

Syllabus and Student Safety Contract

Biology

Mr. Ferguson
jferguson@sheltonbulldogs.org

Course Description:

Students will take this class as sophomores. Biology is a graduation requirement.

This class will include an in depth look at the structure and function of plants, animals, and other living things. Some of the topics covered will include: cells, DNA, Genetics, classification of living things, and systems. A research paper will be completed in conjunction with the English department. Exploration of concepts will be done with the use of the scientific method to guide student learning.

Materials:

- Pearson Biology by Miller and Levine, 2010
- 1" 3 ring binder
- Divider – 5 or 8 tab
- Loose Leaf Paper – College ruled
- Pen/Pencils

Lab Expectations:

- Conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times in the lab
- Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. ASK if you are unsure
- Never work in the lab without an instructor present
- Do not touch any equipment or materials unless instructed to do so. We may be handling items that need safety equipment
- No food or drink in the lab area
- Only preform experiments authorized by Mr. Ferguson
- No playing around in the lab
- Always keep your work area clean
- Know where the safety equipment is located

- Students are never permitted in the science store room
- Know what to do in case of a fire drill

Classroom Expectations:

- As with the room rules, please be PROMPT AND RESPECTFUL!
- Follow directions and participate fully in class activities.
- NO electronic devices: cell phones, iPods, or mp3 players. Please do not bring or use them in class.
- SHS tardy policy is enforced. See your handbook for more details.
- SHS absentee policy is enforced. Make up time follows the handbook. See your handbook for more information.
- Detentions will be given for minor misbehaviors or as needed. Office referrals will be given for more severe offenses.
- Academic dishonesty results in a loss of credit for the student(s) involved. Such behavior includes, but is not limited to, giving or receiving answers to assignments, cheating on exams, or completing another student's work.
- Books are required to be covered. Any student that does not have their book covered will be required to recover their book. If left uncovered, fines for damage may be enforced.

Clothing:

- Any time we use chemicals or are dissecting specimens, goggles must be worn
- Contacts should not be worn when in the lab
- Long hair, dangling jewelry, and loose clothing must be secured before lab
- Shoes must completely cover the foot

Accidents and Injuries:

- Report ANY accident or injury to Mr. Ferguson immediately

Heating Substances:

- Use caution when using a gas burner

- Take care of hair and clothes
- Never leave a burner unattended
- Pick up heated items with caution
- Never look into a container that is being heated

Grading:

90-100% A 80-89% B 70-79% C 60-69% D Below 60% F

Each semester there will be a writing project of some kind to continue working on our school wide goal of improving writing.

Grade Set-up:

<u>Classwork</u>	<u>15%</u>
<u>Projects</u>	<u>15%</u>
<u>Quiz</u>	<u>10%</u>
<u>Test</u>	<u>40%</u>
<u>Semester Final</u>	<u>20%</u>

Late Work:

Late work will be accepted until the end of the unit for a 20% deduction. The deduction will be taken off on all late work.

Lab Safety Agreement

Agreement:

I, _____ (student's name) have read and agree to follow all of the safety rules set forth in this contract. I realize that I must obey these rules to ensure my own safety, and that of my fellow students and instructors. I will cooperate to the fullest extent with my instructor and fellow students to maintain a safe lab environment. I will also closely follow the oral and written instructions provided by the instructor. I am aware that any violation of this safety contract that results in unsafe conduct in the lab or misbehavior on my part, my result in being removed from the lab, detention, receiving a failing grade, and/or dismissal from the course

_____ Student Signature _____ Date

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We feel that you should be informed regarding the school's effort to create and maintain a safe science classroom and lab environment.

With the cooperation of the instructors, parents, and students, a safety instruction program can eliminate, prevent, and correct possible hazards.

You should be aware of the safety instructions your son/daughter will receive before engaging in any lab work. Please read the list of safety rules above. No student will be permitted to perform lab activities unless this contract is signed by both the student and parent/guardian and is on file with the teacher.

Your signature on this contract indicates that you have read this student safety contract, and are aware of the measures taken to ensure the safety of your son/daughter in the laboratory, and will instruct your son/daughter to uphold his/her agreement to follow these rules and procedures in the lab.

_____ Parent Signature _____ Date

Please return signed safety contracts by
Monday, August 21st