**Biology 1 Instructor: Keith Moules**

***Course Description:***

During the course of the year, students will be learning about the study of the various aspects of living systems to include: characteristics of life, biochemistry, cell structure and function, cellular energy, cell cycles, DNA, inheritance and genetics, evolution, and ecology. The course focuses on the biological concepts and principles as outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Biology anchors and is geared toward successfully completion of the Keystone Biology test by each student.

Students enrolled in Biology 1 must realize that to successfully navigate the course and pass the Keystone Biology test, it will require an extensive amount of effort, reading, memorization and time. The Keystone Biology test is a comprehensive final exam generated at the state level and successful completion of the class and the test will require dedication and commitment from the student.

***Grading Procedures:***

**Grade Points: Grading Procedure:**

Assignments, Labs, A = 93-100%

Tests, Quizzes = 800 points B = 85 - 92%

Class participation = 100 points C = 75 - 84%

Quarterly Exam = 100 points D = 70 - 74%

**Total = 1000 per quarter** Fail <70%

**Assignments** = Various worksheets, drawings, colorings, readings assigned either in class or for homework,

vocabulary words, Bell Ringer exercises, and lab exercises. Missed or late assignments can be handed in for half credit until the time of the test on that subject material. For lab assignments, students will receive points if they are actively participating, follow laboratory directions and instructions, and stay on task. Students will not receive points if they are not completing any of the laboratory tasks. All written lab work will be turned in individually even though a lab is completed with a partner or group. Missed labs/make-up labs must be scheduled and will be subject to instructor availability and approval.

**Tests** = Quarterly tests covering a concept and/or system worth 100 points each. Missed tests

must be completed before the next test or quiz is given, generally one week. A student will be required to take a test if present on test day and no NEW material was taught while the student was absent. **Missing a review is not an excuse to make up a test.**

**Quizzes** = Each quiz will cover a current topic and be worth varying points. Missed quizzes are subject

 to the testing policy mentioned above.

**Class Participation** = Students will receive 100 points for attendance in class and participation in the

lesson/lab exercise. Missed class time will result in lost participation points, - 5 points for each lecture class missed, and -10 points for each test day or lab missed. After the third class late, -10 points will be lost for each additional class late. Once all 100 points are lost they may not be made up.

**Quarterly** = One comprehensive exam at the end of each quarter covering all topics covered during the

entire quarter. It is worth 100 points.

**Cell Phone:** = Cells phone or any other electronic device use is not permitted during the teaching of class,

 in lab, or during testing. If using a cell phone during testing the test will be forfeit and zero

 score will be received. A student will receive a first warning to put the device away. Upon

 the second warning the student will be asked to place the device in a designated area.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Refusal to comply will result in the loss of one full point on the student’s overall grade for

**Initial** the quarter **for each daily offense**.

***Classroom Expectations and Policies:***

The student is expected to exhibit acceptable behavior in a classroom setting:

 **Please do**:

* Be in class on time (In your seat when the bell rings/instructor begins class)
* Be prepared for class (Have your binder, pencil/pen, assignment)
* Complete the “Bell Ringer” exercise before the instructor starts class every day.
* Stay in your seat for the entire class unless authorized by the instructor (labs, etc.)
* Raise your hand if you have something to contribute to the topic being discussed.
* Study for quizzes and tests. **Study = greater chance of success**
* Do your best, if you are overwhelmed, see the instructor after class/school for help.
* Participate in all laboratory exercises. Follow all safety procedures (safety goggles)
* Ask questions, inquire about things you want to know more about.
* Expect much of **yourself** – it’s your education, if you do not care about it how can you expect others to care.
* Expect your instructor to **teach you something every day**! It is why we are here.

**Please do NOT**:

* Come to class late without a pass from a teacher or administrator.
* Ask to go to another teacher’s classroom. If another teacher needs you during class time, have them send an email or a written note. You MUST make up whatever you missed in class on your own time.
* Get out of your seat during class without first asking permission.
* Use your cell phone in class or any other electronic device during the teaching of class.
* Carry on personal conversations in the classroom during the teaching of class.
* Eat or drink in the classroom without instructor permission.
* Use profanity, if ONE slips, apologize quickly and we will continue with the lesson.
* **Verbal or physical abuse another student or teacher will NOT be tolerated (I WILL break up any fight!)**

**Disciplinary Plan**

The following procedures will be followed in the event of a discipline problem.

1. 1st incident: Conference with student (warning).
2. 2nd incident: Detention, classroom, 10th period, no excuses. Skipping detention will be

considered a 3rd incident.

1. 3rd incident: Parental phone call/conference and Main Office referral when needed.

**I acknowledge I have been informed of the course description, grading policies, class room expectations and procedures, and disciplinary plan concerning the Biology 1 course instructed by Mr. Moules.**

**Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**