous and respectful of other learners
- Students will complete all assigned class activities and homework
- Students will keep a portfolio and complete an independent research project

1. FIRST WARNING. No action other than the student has been warned that they are doing something that is distracting the educational environment of the class.
2. SECOND WARNING. The student will be held after class 1 to 5 minutes to discuss the problem unless I feel that the issue must be dealt with now. If that is the case you will discuss the problem with me in the hallway. At this time I may decide to move your seat.
3. THIRD WARNING. The student will be given a one hour detention after school. It is then up to me if I will call home to discuss the matter.
4. FOURTH WARNING. The student will receive a one hour detention after school, be sent directly to the office, and a call home to discuss the matter will be made.

* SEVERE CLAUSE: It should be noted that the teacher reserves the right to jump steps. In cases of severe or reckless behavior, step 3 or 4 will be implemented immediately.

Course Content & Outline

- The Science of Life and Living Systems – The Nature of Biology, Exploring the Cell, Energy and the Cell, Cellular Reproduction
- Continuity of Life – Genetics and Inheritance, Evolution and Natural Selection
- Diversity of Life – Classification, 7 Kingdoms
- Life within our World – Ecosystems, Developing a biosphere

Grading Method & Scale:

- This course will follow the uniform grading scale in the student handbook on page 10.
- Participation – 10%
- Projects/Homework – 50% This includes homework, in-class activities and group assignments
- Tests – 40% This includes unit tests, pop quizzes, portfolios and research projects

Policy Information

- Attendance/Tardy policy – see student handbook on pages 33 – 35.
- Policy for late work – Students will have 1 day extra to turn in an assignment for each day of an excused absence (doctor’s appointment, sports) – see handbook on pages 34-35. **Unexcused work will not be accepted.** *Please note:* Exceptions will be made in cases of emergency (family emergency, medical emergency, my dog *really did* eat my homework)
- Policy for missed tests – Same as late work policy. If a student knows he or she is going to be absent on a test date, see the teacher ahead of time to schedule an alternative test time.
- Policy for extra credit – Extra credit will be offered on assignments and tests as extra questions or small homework assignments. No individual extra credit will be offered.

Student Ethics Policy: See page 21 in the handbook

More information about portfolios and the independent research project will be provided and sent home after the first unit.

Parent & Student Signature: To acknowledge that you and your parent(s) have read and discussed the information contained in this syllabus, and that you

- 1) accept the curriculum as offered
- 2) understand that late work will be marked down except as makeup for excused absences as outlined in the school handbook
- 3) understand the grading method for this class

please sign and return this portion of the syllabus only (the rest is for your records) and should be kept with your coursework.

Student Signature_____Date_____

Parent Signature_____Date_____

“This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change *with* advance notice.”