

**Course Overview:**

This course is intended to be a college preparatory biology class in which we will explore many interesting topics related to the study of life. This course is aligned with the California Science Content Standards. These standards explore concepts in modern Biology and include content in biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, heredity and physiology.

**Textbook:** *Biology*, by Glencoe, 2007. It is mandatory that a book cover is used. Unless otherwise instructed, leave this book at your home in a safe place. This book is your responsibility and you will be charged if you damage or lose your book.

**Materials:** The following is a list of materials that is required for this class:

- |                                 |  |                           |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| a. <b>1 Composition Book</b>    | b. <b>1 package of 3 X 5 Index Cards</b> | c. <b>colored pencils</b> |
| d. <b>1 folder with pockets</b> | e. <b>calculator</b>                     | f. <b>Glue stick</b>      |

**Semester I Plan:**

*1st 6 weeks:* Summer Read-NEED Assignment, Scientific Method- Straw Tower, Principles of Ecology, Communities and Biomes, Population Biology, Diversity and Conservation, Biogeochemical Cycles and Food Webs/ Energy Pyramids

*2nd 6 weeks:* Biology Overview, Taxonomy, Chemistry of Life- Atoms, molecules, energy levels, pH, Molecules of Life, Enzymes and Substrates, Cell Biology-Microscope skills, Prokaryotic vs. Eukaryotic, Viruses, Plant vs. Animal cells.

*3rd 6 weeks:* Cell Structures and Functions, Photosynthesis & Respiration, Cell Differentiation, Cell Transport, Cell Division- Mitosis.

**Semester II Plan:**

*1st 6 weeks:* Genetics-DNA, Meiosis, Mendelian Genetics, Human Genetics, Genetic Technology.

*2nd 6 weeks:* Evolution- Theory of Evolution, Population Genetics, Immune & Integumentary Systems, .

*3rd 6 weeks:* Body systems, human anatomy and physiology, Positive Prevention- HIV and Sexually Transmitted diseases.

**Class Rules**

1. Students are expected to act in a respectful and courteous manner daily. Profanity will not be tolerated.
2. Personal grooming is not to be done during class time.
3. Students are expected to be in their seats before the tardy bell rings. The tardy bell signals the start of class. Work on Daily Science Journal as soon as you sit in your seat. *Godinez Fundamental Tardy policy applies.*
4. Dress code violations will not be tolerated. All school dress code regulations will be enforced. Boys- appropriate shirt tucked into pants. Girls- appropriate top not showing shoulders or midriff.
5. Daily Science Journal: As soon as you enter the classroom, sit in your seat, take out your binder and copy the Daily Science Journal into your Journal section. There will be a weekly journal check that will contribute to your grade.
6. There is no food or drinks allowed in this science classroom. Since this class performs a multitude of labs, food or drink is not permitted due to safety concerns. Bottled water is allowed in the classroom part of class.

7. Daily Cleanup will be performed by the entire class. This is a cleanliness and safety issue and all will perform their assigned jobs.
8. **Safe laboratory practices will be followed by everyone in this class.** I will remove anyone who does not follow safe laboratory practices. I will **not** tolerate *playing* around in my lab.

**Grading:**

All assignments, projects, labs, daily science journals, notebook checks, dissections will be assigned a point value. Tests will account for 50% of the grade, homework 20%, Labs/ Assignments 30%.

The grading scale is as follows:

100-90	A
89-80%	B
79-70%	C
69-60%	D

Semester Grades are broken into three 6-week grading periods and a final exam. The final exam will be worth 25% of the semester grade.

**Discipline Plan:**

The discipline plan in my class is progressive. This means that with each infraction, your discipline will become steadily lengthier.

*1<sup>st</sup> Infraction:* Warning.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Infraction:* Teacher/Student conference and 15 minutes detention.

*3<sup>rd</sup> Infraction:* Parent contact and 30 minutes detention.

*4<sup>th</sup> Infraction:* Administrative Referral.

**Homework Policy:**

Homework is critical for this class. **Homework is given everyday in the form of Student Outcomes and Cornell Notes Review if not specified!!!!!!** If homework is not completed, you will not be successful in this class. Homework will be assigned periodically throughout the week and my consist of a reading assignment, a writing assignment, or both. Homework is meant to reinforce what is studied in class and to assist students in mastering the content standard- it should be taken seriously! It is the student's responsibility to turn in all assignments by the due date. Late work will be accepted 24 hours from the original due date with a 50% point reduction.

**Contact Information:**

I would be pleased to speak further with you further, especially if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached at 714 433-6600. I am available daily for a scheduled appointment during my planning period between 11:46-12:41. Please do not hesitate to call to schedule a conference. If you do not speak English comfortably, I can locate a translator for our conference.

## Student/ Parent Acknowledgement Form

The above requirements and expectations are designed to provide your child and all other students with an excellent learning climate they deserve. By signing below, you acknowledging that you have read this syllabus and understand what this syllabus states.

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

**I have read, do understand, and will follow the Course Requirements and Expectations.**

Parent/ Student consent form: I as the parent or guardian, have read and understand the above course description, rules, requirements and expectations for the 2013-14 Godinez Biology course.

\_\_\_\_\_Signature of parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_ date

\_\_\_\_\_Signature of student \_\_\_\_\_ date