

Biology 20 : Course Outline
January 2009 – June 2009
Mountain View Academy
All Children deserve to believe in themselves...

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Students will be encouraged to develop positive attitudes that support the responsible acquisition and application of knowledge related to science and technology. The following attitude outcomes are to be developed throughout Biology 20, in conjunction with the specific outcomes for Knowledge; Science, Technology and Society (STS); and Skills in each unit.

Students will be encouraged to:

show interest in science-related questions and issues and confidently pursue personal interests and career possibilities within science-related fields,
appreciate that scientific understanding evolves from the interaction of ideas involving people with different views and backgrounds,
seek and apply evidence when evaluating alternative approaches to investigations, problems and issues and
demonstrate sensitivity and responsibility in pursuing a balance between the needs of humans and a sustainable environment.

Units

- A. Energy and Matter Exchange in the Biosphere
- B. Ecosystems and Population Change
- C. Photosynthesis and Cellular Respiration
- D. Human Systems

Evaluation Criteria

Quizzes, Unit Exams and Projects	40%
Homework, and Labs	30%
Final Exam	30%

Late Assignment Policy

All assignments/projects are due on the date assigned by the teacher. Homework is due two classes after it is assigned unless otherwise specified. Late assessments will be awarded marks as follows:

One day late = 25% off

Two days late = 50% off

No assignment will be accepted for marking after two days past the due date.

Make-up and Replacement Exam Policy

If a student is absent on the day of a quiz or a unit exam, it is his/her responsibility to discuss with the classroom teacher when the missed test should be written. The exam that the student writes at a later time may not be the same exam that the class wrote, however, it will be a comparable version. If a student is absent on the day of a quiz, it is his/her responsibility to discuss with the

classroom teacher the course of action which will be followed. This could include a mark of “omit” or a quiz rewrite, at the teacher’s discretion.

Students may write a Field Test at the end of the semester. They may use the score to replace a poor performance on a quiz or unit exam. They may **not** replace a mark of zero if it has been assigned as a result of an unexcused absence or because of cheating. The opportunity to replace a poor performance mark is a reward given to students that have had good attendance and have worked diligently throughout the semester. **As such, the replacement is done solely at the teacher's discretion.**

Mountain View Academy practices mastery learning. Students are expected to achieve a grade of 70% or higher on each unit final to be considered competent enough to proceed to the next topic. If the target is not met, students will be offered one rewrite. The unit grade will be the average of the two tests or 70%, whichever is lower.

Student Absences:

Students who are excusably absent when assignments are due or examinations are administered shall not be penalized for the absences. Students who are truant during evaluation will forfeit any marks assigned during that evaluation. If a student is excusably absent, the parent/guardian or independent student is responsible for contacting the school on the day of, or the morning of the school day immediately following the absence. If parent permission for the absence is **not given in the specified time period**, the student will be considered truant and will not be awarded any marks on assignments, examinations, or any other form of evaluation that may have occurred during that time.

Student Expectations:

Any action that interferes with teaching or learning is counterproductive and unacceptable. This includes (but is not limited to) arriving in class late or unprepared, distracting and being disrespectful of your classmates, and not making good use of class time.

Students should display an honest, trustworthy and professional attitude. They are encouraged to make use of a variety of resources to learn the material (texts, internet, classmates, parents and teachers) but they must ensure their learning is genuine. **Copying someone else’s work is cheating**, and will result in a mark of zero and possible suspension from school. It is equally unacceptable to “help” your classmates cheat.

Materials Required:

Pens, pencil, papers, and binders are required. All texts and materials as well as your agenda should be brought to each class.

Extra Help:

Extra help is always available at lunch or after school. Students are encouraged to ask for assistance as soon as they feel there is a problem.

