

# NATIVITY B.V.M. HIGH SCHOOL

## BIOLOGY SYLLABUS

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**Teacher:** Mr. Jason C. Jones  
**Room:** 302 (Science Department)

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**WELCOME TO BIOLOGY!!** I look forward to learning together and exploring the mysteries of life as a team of biologists. Our class is a highly participative learning community and each day you will learn something new as it applies to your life and life in the world around you. I am committed to creating and maintaining a vital learning-centered and student-centered environment in our class. I have high expectations for you and I am motivated and dedicated to helping you realize your vast learning potential. I provide you with these two quotes by Lou Holtz to think about as we begin our journey together; "Do right. Do your best. Treat others as you want to be treated." and "Don't be a spectator, don't let life pass you by."

**Course Description** This is a laboratory course designed to provide the student with the fundamental principles of biology as a foundation for advanced studies in biological and related sciences. Emphasis will be placed on topics covered in biochemistry, cellular and molecular biology, genetics, evolution, ecology and a systematic approach to organisms. The student will be required to participate in individual and group projects, laboratory exercises and class discussions that are designed to further build the student's language of science.

*Pre-requisite:* Physical Science and/or Approval of the Science Department

**Required Materials** Always come to class prepared and ready to learn.

- 3-Ring Binder
- Pencil
- Black ink pen
- Scientific Calculator
- Computer w/Internet Access
- Colored Pencils
- Paper: Loose leaf and Graphing
- Sharpie
- Textbook: Biology by Miller & Levine (Prentice Hall)

### **Grading Procedures, Policies, and Student Progress**

*All work completed in this class will be graded on a weighted basis. The grade earned for each marking period will result from the following weighted categories:*

(A) 100-93 (B) 92-86 (C) 85-78 (D) 77-70 (F) 69-0

***Know your grade! Log onto the MMS Portal to view your average and assignments.***

### **Quarter averages are determined in the following manner:**

Majors (Tests/Projects/Major Compositions)	50%
Laboratory Exercises/Activities	35%
Minors (Class & Homework Assignments/Quizzes/Notes)	10%
C.A.F.E. Participation Grade (Cooperation, Attendance, Faith, Effort)	5%

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*\*Semester Exam*

100%  
*20% of semester average*

\*More information related to majors, labs, and minors will be provided verbally to the students in class as we discuss the policies and procedures.

**Assessments:** A combination of formative and summative assessments will be used to monitor student progress and cumulate a quarter grade. These assessments will include, but not be limited to, unit tests, lab investigative reports and analyses, homework problems and review questions, chapter quizzes, independent student work, hands-on activities and simulations, collaborative work, scientific journal reviews, class discussions, peer teaching, literacy activities, etc.

**Academic Honesty Policy (Cheating, Plagiarism, and Copying Another's Work):** See policy written in student handbook. Please see policy below if the teacher determines you were cheating on a major test more than once:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: See "Academic Honesty Policy" in student handbook.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: See 1<sup>st</sup> Offense; Student automatically fails the quarter with an average of 65% or lower, if quarter grade reflects a lower score. A failing grade will be issued no matter the length of time between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> offense.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: See 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense; Student automatically fails the semester/course with an average of 65% or lower, if the cumulative average reflects a lower score. Please know that summer school credit recovery may be necessary if a failure results for the year.

**\*THE TEACHER STRICTLY ENFORCES THIS POLICY!**

**Assignments:** All assigned work is due at its specified date/time. Incomplete homework procedure:

- 1 day late will result in 25% point deduction from total value.
- 2 days late will result in 50% point deduction from total value.
- 3 days late will result in 75% point deduction from total value.
- 4 or more days late, work WILL NOT be accepted.

**Absent from Class:** The student is responsible for all missed work when absent from class. This includes notes, any assigned class/homework work, and scheduling a make-up date for tests, labs, and quizzes. Assignments due on day of your absence(s) is/are due at the beginning of class the day you return unless otherwise specified by the teacher. Please see assignments above for point deductions. Since a week's notice is given for announced tests, you are not excluded from taking the test if missing a review day. Make-up work cannot be completed during our scheduled class time. Please make necessary arrangements with the teacher. Any missed labs must be made up immediately upon return. In some cases, an alternative laboratory assignment may be given due to the nature of the lab.

**Tutoring/Study Sessions:** Never hesitate to see me for extra help! Class study sessions are highly encouraged before tests. Both tutoring and study sessions can be made by appointment with the instructor as needed.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Student Expectations** *Always think...C.A.F.E.* Cooperation, Attendance, Faith, & Effort.

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|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Give <b>RESPECT!</b> | • Be <b>PREPARED!</b>          |
| • Be <b>POSITIVE!</b>  | • Actively <b>PARTICIPATE!</b> |
| • Think <b>SAFETY!</b> | • Always <b>LISTEN!</b>        |
| • Be <b>PROMPT!</b>    | • Be <b>LEARNING!</b>          |

**BE YOUR BEST by SHOWING ME YOUR BEST YOU!**

**Nativity BVM Student Handbook** The policies and procedures stated in the Student Handbook of Nativity BVM High School apply to this class. Failure to abide to these policies may result in behavioral and/or academic disciplinary actions.

**Tardiness:** Tardiness will be handled as per the school's policy. A tardy will be counted any time a student arrives to class after the bell has rung without a written note from a teacher/staff member excusing your lateness.

**Discipline Plan** A 4-step discipline plan will be followed for any student who fails to abide to the policies and procedures of this course.

- 1) **1<sup>st</sup> Offense**-verbal warning to student
- 2) **2<sup>nd</sup> Offense**-student-teacher meeting; behavioral analysis paper completed
- 3) **3<sup>rd</sup> Offense**-Referral sent to the dean of students for disciplinary action.
- 4) **4<sup>th</sup> Offense**-Referral to dean of students for disciplinary action; parent-teacher-student conference scheduled

\*Please note that any serious wrongdoing will automatically result in 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Offense.

**Field Trip Statement:** Students will be required to occasionally perform class assignments/tasks outside the school building or on designated field trips. All school and classroom policies and procedures are applicable when participating in all field trips. You agree to release and discharge the Diocese of Allentown, its officers, agents, and employees exercising reasonable care within their scope of employment, from liability growing out of personal injuries and property damage resulting or occurring during the above mentioned activity, or in transit from said activity.

**Electronic Devices Policy** Students must receive permission from the instructor for use of personal electronic devices (i.e. cell phones, computers, iPods, iPads, Nooks, translators, etc.) during class time. In the event personal electronic devices are to be used in class for academic purposes, the student must abide by the school's acceptable use policy and school rules regarding technology. Failure to use your personal electronic device for its intended academic purpose and/or follow the rules and regulations regarding technology and Internet use will result in disciplinary action and loss of technology privileges.

**Remind Message Signup:** To receive class update messages: Text to: 81010 Message: @b8cf54

**Connect Ed Login Information:** Used for Online Assignments; Tests; LearnSmart Labs

**User Name:**\_\_\_\_\_

**Password:**\_\_\_\_\_

**Google+ /Gmail:** Used for Communication, Discussions, Document Sharing, and Collaboration

**User Name:**\_\_\_\_\_

**Password:**\_\_\_\_\_

**MMS Parent/Student Portal:** Used to track your grade and see missing/incomplete assignments.

**Class Webpage:** Used for accessing links, videos, YouTube video lectures, documents, etc.