



**International Leadership of Texas  
Arlington/Grand Prairie High School  
Ms. Mariscal: Biology 2016-2017**

## Biology Syllabus



**Teacher:** Ms. Ana Mariscal  
**Room #:** TBA  
**Phone Number:** TBA  
**Conference Periods:** TBA  
**Tutoring Hours:** TBA  
**Email:** [amariscal@iltexas.org](mailto:amariscal@iltexas.org)  
**Website:** [www.msmariscal.weebly.com](http://www.msmariscal.weebly.com)

### Course Description:

Biology is devoted to the study of living things and their processes. Throughout the year this course provides an opportunity for students to develop scientific process skills, laboratory techniques, and an understanding of the fundamental principles of living organisms. Students will explore biological science as a process, cell structure and function, genetics and heredity, evolution and classification, diversity of living organisms and their ecological roles, and an introduction to animal structure and function.

### Objectives and Goals:

- Teach students practical scientific skills, which they can use to investigate, study and explain the world around them.
- Give students a deeper understanding of the how biology impacts their daily lives.
- To encourage the spirit of scientific investigation and with it, the attitudes of accuracy in thought and work.
- To develop a genuine interest and love for the sciences.

### Message from the teacher:

Success of the student in this class is dependent upon the cooperation of the student, parent and teacher. We are here to help each student and parent with any aspect of this class and the students' overall education. I know that every student has an interest in the world in which they live, and the study of biology will help explain that world. I will provide your child with a positive environment where they will be free to discuss concepts, explain their thoughts and reasoning, and approach science with an open mind and develop the ability to formulate their understanding. Each student must be willing to do their part.

### Virtual codes and Links:

Throughout the year, we will be using a google calendar, google drive (to keep class powerpoints, documents, videos, etc.), and of course, google classroom. All links are located on my website: [www.msmariscal.weebly.com](http://www.msmariscal.weebly.com). Please bookmark this website to use regularly in class. Below you will find the codes to join your class per class period. Students and parents can also use [www.remind.com](http://www.remind.com) to receive text messages and reminders about class. I will also be providing class pictures and updates through Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. Please add my class to stay connected! On the next page you will find additional information and codes.

**Instagram:** [iltexas\\_agphs\\_biology](https://www.instagram.com/iltexas_agphs_biology)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/agphsbiology](https://www.facebook.com/agphsbiology)

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/agphs\\_biology](https://twitter.com/agphs_biology)

Class	Google Classroom Code	Remind Code Text your code to 81010
1A Leadership	jebn7lz	@msmlead1a
3A Biology	mw009o	@msmbio3a
4A Biology	6wdrqzj	@msmbio4a
5A Biology	4rr3al	@msmbio5a
6B Biology	7ttsns	@msmbio6b
7B Biology	hi1rpdz	@msmbio7b
8B Biology	caqt3j	@msmbio8b
10B Biology	5drvz	@msmbio10b

### Class Materials:

All reading materials will be provided by the teacher. The following must be used **ONLY** for Biology and cannot be shared with other classes:

- 3-sub. spiral (150 sheets) Any color/brand
- 1 folder; no brads - Any color
- OPTIONAL: 1-inch binder to keep all work/labs organized

The following are materials needed for class that can be shared with other classes:

- Pens or pencils
- Highlighters (multiple colors)
- Good erasers
- Chromebook
- Index Cards
- Colored Pencils
- Scissors
- Ruler

### Grading Plan:

Each *six-week grade* will be broken down as follows:

60% Tests/Major Labs (2-3 per six-weeks)

40% Class Work (To include: Mini Labs & Projects, Homework & Assignments)

The *semester grade* will be broken down as follows:

85% average of the three six weeks

15% semester exam

Grade break points:

A = 100 - 90

B = 89.9 - 80

C = 79.9 - 70

F = 69.9 - 0

*You will receive the grade you earn. Please do not request that your grade be curved, rounded, or otherwise altered.*

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## Course Policies:

**Web Enhancement:** This is a web-enhanced course. Most of the work assigned for class, homework, and test preparation will be placed on our google classroom, google drive, & google calendar. Each student will be shown how to access our virtual classroom and will be required to check in often. If you do not have internet access at home, the school's wifi is available before and after school during tutoring hours. Please refer to the virtual codes box in this syllabus to finding your class code and to stay connected via Remind text messages.

**Lab work:** Labs will almost always include a Pre-lab (preparation before the actual lab.) All pre-labs must be completed before coming in to class. During labs, students must collect data, and run experiments to gather information, all while following the safety lab procedures. A post-lab activity or assignment will always be given, and can be completed during class or as homework. All post-labs will have a specific due date with plenty of time for completion, and for the student to ask for tutoring/extra help.

**Homework:** Students will be expected to complete assignments given by the teacher inside and outside the classroom. Homework assignments are not optional and must be done before the due date to better help the student prepare for class work, discussions, and labs. All homework will always be due at the BEGINNING of class.

**Missing/Late work:** all late work will be assigned to be completed in Eagle Academy as soon as possible and will automatically lose 30 points for being late. I will not accept ANY late work that is over one week late. If late work is not turned in 7 days after the due date, then that grade will turn into a permanent zero, no exceptions. Since the highest grade you can have on a late assignment is a 70, late work can have a tremendous negative impact on your average. Don't let that happen!

**Group Activities:** You will be working in groups or partners on a regular basis. Your group will be given cooperative learning activities to complete. You will be expected to be an active member of your group and participation points will be assessed accordingly. You may be graded as an individual and/or as a group, depending on the activity and teacher discretion.

**Extra Credit:** Opportunities for extra credit will be offered from time to time. Extra credit is extra work above and beyond the usual homework, not work used to cover up missing work. No extra credit opportunities will be given to students that have missing or incomplete work.

**Absences:** If a student is absent, it is HIS/HER responsibility to get all late work from the teacher and return it in a timely manner. Google classroom is the best way to see all missed assignments.

**Tardy policy:** If you get to class and my door is CLOSED, you are TARDY! Students are expected to be in their seats and working on their Warm-up before class begins. If the bell rings and you are talking, wondering around the classroom, or not actively working on the warm-up, you will also be counted tardy. Three tardies during a six-weeks period equal a detention. Any more tardies after that will lead to more detention and/or office referrals. Please take care of all your business before class and don't be late.

**Cheating/ Plagiarism:** Cheating on a test or assignment will result in a grade of zero for all involved and possible further consequences per district and school policy. Data for lab reports must be taken during lab. Copying of lab data after lab is not allowed. Each student is responsible for individual lab reports unless specifically stated by teacher. Plagiarism is also cheating and the same consequences will be applied.

## How to pass this course:

*Our class is a learning environment where you are expected to participate in class, study the material covered and assigned, and ask questions. If you attend class, participate, turn in your assignments, study for your tests/quizzes and ask for help, when needed, you will pass this class.*

## Behavior Expectations:

- Students will use the restroom and take care of other personal matters before class starts.
- Cell phones and all other electronic devices will remain off and put away, unless otherwise instructed by the teacher.
- Chewing gum, eating food, and drinking anything other than water is not permitted in the classroom/lab.
- Students will be allowed to speak, walk around, stretch as necessary, and fully engage in their learning, as long as they are not breaking other school rules and ONLY as instructed by the teacher. I expect the full attention of my students when I talk or lecture, no exceptions.
- Students are responsible for maintaining a productive learning environment—sleeping, continuously talking out of turn, bullying, etc. will not be tolerated.
- Students are expected to care about their work and their education. (Even when you have a bad day, try to leave your luggage at the door!)
- Students are expected to communicate with the teacher if they have any issues, questions, misunderstandings, need additional help, need a shoulder to cry on, etc. I am also a human being and I will try my best to practice understanding, as long as the student is honest and respectful.
- *Please follow all other rules and expectations as dictated by the student handbook.*
- Students are expected to have fun! **Science freakn' ROCKS!**

## Consequences for Not Meeting Expectations:

1. **First Offense** - WARNING
2. **Second Offense** - 2nd warning; Conversation with student and/or parents.
3. **Third Offense** - After school detention
4. **Fourth Offense** - Office Referral for further consequences.

# Biology Year at a Glance

Fall 2016	Spring 2017
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Six Weeks</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Six weeks</b>
Unit 01 - Ecology	Unit 07 - Genetics and Heredity
Unit 02 - Biochemistry	Unit 08 - Evolution
Unit 03 - Cells	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Six Weeks</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Six weeks</b>
Unit 03 - Cells (continued)	Unit 09 - Classification
Unit 04 - Cellular Processes: Photosynthesis and Respiration	Unit 10 - Viruses, Bacteria, and Protists
Unit 05 - Cell Growth and Differentiation	Unit 12 - Plant Systems
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Six Weeks</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Six Weeks</b>
Unit 05 - Cell Growth and Differentiation (continued)	Unit 13 - Animal Systems
Unit 06 - Mechanisms of Genetics: Gene expression, Protein Synthesis, and Mutations	Unit 14 - Current Developments in Biology

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Please sign and return this sheet stating that you have read and understood the syllabus and expectations for the class. By signing this document, both student and parent understand and accept consequences for not meeting expectations. Please refer to the Student Handbook for other policies not stated on this syllabus that student is still responsible for.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Parent Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

How would you prefer to be reached (**circle one**):      PHONE              EMAIL

Thank you,



Ana Mariscal  
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