ACADEMIR CHARTER SCHOOL MIDDLE - TITLE I SCHOOL

BIOLOGY Honors SYLLABUS

Period 4

Teacher: Ms. Acosta, Room: 222

Teacher Email Address: macosta.acsm@gmail.com
Teacher Website: macostaacsm.weebly.com
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
School Phone: (305) 967- 8492

Course Overview: *[Biology: "bio-" = life and "-ology" = study of]*
Biology is a branch of knowledge that deals with living organisms and vital processes. Topics to be covered include: Foundations of Biology, Ecology, Evolution, Biochemistry, Human Biology, Genetics and Heredity, and Nature of Animals. Hands-on laboratory exercises, as well as projects, will be provided to assist students in their understanding of biological themes. In this course expect to learn how to write lab reports and how to learn complex processes of biology through application. **There will be an End-of-Course (EOC) Standardized Assessment towards the end of the school year.**

Textbook provided: Modern Biology Textbook, by Holt, Rinehart, and Winston

Class Materials:
Students must have the following items:

- 1.5 – 2 inch, 3-ring hard cover **binder** (any color) with pockets (place syllabus in the outside plastic cover)
- 5 dividers:
  - Notes
  - Vocabulary
  - Classwork
  - Labs
  - Home Learning (HW)
- 1 binder pocket cover with holes to put in 3-ring binder (for handouts)
- 1 *black* pen, 1 *blue* pen, 1 pencil
- lined paper (placed in Notes tab of dividers)
- highlighter
- 2 glue sticks and 1 scissor
- School Student Agenda (to copy HW)
- Calculator (optional)

Parent – Teacher Communication
The best way to reach me is via email macosta.acms@gmail.com or visiting the school's website macostaacsm.weebly.com, which has a link to my email. I will do my best to provide a timely response but please allow up to 48 hours to correspond. Should you wish to schedule a conference please call the office so that they may coordinate a convenient date and time.

I will post important class information, such as homework assignments, test/quiz review, project/research paper instructions and sometimes review notes on my teacher website listed above. Please check the website for information on the class, important dates and especially when absent from class.

Class Expectations, Rules and Procedures

- All students are expected to respect others and their environment.
- All students are expected to be well-rested, and arrive prepared for class with supplies everyday.
- All students will be expected to remain on task and follow all procedures related to class activities.
- Arrive on time to class. Students will be advised that repeated tardies will lead to a conduct grade drop and a detention.
- All assignments must be turned in on the assigned due date. No assignments will be accepted late unless you have an excused absence.
- Cheating will not be tolerated and will result in an immediate "F".

Consequences:

1. Verbal warning
2. Move seat
3. Detention with note home
4. Call home
5. Parent-Teacher Conference Meeting

Grading System:

Tests: 35%
Quizzes: 20%
Homework and participation: 10%
Classwork (includes Bellringers/Exit Tickets): 15%
Projescts/Labs: 15%

- 90 – 100 =A
- 89 – 80 = B
- 79 – 70 = C
- 69 – 60 = D
- 59 and below = F

Make-Up:
It is the responsibility of students to make up ANY missed assignments. Students will have the **number of days missed plus one day** to complete any makeup work.

Late Projects:
Late projects will ONLY be accepted one (1) class day late and will receive a letter grade of 75% 'C' as the highest possible grade.

Homework:
Science homework will be given to reinforce class work and will be posted on the teacher website. **Homework will NOT be accepted late**. Homework is vital for student success.

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to Biology Honors! I look forward to an exciting school year and I am here to help all students succeed. I expect that all students put forth their maximum effort to gain the understanding and further explore the world around them!

Sincerely,
Ms. Acosta

LAB REPORTS

No student who has not returned a signed Science Safety Contract will be allowed to participate in lab activities. All lab reports are to be completed in the following format. All lab reports must be typed and include a cover page:

last name, first name
date, period
Lab Title

Objective:
** What question(s) are you trying to answer?*
** What is the purpose of the experiment?*

Hypothesis:
** Write a possible solution for the problem.*
** Make sure this possible solution is a complete sentence.*
** Make sure the statement is testable.*

Materials:
** Make a list of ALL items used in the experiment typed in bullet form.*

Procedure:
** Write the steps you followed to complete the lab in # sequence.*
** Your procedure should be written so that anyone else could repeat the experiment.*

Observations:
** This section should include all information you experienced with your senses (eyes, smell, touch, taste, hear).*
** All analysis questions should be included as part of your observations.*

Results:
** This section should include any data tables, graphs, or charts.*
** You may attach a separate sheet(s) if necessary.*
** All tables, graphs and charts should be labeled appropriately.*
** A minimum of 3 sentences written explanation of the data tables, graphs, or charts.*

Conclusion:
** Accept or reject your hypothesis.*
** EXPLAIN why you accepted or rejected your hypothesis using data from the lab.*
** Include a summary of the data - averages, highest, lowest...etc. to help the reader understand your results.*
** List one thing you learned and describe how it applies to a real-life situation.*

SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT SHEET

Parents and students, please **read**, **sign,** and **return** this form.

Teacher Name: Ms. Acosta Grade/Subject: Biology Honors
Period: 4

My child and I have reviewed and understand the expectations and policies as presented in the syllabus. We also acknowledge ***the availability of all class information and the syllabus online through the teacher website****.*

_____ _____
Parent/Guardian Signature **Student** Signature

_____ _____
Print Name Print Name

_____ _____
Relationship to Student Date

I would greatly appreciate it if you would provide the following information so that I may be able to contact you and share any pertinent information regarding the class or your child. Thank you very much for your time!

How would you like to be contacted?

_____(Home)

_____(Work)

_____(Cell)

_____(E-mail)