**Biology I Course Syllabus**

**Landrum High School**

**2025-2026**

**Teacher:** Mrs. Allison Ramsay

**Room:** Room 205 and Biology lab 203

**School Phone:** 457-2606 ext 4718

**Extra Help:** Tuesdays and Wednesdays 3:15-4:15 or by appointment (whenever Power Hour is not an option)

**Course Description:**

Biology I is designed to be equivalent to an introductory biology course. This biology course differs from the usual high school course in respect to the range and depth of topics covered, the laboratory work done by students, and the time and effort required. Biology I is structured around concepts such as evolution, energy, reproduction, genetics, and ecological interactions. Science as a process, will be woven throughout both the investigations and the class activities outside of the investigations.

*This course will count as a required lab science for college entrance.*

**Standards:**

This course complies with the South Carolina State Standards. These standards can be found at the South Carolina Department of Education website: <https://ed.sc.gov/instruction/standards/science/standards/printable-biology-1-standards/>

**Course Goals**

The following is expected of all students:

1. To develop students' understanding and appreciation of the nature of science, Biology specifically, and how it relates to their lives.

2. To practice and apply Biological concepts through a variety of projects, hands-on activities, and lab experiments

3. To prepare students for a higher level of science education and greater develop their ability to think scientifically.

**Objectives:**

* The learner will develop abilities necessary to do and understand scientific inquiry.
* The learner will develop an understanding of the physical, chemical and cellular basis of life.
* The learner will develop an understanding of the continuity of life and the changes of organisms over time.
* The learner will develop an understanding of the unity and diversity of life.
* The learner will develop an understanding of the ecological relationships among organisms.

**Learning Activities:**

Class Discussions Group Work Quizzes Tests Note-Taking (ISN)

Laboratory activities Project/Problem Based Assessments (oral, visual and written)

Research Webquests

**Instructional Materials:**

* HIGH quality, LARGE Spiral Notebook (at least 100 sheets)- NO COMPOSITION
* Divided section in a 3-ring binder or a folder with pockets
* Loose leaf paper
* Wired Headphones (optional)
* Hi-lighters (optional)

**Student Performance Objectives:**

* Each student is expected to complete all assignments and hand them in on time. Late work may not be accepted.
* All work is to be authentic and completed by the person turning it in. **Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Doing so will result in a zero for a grade and disciplinary action**
* Manage your time wisely.
* Students should come into the classroom excited and ready to work. A lot of content is covered in depth, in a short period of time.
* Students will keep a professional and organized content notebook. This is required and will be included in the student’s class grade. This notebook will serve as a portfolio of daily student work.

**Grading Procedures:**

Grades are determined on the point system. Every assignment has a point value. The grade is based on the number of points you earn out of the total possible points. The more important the assignment, the greater the amount of points it will be worth.

Major Grades (Tests/Projects)……………..………………………………………….50% of quarter grade

Minor Grades (Labs (participation and write-up) , Notebook and Classwork) .....35%

Daily: (Weekly Quizzes, Homework ……………………………………………..………15%

\*\*\* Each quarter will count 40% towards a final grade. A comprehensive final exam (State EOC) will make up the remaining 20%.

**Make-up Policy:**

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL MATERIAL COVERED IN CLASS.

SHOULD YOU MISS A CLASS OR LABORATORY; IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN THE INFORMATION MISSED.

Please see me **at an appropriate time** to retrieve your missed assignment(s).

A student has **5 school days** upon their return to make up all missed work, including lab activities. If a student has missed an extended number of days, the 5 day rule will be adjusted. Make-up time and tutoring will be provided during Power Hour or after school by appointment only.

**Classroom Rules and Procedures:**

A student is expected to exhibit appropriate classroom behavior, which will enable all students to participate in a supportive and nurturing learning environment. The consequences for inappropriate behavior are addressed in the student handbook. After- school detentions will be assigned as needed with 24 hour notice to the student and parent.

1. Do not cheat. If you are not doing your own work, it is doing you no good. Do not make up excuses- Do not lie. Remember that if I or someone else cannot trust your word, there is nothing else that can be trusted, either.
2. Show up: you cannot learn if you are not here. Be not only present in body, but present in mind. Participate in class activities, ask questions so that you may understand. Your presence will greatly affect your learning and therefore have a large impact on your grade.
3. Respect your peers: consider your words and actions carefully - keep them kind.
4. Respect your teacher: I am here to help you.
5. Respect your environment: Practice all classroom safety rules and keep it tidy.
6. Respect yourself: Do not settle for less - only you can push yourself all the way to success.
7. Have Common Sense: Be on time to class. Be prepared with all materials. Complete and turn in your own work on time. Own up to your mistakes and FIX them. Ask for help when needed. Act with maturity.
8. While Chromebooks will be used in relevant class activities, they must remain closed in class unless otherwise instructed. Notes must be taken with pen and paper.
9. **NO CELL PHONE USAGE. THIS INCLUDES BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, MAKING PHONE CALLS, TEXTING AND SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE. NO PICTURES ARE TO BE TAKEN IN THE CLASSROOM.THE USE OF SMART WATCHES AND WIRELESS HEADPHONES IS ALSO PROHIBITED.**

**Tutoring/Extra Help:**

If you are struggling, please make plans to come for tutoring during Power Hour or by appointment after school. Anytime a student grade falls below a 70, they are required to attend tutorial during the designated Power Hour time for Science. Failure to do so, may result in disciplinary action.

If you receive a low grade on a Test (less than a 65), then you may come for tutoring and to correct your test for **half credit** recovery. This may only be done **twice** during the semester.

**Communication:**

I will call home if necessary to inform you of any behavior, attendance, or academic achievements/problems. Please do not hesitate to contact me. I will be available after school from 3:15-4:00 Tuesdays if you need to speak with me, or you may email me at [allison.ramsay@spart1.org](mailto:allison.ramsay@spart1.org)

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**Teacher: Allison Ramsay**

I have read and reviewed the course syllabus with my student. I understand and **accept** the information provided on the syllabus.

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**Student Signature**

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**Parent/Guardian Signature**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date**

**Parents**, if you have an email address that could be used for me to communicate with you, please write the address below.

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(Please Check) I **WOULD** like to part of a weekly email list of events, assignments and assessment dates for Biology I

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