

# ***BIOLOGY 10 – Semester 1***

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## **Course Description:**

This course is required for graduation. You will receive a grade for each quarter and for the semester. The average of the two quarter grades will be used as the semester grade. You must have a minimum average of 60% for the semester to meet the requirements for this course.

## **Learner Outcomes:**

After the completion of Semesters I & II, students will have a basic understanding of the following:

- Classification of Living Things
- The Kingdoms of Life
- Invertebrate Biology and Insects
- Ecosystems
- Communities
- The Environment
- Flow of Matter and Energy
- Cell Theory, Structure, and Function
- DNA Structure and Function
- Mitosis and Meiosis
- Mechanisms of Heredity
- Biological Change over Time
- Interdependence of Organisms
- Vertebrate Biology
- Behavior of Organisms
- Biomes and Biodiversity
- Populations
- Scientific Thinking and Experiment Design
- Scientific Technologies

## **Standards Covered:**

This course covers a combination of national and state science standards, as well as content-area language arts standards.

## **MCA Test Preparation:**

Students will learn and practice strategies for reading and interpreting scientific writing and be required to complete scientific article analyses. Students will also learn technical writing skills and be required to write parts of laboratory research reports. Students will use math regularly throughout the course.

## **Modes of Instruction:**

- Lab Investigations
- Field Investigations
- Dissections
- Guest Speakers
- Web Quests
- Case Studies
- Classroom Discussions (in person and via Schoology)
- Textbook Readings
- Videos and DVDs
- Teacher Lectures

## **Materials Used:**

- Text: *Biology*, Johnson and Raven, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2004.
  - You will be issued a book at the beginning of the year. You are responsible for maintaining the condition of the book!

- Schoology - An online Learning Management System where students and parents can access lesson plans and class materials. Please contact your child's teacher for an access code.
- Remind101 - A one-way text messaging and email system we will use to send reminders of upcoming tests and quizzes. With Remind101, all personal information remains confidential.
- Newspaper and Magazine Articles, Life Science Websites
- Videos/DVDs pertaining to the curriculum including – See website for specific titles
- Miscellaneous Scientific Equipment

*\*\*If a student or his/her parent has questions regarding any of the materials or subjects covered in this class, please contact the instructor to set up a meeting to discuss curriculum or arrange for alternative assignments.\*\**

**Attendance:**

It is your responsibility to make up work, quizzes, and tests missed due to absences, according to the PCHS attendance policy. If you are absent the day an assignment is due, it is expected that you will turn in the assignment your first day back to class. If you are absent the day an assignment is given, make-up time is determined as stated in the Dragon Handbook. If you are absent the day of a test or quiz, it is your responsibility to make up the test or quiz BEFORE or AFTER school within two days of returning to class. Make-up time must be arranged with your teacher in advance.

Tardies – You will be allowed **one** unexcused tardy per quarter without consequence. Every tardy beyond one will result in the assignment of lunchtime detention. You will be considered tardy if you are not seated in your desk when the bell rings.

**Assessment and Grading:**

The following grading scale will be used:

100-94%	A	83-80%	B-	69-68%	D+
93-90%	A-	79-78%	C+	67-64%	D
89-88%	B+	77-74%	C	63-60%	D-
87-84%	B	73-70%	C-	59-0%	F

\*Updated grades will be posted in the classroom after each test. For more frequent updates, SchoolView will be updated weekly.

*Please keep the following guidelines in mind with regard to A-F grading:*

- A – achievement that is **outstanding** relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.
- B – achievement that is **significantly above** the level necessary to meet course requirements.
- C – achievement that **meets the course requirements** in every respect.
- D – achievement that is worthy of credit even though it **fails to meet fully the course requirements.**
- F – represents failure to meet course requirements, no credit earned.

Grades will be determined from the following types of assessment:

- Quizzes – may be announced or unannounced – 25% of final grade
- Tests – will be announced at least three days in advance - 40% of final grade
- Daily Work – labs, discussions, bookwork, daily participation – 35% of final grade

All assignments must be handed in when due (usually the beginning of class) to receive credit. Many of your assignments will go into your science notebook. Science notebooks will be collected throughout the quarter. A portion of your assignment grade is the science notebook. Due dates of assignments will be posted in the front of the classroom. **No late assignments will be accepted for credit.**

### **Academic Integrity:**

Copying someone's work or allowing someone to copy your work are both violations of school policy regarding academic integrity. Cheating on a test or quiz is also a violation. Violations of the policy may result in your receiving no credit for the assignment, quiz, test, or the entire course.

### **Classroom Expectations:**

\*You are required to follow all guidelines and expectations outlined in the PCHS student handbook

1. **Be respectful of people and property**

\*respect yourself and others (teachers, substitutes, classmates, visitors, etc.)

\*Actively listen to the person who is speaking (absolutely not heads down on the tables at any time, this includes videos)

\*Be respectful of others ideas and thoughts

\*Follow all directions the first time – especially SAFETY guidelines

\*Cell phones are a distraction to both me and you – I do not want to see them, hear them, or have to wonder if you are using them

2. **Be in class ready to learn**

\*Be on time – one unexcused tardy per quarter, then detention is assigned

\*Have all materials with you – no locker passes

\*Remain in your seat until dismissed (no lining up at the door)

\*Remember the PCHS attendance policy – **you** are responsible for making up assignments and time according to the policy in your student handbook

3. **Take responsibility for your work**

\*Complete your own work – violation of the academic integrity policy in the student handbook will result in the loss of credit for the assignment, quiz, test, or course

\*Assignment must be handed in on time to receive credit – Late work will not be accepted – so use your class time wisely

\*Keep up with assignments and vocabulary every day. Do not wait until the night before a test to play 'catch-up'.

\*Let your teacher know if you are having problems ASAP so we can get you back on track

4. **Be Safe**

\* Absolutely no horseplay is allowed-lab will be shut down and a score of zero will be earned

\*Use equipment properly

\*No food or beverage in class

### **Consequences:**

If a student chooses not to follow classroom procedures and expectations, he/she will be given a warning. If the student continues the inappropriate behavior, the following may occur per the teacher's discretion: removal from lab or activity, new seat assignment, conference with teacher and student, lunchtime detention, removal from class, phone call to parent/guardian, or other consequence necessary to allow the other students in the class to learn without disruption.

*\*No warnings will be given for cell phone violation, and consequences will follow PCHS policy.*

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The student must accept responsibility for her/his own learning in this course. Biology is meant to challenge the student in a fun and meaningful way. We will provide many opportunities for you to be successful and will support your learning in every way we can, but the first line of success belongs to you, the student.

If you have any questions about this course now or in the future, please feel free to contact your teacher at the phone number or email address listed on the first page. We are looking forward to spending the semester exploring the living world with you!

Detach and return bottom portion. Keep remainder for future reference.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to the basic guidelines and expectations of Biology at Pine City High School.

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Student Signature

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Parent Signature