**Biology Course Disclosure**

**Instructor**: Mrs. E. Moretz

**Room**: 1201

**Phone Number:** (801)578-8226

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(*preferred communication)*

**Course Description (*from the Utah State Office of Education*)**

The Biology Core Curriculum has two primary goals: (1) students will value and use science as a process of obtaining knowledge based on observable evidence, and (2) students' curiosity will be sustained as they develop and refine the abilities associated with scientific inquiry. The Biology Core has three major concepts for the focus of instruction: (1) the structures in all living things occur as a result of necessary functions. (2) Interactions of organisms in an environment are determined by the biotic and abiotic components of the environment. (3) Evolution of species occurs over time and is related to the environment in which the species lives

**Course Progression**

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| --- | --- |
| **MARKING PERIOD 1** | **MARKING PERIOD 3** |
| **The Nature of Science**  **The Relationship between the Living & Nonliving**  *Characteristics of Living Organisms*  *Energy Flow*  *Biogeochemical Cycles*  *Ecological Relationships* | **The Relationship between Heredity, the Environment, and Species Diversity**  *Genetics*  *Evolution* |
| **MARKING PERIOD 2** | **MARKING PERIOD 4** |
| **The Relationship between Structure & Function**  *Cell Chemistry*  *Cell Structure and Function*  *Anatomy* | **The Relationship between Heredity, the Environment, and Species Diversity**  *Taxonomy*  **Independent Student Research Projects** |

**Course Requirements and Grading Policies**

* Students are expected to arrive to class on time, ready to work and in their seat when the bell rings. Daily materials to be brought to class include a pen or pencil, science journal, and science binder (provided by school).
* Homework will be assigned several times each week and is due at the start of class. Work that is turned in late will receive 50% of the earned score.
* It is the student’s responsibility to inquire about and complete missing work the day they return from an unanticipated absence. Students have two days to make up work for each day missed. Students who know of an upcoming excused absence are expected to make arrangements for missed work prior to the absent date(s). Missed lab work will be made up on the teacher-determined lab make up day.
* Formal assessments will be given at the conclusion of every major topic and will consist of multiple choice, short response, and extended response questions. Additional assignments will be used to evaluate student understanding, including lab work, projects, writing assignments, and participation in small group and class discussions.
* Quarterly grades will be assigned according to the school district’s grading scale. Grades will be updated every two weeks, and can be accessed via students’ district PowerSchool account*,* <https://powerschool.slcschools.org/public/home.html>.
* Students are encouraged to seek help if needed. Daily extra help is available during lunch and some days after school.

**Honors Biology**

* Honors Biology credit can be earned by successfully participating in the District Science Fair. Honors students will design and implement and independent science research project, present their findings at the District Science fair, actively participate in weekly mentor meetings, complete science fair assignments in a timely fashion, and present quarterly research updates to the biology class.
* Students choosing to pursue honors credit will be enrolled in honors biology throughout the academic year. Failure to complete honors assignments will result in a lower quarterly grade, **not** removal from the honors course nor a change from one honors course option to the other.

**Classroom Expectations**

* Everyone will display respect and kindness towards the instructor, peers, and other classroom visits by using appropriate terminology, refraining from vulgar or inappropriate language, and refraining from interrupting or ridiculing others.
* Students are expected to be in class on time (i.e., in his/her seat) and prepared to actively participate in class.
* Healthy snacks that generate minimal mess and reusable water bottles are permitted and encouraged.
* Cell phones, headphones, and personal gaming devices will remain out of sight throughout the class period unless otherwise stated.
* Everyone will follow all lab safety rules at all times during a lab procedure. Failure to abide by proper lab etiquette will result in a deduction in lab points, and potential loss of lab privelages.
* Everyone will respect other’s space and belongings.
* Everyone will display integrity in their work both inside and outside of the classroom. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in a zero for the assignment and possible administrative actions.

------------------------------------PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN FOR HOMEWORK CREDIT-----------------------------------

**Parent and Student Acknowledgement**

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

Period Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please check the following, fill out the requested information, and sign**.

\_\_\_I have reviewed the syllabus for Mrs. Moretz’s Science Class.

\_\_\_I have signed the Safety Contract to be returned with this acknowledgement.

Parent/Guardian(s) Name(s) (PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact information - phone number(s)/email address(es):

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best method of contact: **Email** or **Phone call** or **Text**

Throughout the school year the class will go on field trips. Are you interested in learning more about volunteering to attend field trips with your student? **Yes** or **No**

Parent/Guardian(s) Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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