[srobles@psusd.us](mailto:srobles@psusd.us) Instructor: S. Robles

Website: <http://roblesrmhs.weebly.com> Room: 662

# C:\Users\Owner\Pictures\biology.png

# Honors Biology

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is designed for students who have demonstrated a higher level of proficiency in mathematics and science. This course will address the principles of biology which are relevant and informative. Honors Biology is designed to provide a deeper knowledge in cell biology, genetics, ecology, evolution and physiology as outlined by the standards recommended by the California State Board of Education. Additionally, this course will require students to design long term, ongoing experiments and produce formal lab reports.

This course is designed for college-bound students. It not only fulfills the 10 units of biological science needed for graduation, but also fulfills a lab science requirement for colleges and universities.

**UNITS OF STUDY:** The sequence may change, but these are the areas that we plan to cover this year:

1. Introduction to biology
2. Scientific Method
3. Cell Structure and function
4. Physiology (including health)
5. Cell structure and function
6. Photosynthesis and cellular respiration
7. Fundamentals of genetics
8. DNA, genes and chromosomes
9. Protein synthesis
10. The biotechnical revolution
11. Evolution
12. Ecology

**OBJECTIVES:** The objectives of this course are: 1) to learn fundamental material in the above areas, in order to provide a solid background for future work in biology, 2) to provide hands-on experience in order to formalize lecture concepts, and introduce students to techniques that they can use in the future 3) to confirm and expand upon the philosophical basis of science, 4) to review the fundamentals of scientific investigation, 5) to nurture interest in the subject area and enthusiasm for future work, 6) to encourage students to think like a scientist.

**TEXT:** The main text for this course is Campbell et. al. 5th Edition, Biology Concepts & Connections. Pearson Benjamin Cummins, USA, 2006.

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

Your new knowledge and skills will be measured in various ways. This will include: small group work, individual class work, laboratories, traditional testing, homework assignments, oral presentations, notebook organization, projects and class participation.

Grade will be divided into three categories each worth 1/3 of your grade. These categories are:

**1) Homework/Classwork, 2) Tests/Quizzes, and,**

**3) LABS/Projects-this includes required formal lab reports and your main research project.**

**HOMEWORK POLICY:**

Students are expected to turn in their completed assigned work on the due date. Students that are absent when homework is assigned are responsible for making up the assignments **within TWO days** from the day they return to class.

Students that are present when the work is assigned, but absent on the due date must turn in the assignment on **the FIRST day** they return to school.

**10% of the earned points will be deducted for each day an assignment is late. No late work will be accepted after 10 days.**

The grading scale will be as follows:

## A+ 97% - 100%

## A 94% - 96% B- 80% - 83% D+ 67% - 69%

## 90% – 93% C+ 77% - 79% D 64% - 66%

## B+ 87% – 89% C 74% - 76% D- 60% - 63%

## B 84% - 86% C- 70% - 73% F 0% - 59% (NO CREDIT)

**MATERIALS:**

Bring the following items with you to class **EVERY** day for full credit and the potential to maximize learning:

1. Spiral notebook with lined paper (journal). At least 70 pages (will need 1 per semester)
2. Notebook paper
3. Pens or pencils

## ATTENDANCE:

If you must miss a class (for whatever reason), it **is your responsibility to find out what you missed and what you need to make up.** See the daily assignment agenda located if you have been absent and/or check the agendas on my website.

**ELECTRONIC DEVICES & MAKEUP:** Students will be allowed to use their electronic devices (smart phones, iPods, tablets, etc.) only when instructed by the teacher and only for the academic purpose specifically instructed by the teacher. Any unauthorized use of electronic devices will result in confiscation of the device. Students will receive consequences as outlined in the RMHS student handbook. Please no grooming (makeup, hair brushing etc.) after the start of class. Grooming items will be confiscated if they are used during class time.

**CLASSROOM RULES:**

Respect yourselves and others…..

* Come prepared! (pencil/pen, notebook, and assignments).
* Be on time to class. Class time will be based on “cellphone” time, not your watch.
* Show respect to All of your classmates and all lab equipment and teacher’s supplies.
* Eating, drinking, and chewing gum in class is prohibited. Only bottled water in clear plastic containers may be consumed in class.
* Instructions are given ONCE. You have to listen carefully.
* One person talks at a time. If you have something to say, wait for your turn.
* I dismiss students (remain seated until dismissed).
* There is no such thing as a "stupid question." Ask as many questions as necessary when you have difficulty understanding a concept.

**Consequences:**

1st offense: Verbal warning

2nd offense: lunch detention/call home

3rd offense: referral (sent to office)

\* For any severe disruptions, defiance, or any dangerous behavior, there will be an immediate referral to the discipline office/ISSS.

**TUTORING:**

I am here to help and will try to be available whenever you need me. All I ask is that you tell me ahead of time so I can make the proper arrangements. I will do the best I can to accommodate students with time limitations (refer to my website for weekly study hall schedule).

**CONTACTING TEACHER:**

If you need to contact Mrs. Robles, you can do so by email (preferred method) at [srobles@psusd.us](mailto:srobles@psusd.us) or visit my website at <http://roblesrmhs.weebly.com> and fill out a contact form.

**Class Period**:

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the above biology class syllabus. I also understand that my parent(s) and or guardian(s) and I must sign this document below and return it to Mrs. Robles.

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Student Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) Signature Date

How can I best contact you? (Phone number at home or work, best times, and/or email address):