



## James B. Castle High School

**Vision:** We are global citizens who positively contribute to society.  
**Mission:** Build character. Strive for competence. Instill commitment.



### Biology Course Syllabus School Year 2016 - 2017

**Teacher: Steven Ing**

E-Mail [ings@knights.k12.hi.us](mailto:ings@knights.k12.hi.us)

#### **Course Description**

Biology, the study of living things, is a laboratory based, introductory course that explores the principles of modern biology. Students will study the cell, the molecular basis of heredity, biological evolution, interdependence of organisms, matter and energy, organization in living systems and the behavior of organisms.

#### **Required Classroom Supplies**

- College rule composition book
- Pen, Pencil

#### **Course Objectives for the Year**

Upon successful completion of the course, students will:

1. Develop the process skills necessary to do scientific inquiry and apply these skills as they conduct scientific investigations.
2. Demonstrate effective use of science tools – measurement tools and laboratory equipment
3. Identify cells as the fundamental structural and functional units of all living organisms and explain physiological processes at the cellular level.
4. Identify the relationships and interactions of organisms and their environment.
5. Explain the processes of photosynthesis and cellular respiration and how these processes relate to the energy needs of organisms.
6. Explain the process of homeostasis and its importance to the survival of living things.
7. Understand how information carried in the genetic code directs life processes.
8. Explain basic patterns of inheritance.
9. Discuss evidence that evolution, or changes in living things through time explains the inherited similarities as well as the diversity of life.
10. Classify organisms into taxonomic groups based on similarities and differences

#### **Classroom Expectations**

**Be Prepared – Students are expected to:**

- Be prompt (must be in the classroom before the tardy bell begins to sound).
- All electronics, especially cell phones, put away when the bell rings.

*Knight Pride*

*Demonstrating*

*Relationships by being **R**espectful, **R**esponsible, **R**esourceful and **R**esilient.*

***C**haracter, **C**ompetence and **C**ommitment*

- Bring appropriate classroom materials each day, including Biology note folder, blue or blue pen, and correcting pen
- Submit homework punctually
- Be ready to participate in class activities and discussion.

**Show Respect**

- While students do not have to agree with ideas or philosophies presented in class, they do have to be respectful of the opinions expressed by their teacher and fellow classmates. Derogatory comments (including profanity) will not be tolerated. Students must respect property that does not belong to them, including textbooks, furniture, and equipment.

**Be Responsible**

- Students are expected to follow classroom policies and procedures policies which are outlined in the **Science Classroom Procedures** handout (safety rules, tardy policy, electronic device policy, proper dress, no food or drink in the classroom).
- As Biology is a lab class, safety considerations are extremely important. Students are responsible for their own safety and the safety of others in the classroom. All students must have a signed **Biology Student Safety Contract** on file and pass the safety test before they are allowed to participate in lab assignments. Students are responsible for assignment due dates
- **Deadlines** will be posted on the right side of the white board, and are required to be written into your Biology notebook or planner upon entering classroom.

**Grading Policy**

The Castle High School Grading Policy will be followed in this class. The Policy is as follows:

**5-Point Grading Scale**

Although Castle High School is currently not a standards-based grading school, we are working toward standards based grading. Therefore, all assignments and assessments will be based on a 5-point grading scale. Some grades may reflect half credit increments. For example, a student may receive a grade of 2.5 for an assignment. We have the discretion to assign a weight to larger assessments, with the maximum weight being three. Furthermore, extra credit will not be offered.

Grade for the Assignment or Assessment	Letter Grade for the Assignment or Assessment
5	A
4	B
3	C
2	D
1	F

**Quarter, Semester, Year Grades**

Quarter grades will be based on this formula:

All graded **assignments** – 15% of total grade

All graded **assessments** – 85% of total grade

Semester grades will be based on the average of the two quarter grades.

***Biology has a Hawaii State End-of-Course Exam, therefore Quarters 1 – 4 will be 85% of the year grade and the EOC exam will be 15% of the year grade.***

### **Retakes**

Students need to submit a Re-take Request Form, complete with a Parent/Guardian signature. It is at our discretion to allow a student to re-take an assessment. If a re-take occurs, we will take the higher grade. Re-takes are not provided for unexcused absences and firm deadline assessments. Re-takes will not be allowed for Quizzies.

### **Firm Deadlines**

Firm deadlines for large projects and finals can be established if communicated at the start of the project or quarter and reiterated often. Late assignments with firm deadlines will not be accepted.

### **Late Work**

If accepted, students may have up to but no longer than two weeks after the due date to submit work. Late work will not be accepted after the exam for the applicable unit. **Maximum grade for late work is a 4.**

### **Participation Grade**

Biology is a Laboratory Science credit, therefore participation in lab activities is *required* in order to pass the course.

### **Unexcused Absence**

Work will be given to students and students will have the opportunity to turn in the work for a grade. Students may have up to but no longer than two weeks after the due date to submit work. **Maximum grade for an unexcused absence is a 4. No re-takes allowed** for work turned in from an unexcused absence.

**Note: Students with unexcused absences will also face the following disciplinary action:**

4 unexcused in a quarter – 1<sup>st</sup>: Warning; 2<sup>nd</sup> In-class consequence; 3<sup>rd</sup> Parent Contact, tell parent that referral will go in for Saturday School next unexcused absence; 4<sup>th</sup> –referral form will be submitted to the student’s counselor for Saturday School consequence

### **Finals Week**

A final exam will be given at the end of each semester. A final exam schedule will be distributed early in the semester. Students should take every opportunity (A-period tutoring, re-takes, etc) to keep up with academic work throughout the semester to be prepared for each course’s final exam. Taking children out of school during finals week may be detrimental to their overall grades.

**Scope and Sequence for the Year (subject to change and updated through the school year)**

QUARTER 1 QUARTER 3

Lab Safety Dissections  
Scientific Method and Conclusion Writing DNA  
Ecology Protein Synthesis

QUARTER 2 QUARTER 4

Cell Structure and Function Mitosis & Meiosis (Cell Division)  
Movement of materials through cell membranes Mendelian Genetics  
Cellular Respiration Evolution  
Photosynthesis Classification of Life



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone Numbers:

Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_