MYP Biology 2017-2018

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Welcome to MYP Biology! I am very excited to be your teacher this year. We are going to have a lot of fun.

Grading:

Full Credit: Work assigned during the course of a unit, MUST be turned on assigned date.		
Late Work: Late work will be graded as followed.		
First quarter: 10% off earned grade	ex. Earned 90% (90% - 10%) = 81%	
Second quarter: 20% off earned grade	ex. Earned 90% (90% - 20-%) = 72%	
Third quarter: 30% off earned grade	ex. Earned 90% (90% - 30%) = 63%	
Fourth quarter: 40% off earned grade	ex. Earned 90% (90% - 40%) = 54%	
Any and all late work MUST be turned in by the exam date for that unit. Work turned in past the exam date		
will receive a score of 0%. Accumulating late work will significantly affect your grade in this course.		

Semester Work (80% of Semester Grade)

40%	90 - 100%	А
60%	80 - 89%	В
	70 - 79%	С
	60-69%	D
		60% 80 - 89% 70 - 79%

Semester Exam (20% of Grade)

Grades will be updated frequently. Students and parents can check progress through the parent portal which is linked from the RHS website (<u>http://academy.d20.co.edu/rhs/</u>).

Basic Information

1. **Tests**: You will be given ample notice about upcoming tests. You will take the test on the test date *even* if you were absent the class periods prior. Test retakes are available, for this reason you will be required to take the exam on exam day. If absent on test date, you will be given a different version covering the same material and have one day for every absence to make up the missing exam.

Retake policy:

1st semester: Students may retake all unit exams.

 2^{nd} semester: Students are only allowed to retake <u>one</u> unit exam.

- a. Retakes will be schedule by teacher one week from exam being posted in IC. This will be the only day for retakes. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!!**
- b. A different version covering the same material will be given.
- c. The score earned on the second exam will replace the original exam, regardless if it is lower than the original. Gambling with your grade is not worth it. Make sure to study for the first exam to avoid risking your score with a second attempt.
- 2. **Quizzes**: These will be given consistently as a check up on your understanding of the material. Mastery of all material is expected.
 - a. Retakes:
 - i 1st semester: Retakes are allowed on all quizzes.
 - ii 2nd semester: Retakes are allowed on one quiz per unit.

- iii Quiz retakes will be schedule by the teacher one week from being posted in IC. This will be the only day for retakes.
- iv Quizzes may be retaken for full credit, a different quiz covering the same material will be given. The score earned on the second quiz will be entered in the grade book, regardless if the score is lower than the first. You have been given a second chance, make sure to study. If absent the day before a quiz, you will still be required to take the quiz during class. Quizzes are announced and retakes are allowed.
- 3. Homework: You will be assigned homework most days. It will be collected to next day and it is expected that the work is your own, unless otherwise instructed through group work. All homework will be put into your composition notebook. Copying homework or sharing of your work is considered cheating and <u>both parties involved will receive a zero on the assignment, with no opportunity to earn credit for that assignment.</u> Academic dishonesty will be reported. See Rampart policy on academic dishonesty.
- 4. **Extra Credit**: Extra credit will not be given, students are given the opportunity to master content before the unit exam. Students will be given homework to prepare them for the upcoming exam. Quizzes are a formative way to assess student learning and predict how they will perform on their exams. Quizzes may be retaken for full credit and give students another opportunity to show mastery in topic.
- 5. Labs: There will be a number of labs to help build lab skills and enforce content learned in class.
 - **OBSERVE PROPER LAB SAFETY**. Your safety while in Mrs. Fillingham's care is the primary concern. You must sign and abide by the lab safety agreement to be allowed to work in the lab. Breach of lab safety guidelines will result in your removal from the lab environment and a zero for the assignment.
 - Lab reports will be scored according to the official IB MYP rubric.

6. Webpage:

Frequent use of the webpage: <u>http://fillingham.weebly.com</u> is required. All material presented in class will be available on this site, with the exception of quizzes and exams. Videos will also be posted to help guide you in your studies.

- Notebook/Binder be sure to keep ALL material until after the school year.
- Study handouts need to be brought to class, as I may assign work to be turned in.
- Calculator definitely a good companion in Biology (I won't be able to provide extras)
- Writing utensil (Pens, pencil, highlighter, eraser, etc.)
- Notebook Paper to take notes, quizzes and other required writing.

Absences:

If you know about the absence before it occurs, it is your responsibility to obtain work before you leave. If the absence is unexpected, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and make up the work (notes, labs, homework, and studying). Class assignments and lectures can be found on my weebly page (see above for link). All make-up work due dates are defined by the RHS policy, which gives you as many days as you were absent plus one day to turn in the work (refer to your handbook for details). As you know, we operate on the block schedule, so even missing one day (ESPECIALLY IN BIOLOGY!) can put you at a disadvantage.

- If you are absent when an assignment is given a "missing" will be entered in the grade book until the assignment is completed.
- In progress grades are a snapshot of your current progress, a missing is calculated as a "zero" in the grade book and will be removed once the assignment is complete.

• A "missing" will not be removed to make a student eligible for sports, band or any other extracurricular activity.

Tardies:

If you come in late, you should have a pass with you. Lacking a pass, you will be subjected to Rampart's official tardy policy (see your handbook for details). Class will begin promptly after the tardy bell has rang, if you show up tardy you will **NOT** be allowed to take the quiz and will need to come in on your own time (within 24 hours) to take the quiz.

General Expectations:

- Be RESPECTFUL . . . of your fellow students, teacher, and classroom supplies
- Be ON TIME . . . tardiness will not be tolerated
- Be PREPARED . . . bring all the necessary materials and come ready to learn!
- Be FOCUSED . . . your time in this classroom is for learning biology, not doing your math or English or TOK homework.
- PARTICPATION is a must! Discussion amongst your group/class will happen on a regular basis.
- Mo cell phone usage during class time.
 - First time: Phone will be kept until the end of class.
 - Second time: Phone kept until the end of class and parent/guardian notification.
 - Third time: Phone will be taken to discipline where parent/guardian will need to pick up.

No Room for Cheating/Plagiarism:

Your personal integrity is one of your most important lifelong assets. Cheating on tests, quizzes, or projects will result in a **ZERO** for that assignment for both the cheater and cheated. Cheating consists of turning in work that is not yours (sharing/copying of homework, using internet, etc), sharing of work, sharing of quiz and/or test questions for those students absent during the quiz and/or test, using electronic device during quiz/test, or failure to site your sources properly. No grade is ever worth a compromise in your own personal integrity. Receiving some credit is always better than receiving no credit.

Mrs. Fillingham's Office Hours:

6:40 – 7:30 (most mornings)

2:50 – 3:30 (most afternoons)

* Retakes will be scheduled for a set date; those students who cannot attend the scheduled retake will need to address this **<u>before</u>** the scheduled date.

We have read, fully understand and agree to abide by the class policies stated above.

Student Name (please print):	
Student Signature:	Date:
Parent Signature:	Date:

Additional Questions I would like answered (with contact information):