



Reynolds High School

Building Relationships for Academic Success

Biology 2025-2026

Instructor: Brigitte Jensen
x1151

Phone: 503-667-3186

Room Number: 213

Email: bjensen@rsd7.net

Credit: 1.0 Science Credit (0.5 per Semester)

Required Textbooks/Materials: Paper/notebook, pencil, binder, computer

Course Description

This course is an introduction to and survey of Biology. The objective of this course is to provide a solid background in the fundamentals of Biology, while simultaneously enhancing students' laboratory, critical thinking, and language skills.

Cell Phone Policy- NEW!!

All students are required to keep all personal electronic devices—including cell phones, smartwatches, and wired/wireless earbuds or headphones—powered off and stored away for the entire school day. This includes during class time, passing periods, and lunch/breaks.

POWER EVERY DAY

1. **PREPARED** and **PUNCTUAL**: Come to class every day, on time and ready to learn!
2. **ORGANIZED**: Turn in assignments and homework on time. Get help from me before an assignment is due. Use your planner.
3. **WRITE**: Listen and speak to others, but do your own best work. Copied work will not receive credit.
4. **ENGAGED**: Most of the learning takes place in class, so PARTICIPATE 100%.
5. **RESPECT**: Be respectful of the creatures in the room.

Consequences: If you do not meet the expectations of this class, you may run into the following consequences: verbal reminder, time out in the hall, call home, detention, meeting with parent and student, or a referral.

Attendance

1. Be in your seat when the bell rings.
2. You are responsible for making up work from excused absences. I keep a calendar in schoology showing what we do every day with links to assignments. The assignments are also posted in schoology.

Late Work Policy:

1. Late assignments can be turned in for partial credit before the end of the following unit.
2. **ABSENT?** Check the “month ahead calendar” in Schoology for missed assignments. Check in with me if you are unsure of how to do the assignment.
3. Labs must be made up the day you return to class, I put labs away within 2 days and if you delay, you will miss your opportunity to complete it. Other work made up after and absence should be completed within 1 week of the absence.
4. **MISSED Labs** can be made up before or after school or during either lunch on B days. Please check in with me to be sure I am in the classroom at the time you want to complete the lab.

Grading Policy- Overview

Your grade in this class will be based upon your ability to **perform** skills, **describe** concepts, and **demonstrate** understanding of the **Learning Targets** for each unit. Learning Targets are based on the State and National standards for this course. Points earned are **weighted** in the following way:

- **Formative Assessments** are worth **30%** of your grade. This includes classwork, homework, most labs, and projects.
- **Summative Assessments (Tests/Inquiry)** are worth **70%** of your grade.

Highly Proficient		Proficient	Not Proficient		
A 90 – 100%	B 80 – 89%	C 70 – 79%	D 60 – 69%	F < 60%	

Course Calendar (*subject to change!)

Unit	Topics
Tools of Biology	characteristics of life, microscopy, and the first life on earth
Cell Structure	Endosymbiotic theory and the evolution of eukaryotes
Cell Energy	Photosynthesis and cellular respiration
Cell Transport	Structure of phospholipid bi-layer, passive vs. active transport
DNA and Gene Expression	DNA structure and replication, Protein synthesis, and genetic engineering
Genetics	Mendelian genetics, Punnett squares, modern genetics, pedigrees
Evolution	Natural selection and the evidence for evolution
Ecology	Predator/prey relationships, biodiversity, ecosystem interdependence

Students! Please detach and turn in this page for credit. You may keep the front page for your reference.

Parent/Guardians: The best way to contact me is through email. I will reply within 24 hours on a business day, by Monday if you email me Friday.

1. Are you available/interested in helping with a field trip as a chaperone? _____
If so, please enter your preferred contact info (call/ text/email): _____

BOTH STUDENT AND PARENT/Guardian: please read and sign below:RHS
Science Department - Laboratory Safety Agreement

I, _____ agree to abide by the
Student Name
following safety rules whenever working in the science laboratories.

I will:

1. Use the science laboratory for authorized work only.
2. Remove contact lenses and wear safety goggles when instructed.
3. Study the laboratory investigation before coming to class, if possible. (If in doubt about any procedure, I will ask the teacher.)
4. Know how to use safety equipment and the location of the eyewash station, safety shower and fire blanket.
5. In case of fire, alert the teacher and leave the laboratory.
6. Carefully check for the presence of ignition sources (open flames, etc.) before using flammable materials such as alcohol.
7. Report any accident, injury, spill, unsafe procedure or broken glass to the teacher at once.
8. Never taste, touch or smell any substance unless specifically directed by the teacher to do so.
9. Handle chemicals carefully, check the label of every bottle or jar before removing the contents, and never return chemicals to reagent containers.
10. When heating a substance in a test tube, point the mouth of the tube away from all persons.
11. Use proper equipment to handle hot glassware.
12. Tie back long hair, remove dangling jewelry, roll up loose sleeves, and tuck in loose clothing.
13. At the end of the lab, clean the work area, wash and store all materials and equipment, and turn off all water, gas, and electrical appliances.

We have read the laboratory safety agreement, the course syllabus, and acknowledge the content.

(Student Signature)

(Parent Signature)

date

date