

Alternative Science

Course Information

Teacher: Mr. Croft

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Textbook: Biology, Holt, © 2008

The curriculum for this course is aligned to the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks for Grade 10 Biology.

Major Topics of Instruction:

Scientific Method, Biological Principles, Chemistry, Cell Biology, Genetics, Evolution, Anatomy & Physiology, and Ecology

Method of Determining Grade:

Grades are determined using the assignment weights below. All biology classes at SBRHS use this weighted grading system. Within each category, assignments will be given a point value (unique to this class) based on their length, complexity, involvement, and importance.

Category	Weight
Tests & Quizzes	45%
Classwork & Projects	30%
Labs	15%
Homework	10%

General Point Values:

Tests (100 points):

Tests are given at the end of chapters or units. They consist of a mixture of multiple-choice, true/false, and short answer questions.

Quizzes (25-50 points):

Quizzes are usually short and are given to ensure that students are keeping up with their homework and classwork.

Labs (25-100 points):

Lab protocols are taken from the text or alternate sources. Labs are designed to allow the students to apply their knowledge of the subject matter.

Classwork (10-100 points): Worksheets, activities, etc. done individually in class.

Homework (10 points):

Homework for this course will be to finish any classwork that cannot be completed in class and to maintain an organized notebook. Notebooks will be checked several times a term.

A **Mid-Year Exam** (150 Points) and **Final Exam** (400 Points) will be given at the end of Terms 2 and 4. Due to time constraints, both tests will consist entirely of multiple-choice questions.

Notebook/Portfolio:

Students are required to keep a three-ring binder. Quizzes, lab activities, handouts, etc. must be inserted into the notebook in proper order for organizational purposes. Notebooks will be checked several times each term. Notebooks can be used on quizzes, tests, the Mid-Year Exam, and the Final Exam.

Extra Credit: Extra Credit is not offered for this class. Please keep up with the assigned work!