



Center High School Course Syllabus

Bio lo g y

Course Description & Overview	Textbook or Curriculum Source	Assessments for Course
<p>This course is designed to deepen students' understanding of life from the cellular to the ecological level. It emphasizes inquiry-based learning, lab procedures and safety, scientific modeling and ethical decision-making in life science. Labs will measure students ability to apply biological concepts and skills through hands-on investigations, data analysis and evidence-based conclusions.</p> <p><u>Unit topics include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• biological structures and functions,• genetics and heredity,• evolution and natural selection,• ecology• interactions among living systems (plant and animal).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TEKS Resource System,• SAAVAS <u>Experience Biology</u>• Next Generation Science Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*STAAR Biology*EOC Assessment*Unit assessments*Performance-based Lab reports and assessments

Course Content by Grading Period

1st Grading Period	Cell Structure and Processes; DNA and the Cell Cycle
2nd Grading Period	Protein Synthesis; Gene Expression; Genetics
3rd Grading Period	Evidence and Mechanisms of Evolution; Plant and Animal Systems
4th Grading Period	Animal Systems (cont'd); Ecosystem Stability; Current Developments in Biology

Grading Policy

Grade Determination (CHS) In determining the nine (9) week average, a minimum of 15 grades from different assignments must be recorded, which shall include a minimum of (3) three test grades (must have at leave 5 grades per 3 week grading period). When calculating a nine weeks average, NO ONE ASSIGNMENT MAY COUNT MORE THAN 20% OF THE TOTAL AVERAGE, regardless of the grade category. Some major projects and writing samples may comprise more than one component and each component should be graded separately. In determining the nine-

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week average, grades will be divided into 2 categories and each category will count a designated percentage to determine a student's grade.

Major = 50% (Assessments, Performance Indicators, Major Projects/Papers will only count once.

No assessment can count for more than 20% of a student's grade)

Quizzes and Daily Work = 50%

Semester Average shall be determined by the following: Nine Weeks 1/2 Nine Weeks 1/2 Course

Credit • Course credit shall be awarded based on the average of the two semester grades unless the course is a one-semester course. • Credit for each semester of a course may be awarded if the semester grade achieved is passing.