

Course Outline:

IB Biology HL1 is a second year biology course that parallels the content studied in college level introductory biology. This course extends and deepens those concepts developed in the first year biology course, and should be followed by taking IB Biology HL2 which will continue the in-depth study of biology. A brief outline of both courses is given below:

IB Biology HL1

- Topic 1 Cell Biology
- Topic 5 Evolution and Biodiversity
- Topic 4 Ecology
- Topic 2 Molecular Biology
- Topic 8 Metabolism
- Topic 9 Plant Biology
- Topic 6 Human Physiology

IB Biology HL2

- Topic 7 Nucleic Acids
- Topic 3 Genetics
- Topic 10 Genetics and Evolution
- Topic 6 Human Physiology
- Topic 11 Animal Physiology
- Option A: Neurobiology and Behavior

Course Materials: Some of the tools and supplies that will be used regularly in our class are included below. These items may be purchased by the student/family, or you may borrow the items from the school; please speak to the instructor.

Scientific calculator

Composition book (graphing)

Binder paper

Colored pencils

Binder

Blue or black pens

Course Expectations:

IB Biology HL1 is a rigorous course, requiring self-motivated and independent learners. Students are expected to have exemplary attendance. The text, lectures, and laboratory experiments will be at the college level. Students will also be required to maintain a lab notebook that will be evaluated periodically. Since a significant part of class time is spent on hands-on activities, students are expected to read the text and come to class prepared. All the content in the textbook cannot be fully discussed during class: there is simply too much material. We will discuss major concepts, *time permitting*, and any questions/concerns or misunderstandings students have about the information they have read.

Electronics- Cell phones and electronic devices should NOT be visible in the classroom. Unless directed to do so, cell phones and electronic devices must be off / on vibrate and away or in the area designated by the instructor during instructional time. When allowed, use your devices only for the designated purpose only. Students found with an unapproved device during an assessment will receive a zero for that assessment, and the incident will be addressed under the IHS Academic Honesty Policy.

Academic Dishonesty- Any time you take another person's work and present it as your own you are cheating. The policy for cheating will be strictly adhered to as described in the IHS Student Handbook. **Cheating will not be tolerated. Do not even let it look like you may be cheating. In other words, it is not worth it!!!**

AP Biology Exam- This course **will not** completely prepare you for the AP Biology exam that covers some content differently and addresses all the HL topics in one year. There are numerous parallels between the two courses, and if you commit to preparing for the AP Biology Exam outside of class you will probably do well. The best time to take the AP Biology exam will be at the end of year 2. Although the IB exam will during the same time, you will be better prepared for the exam.

Practical Scheme of Work- In addition to the course work and exams, students will be required to complete 60 hours of activities and experimental work in IB Biology. Year 2 will devote time to the 10 hours for the Group 4 project, and the 10 hours to an Internal Assessment (IA). The IA will require students to spend time outside of class to collect experimental data, as there is not enough time in the school day/year to meet the IB IA requirements. The instructor will help to provide the necessary space and time for students to complete their chosen IA. We will also begin the approximate 40 hours needed for lab work in class during this year.

Grading:

Grades- Each student's grades will be based on the scale below. All percentages are rounded up (89.5% is an A-).

> 102%	A+	89-88%	B+	79-78%	C+	69-68%	D+	< 59%	F
100-92%	A	87-82%	B	77-72%	C	67-62%	D		
91-90%	A-	81-80%	B-	71-70%	C-	61-60%	D-		

Breakdown of Grade- The following is a breakdown of the grade for the semester, with points weighted equally in each category.

10% Daily Assignments – Classwork and Homework

30% Labs – Formal Lab Write Ups

60% Assessments – Tests, Quizzes, Projects and Final Exam

Absent/Late Work- It is your responsibility to come in and make up any work if you are gone. **You will have the same number of days absent to turn in or take any tests, quizzes, or assignments that you missed during an excused absence. Most late work will be accepted for half credit until the conclusion of the unit.** After that, NO CREDIT will be given unless there are special circumstances and you talk to me before that time is up. If in doubt, please ask.

If you miss class because of a school activity (sports, theater, etc.) it is expected that you see me that same day to turn-in work, take a quiz, etc. If you miss a test or quiz (one day excused absence), you will need to take it by the end of the day upon your return. In addition, makeup work/exams may be given in a different format (all essay in place of multiple choice, etc.). **Please see the details of Scholars and DP Late and Make Up Work Policy for more information.**

Since a large portion of class time will be devoted to lab work, exemplary attendance cannot be stressed enough. If you miss a lab, you will have to complete the lab at your teacher's discretion/when they are available. Some lab materials will not keep beyond the day of the laboratory. Some labs require extensive teacher preparation. Therefore, not all labs can be made up. **DO NOT MISS LAB DAYS!!!**

Infinite Campus and Online Materials:

Infinite Campus - I regularly maintain an up-to-date gradebook both physically and online. I will also frequently print out physical reports to hand out to students by their ID number for those who do not have regular internet access. Please do realize that some assignments do take longer than others to grade and that assignments that have been turned in, including late work may not be entered into Infinite Campus right away. If you have any concerns or questions about your student's grades on Infinite Campus please contact me.

Webpage- I regularly maintain a school webpage where students may find information about the class, homework assignments, calendar, past lecture notes and other useful documents and links. This page can be found under the Staff link from the school's website, then Teacher's Sites, and finally selecting my name, Patrick, Robert. Please visit regularly to see what we are learning in class.

Keys to Success:

Organization- Being organized is the key to success in any course. You should keep all of your work organized in a binder with the most recent assignments on top.

Keep a Positive Attitude and Ask for Help- We want you to succeed and enjoy class. Be sure to ask for help (teacher, parents/guardians, and other students) whenever you need it. Become familiar with the class website; homework, labs and worksheets will be posted weekly. NEVER GIVE UP!!!!!!

Come to Class Prepared- This course will require you to do a substantial amount of work outside of class. Be sure to do all of the required reading and more! Bring your supplies every day and be ready to discuss biology.

Please review the above information with a parent/guardian and sign the attached sheet.

HL Biology**Student Name:** _____

We have read, understand, and agree to the above course outline. We understand that HL1 Biology is a rigorous course, requiring self-motivated and independent learners. We have discussed the importance of exemplary attendance and academic honesty.

Student Signature_____
Date_____
Parent/Guardian Signature_____
DateParent/Guardian Contact Information: _____

_____**HL Biology****Student Name:** _____

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