

# Seaside High School Biology Syllabus 2015-2016

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**Course Title:** Biology A & B

**Course Description:** Topics in Biology include ecology, cell biology, genetics, and evolution, through the lens of scientific inquiry and students' curiosity. We regard the classroom as a laboratory and use the greater Seaside area outdoors as much as possible.

**Faculty:** Suzanna Kruger

**Email:** skruger@seaside.k12.or.us

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**Text/Course Materials:** *Biology* by Miller and Levine, Pearson, 2010, and supplementary handouts.

## Common Core State Standards Learned in this Course:

### Reading Informational Text:

- 9-10.RST.1 Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts, attending to the precise details of explanations or descriptions.
- 9-10.RST.2 Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; trace the text's explanation or depiction of a complex process, phenomenon, or concept; provide an accurate summary of the text.
- 9-10.RST.3 Follow precisely a complex multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks, attending to special cases or exceptions defined in the text.
- 9-10.RST.4 Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to *grades 9–10 texts and topics*.
- 9-10.RST.5 Analyze the structure of the relationships among concepts in a text, including relationships among key terms (e.g., *force, friction, reaction force, energy*).
- 9-10.RST.6 Analyze the author's purpose in providing an explanation, describing a procedure, or discussing an experiment in a text, defining the question the author seeks to address.
- 9-10.RST.7 Translate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text into visual form (e.g., a table or chart) and translate information expressed visually or mathematically (e.g., in an equation) into words.
- 9-10.RST.8 Assess the extent to which the reasoning and evidence in a text support the author's claim or a recommendation for solving a scientific or technical problem.
- 9-10.RST.9 Compare and contrast findings presented in a text to those from other sources (including their own experiments), noting when the findings support or contradict previous explanations or accounts.
- 9-10.RST.10 By the end of grade 10, read and comprehend science/technical texts in the grades 9–10 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

Writing: Please refer to the Oregon Department of Education Website for CCSS writing standards. They are long, but worthwhile. <http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=3569>

## Other Standards Learned in this Course:

Oregon adopted the Next Generation Science Standards in 2014. You can search the following website for Biology (life science) standards. Under the “Grades” window, select High School (9-12). Under the “Disciplinary Core Idea” window, select Life Sciences. At the bottom of the screen, you will find four documents you can download.

Briefly, NGSS standards for life sciences in high school include:

Structure and Function  
Organization of Matter and Energy Flow in Organisms  
Information Processing  
Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems  
Cycles of Matter and Energy Transfer in Ecosystems  
Ecosystems Dynamics, Functioning and Resilience  
Social Interactions and Group Behavior  
Inheritance of Traits  
Variation of Traits  
Evidence of Common Ancestry and Diversity  
Natural Selection  
Adaptation  
Biodiversity and Humans

NGSS searchable website: <http://www.nextgenscience.org/search-standards-dci>

## Grading Policies:

Students pass Biology by participation and turning in all work which is graded on a point scale. Letter grades are based on the following:

A	90-100%	Approximate point values for assignments in Biology A&B:
B	80-89%	• In-Class Assignments (10-20 points)
C	70-79%	• Homework (10 points)
D	60-69%	• Lab Reports (Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion) (25-50 pts)
F	<60%	• Quizzes (10-20 pts)

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You have the opportunity to earn college credit for Biology 101 and 102 through Western Oregon University and a program called Willamette Promise!  
You will need your SSID number. Register here: <http://www.wesd.org/domain/34>

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## Classroom Expectations:

Be Safe	Be Respectful	Be Responsible		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow Lab Safety Instructions carefully.</li> <li>Wear PPE when appropriate (goggles, gloves)</li> <li>No food or drink other than water.</li> <li>Pass requested items hand to hand, or place on a table or counter. Please do not throw anything.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate fully in class by listening, asking questions, &amp; contributing to the discussion.</li> <li>Electronics are allowed as a tool, but must be removed if they become a distraction.</li> <li>Be kind to your classmates.</li> <li>Get my attention and ask questions when you don't understand.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bring the required materials to class every day at the beginning of class and be ready to work when I say, "Welcome to Biology."</li> <li>Do the work expected of you.</li> <li>Keep your data tables neat.</li> <li>Stay within 15-30 seconds of the leader when we are outside.</li> <li>Ask questions when you are curious.</li> <li>Ask questions when you do not understand.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Required Materials:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pencil</li> <li>Spiral Notebook</li> <li>Folder</li> </ol>	<p><b>Optional Materials:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calculator</li> <li>Colored pencils</li> <li>Ruler, compass</li> </ol>

**Important Due Dates:** Weekly turn-in dates for **in-class work** and **homework** contained in your spiral notebooks will vary by period. Record that day of the week for your class here: \_\_\_\_\_

**Homework** will be assigned Wednesday at the end of class and will be due the following Wednesday. You and a partner will be responsible to lead a class discussion over homework in a **Student-led Seminar**.

**Wednesday** will include a short, cumulative quiz over material.

## Major Projects:

**Biology A:** Lab Report of your choice, three short essays on cell structure and function, cell energetic, Stem-cell performance task, Student-led seminar

**Biology B:** Seaside Heights Forest Carrying Capacity project, Predator Performance Task, Ocean Acidification lab report, Primary Productivity and Carbon Sequestration, Human Impacts + Solutions Presentation, Student-led Seminar

## Course Calendar:

<b>Biology A:</b> Cell Biology, Genetics, Evolution	<b>Biology B:</b> Ecosystems
Weeks 1-3: Chemistry of Life + Organization of Matter	Weeks 1-2: Natural Selection, Evolution
Week 4-5: Cell Structure and Function	Weeks 3-5: Ecological Relationships, focus on Carrying capacity + Field Trip
Week 6: Cell division (mitosis)	Weeks 6-8: Human Impacts, Global Change, Ocean Acidification
Week 7: Differentiation and embryology	Weeks 9-11: Net Primary Productivity + Field Work, Factors affecting biodiversity, stability and change, group behavior and social species, Ecosystem energetics, photosynthesis and respiration, aerobic and anaerobic metabolism
Week 8-9: Structure and Function of DNA	Week 12: Student presentations on human impacts + possible solutions
Week 10-11: Genetics and Heredity	
Weeks 12: Natural selection and Evolution	

