

Welcome to Biology - Semester 1, 2025

Cocke County High School

Mrs. Elizabeth Norberto (Mrs. N)

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Expectations are subject to change when necessary.

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce the student to the study of Life. Topics include, but are not limited to: macromolecules, cells, cell division, photosynthesis, respiration, genetics, evolution, natural selection, energy, and biodiversity.

Textbook: Miller and Levine. EXPERIENCE BIOLOGY.

Classroom Expectations:

- To abide by school and classroom rules at all times
- To treat yourself, others (including me), and school property with respect.
- To be cooperative and not disruptive.
- To come to class on time and ready to learn each day.
- Try your best on everything you do.
- To take responsibility for your learning.

Required Materials:

- No. 2 Pencils (pens are not allowed to be used in class)
- File Folder (please ensure it has a flap to prevent losing your papers.) Get one that is plastic and with partitions is even better!
- Loose-leaf paper
- Box of Tissues

Grading:

Grading Scale:

A = 90-100 B = 80 – 89 C = 70 – 79 D = 60-69 F = 0-59

Point System:

- In this class, we will use the point system.
- To find your average, add up all your points and then divide by the total points.
- Points for each assignment will depend on the amount and complexity of the assignment. Here are some point examples that could be graded in class:
 - Collected Homework (10 – 30 points)
 - Labs (50 points) ○ 5 point quizzes ○
 - Tests (50 – 100 points) ○ Quizzes (10 – 30 points) ○ Collected Classwork (10 – 30 points) ○ Half Note check (30 – 50 points) ASPEN:
- Grades will be posted in ASPEN.

- Please check your ASPEN grades regularly to make sure you have no missing assignments.
- New grades will be entered into ASPEN once per week.
- If you have any questions regarding their grade, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Lab:

- COMPLETED IN No.2 PENCIL ONLY, OR 10 points will be taken off the grade earned for each lab written in any kind of pen, marker, or colored pencils unless instructed to do so.
- During a lab, hair must be tied back, and closed-toed shoes must be worn when necessary. Ample warning will be given.
- Depending on the lab, protective eyewear may be needed.
- Students will adhere to all the safety rules of the lab. These rules will be given at the beginning of each lab. These are also listed on the Science Safety Contract.
- Students may not go to the bathroom until the lab is completed and cleaned up.

Beginning of class:

- You will see a set of instructions on the board with a warm-up assignment.
- Anything that is needed is taken out, and your bookbags must be placed on the middle long table in the back of the room.
- Phones are to be off and placed in your book bag.
- Anything that should be handed in will be placed at the front of the desk. I will then call out the names of those who handed it in to avoid any confusion.

Notebook:

- Half note handouts will be given. They have to be completed so that I can read them. You will NOT throw any notes away, as you will need them for your final. These are usually handed in to be corrected when you take the test.
- Any half notes or any assignments handed in that are incomplete will not be returned for completion and will be graded as is.
- If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the notes and completed activities from your colleagues.

Restrooms:

- Restroom time starts 15 minutes after class begins and ends 15 minutes before the period ends.
- You need to sign out and then sign back in upon your return.
- Your pass is a safety vest. You need to wear it. If you remove the vest on your journey and do not bring it back, it will forfeit and nullify all others that are waiting after you.
- You may not go to the restroom during a test or quiz until you are finished.
- You may not use the restroom during the lab until the lab is completed and cleanup is finished.
- You may not bring your phone.
- If I see "frequent flyers," I will investigate.
- If you are out more than 10 minutes, a referral will be written up for skipping class.

Phones:

The following is the New State Law and Board Policy on Cellular Devices:

The Tennessee General Assembly recently passed Public Chapter 0103, which was enacted on

April 11, 2025, and becomes effective July 1, 2025. This new law prohibits the use of cellular devices during instructional time in all public schools across the state. This underscores a commitment to fostering an optimal learning environment free from distractions. In alignment with this state mandate and to further support a focused educational setting, the Cocke County Board of Education has updated its policy. Policy 6.312, "Use of Personal Communication Devices," states that the personal communication device must be in the off mode and placed in a backpack, pocketbook, or stored out of sight until the end of the school day. This includes instructional time, lunch periods, and transition times between classes. We understand that cellular devices have become an integral part of daily life, and we want to assure you that student safety and communication in emergencies remain a top priority. In the event of an emergency, students will have access to school phones, and staff will assist in facilitating necessary communication.

- Phones are not permitted. This also includes Nonmedical ear coverings or inserts of any kind. This includes but is not limited to: earbuds, ear pods, in-ear headphones, noise-cancelling earphones/headphones, headsets, open-back headphones, in-ear monitors, wireless headphones, etc.
- Phones that are not off and placed in your bookbag:
 - 1st offense:* The Phone is taken away and picked up by the administration, a referral is written up, and the student will pick it up at the end of school.
 - 2nd offense:* The Phone is taken away and picked up by the administration, a referral is written up, and the parent/guardian will pick it up at the end of school.
 - 3rd offense:* Insubordination

Computers:

- Computers are hardly used.
- Do not take them out unless it is stated on the board.
- Leave them in your bag, and you will take them out only if you are told to do so or if it is announced at the front of the board with other announcements for the day.

Extra Credit:

There is none.

Late Assignments:

Assignments are due at the BEGINNING of class. Late points will be deducted based on the amount of time it is overdue. Excused absences and school-based absences will not count towards the penalty

YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO TAKE PICS OF ASSIGNMENTS AND EMAIL THEM TO ME UNLESS YOU HAVE WRITTEN AND VERBAL PERMISSION AND THAT IS ONLY FOR EMERGENCIES.

Make-up Assignments and Exams:

- Exams will be made up immediately after you return to school. So if you are absent for a test, be prepared to make it up the day you return.
- When you are absent, you have 3 days from the day you return to complete and turn in assignments, provided your absence is excused. However, if an assignment was due the day you were absent, then it is due the day you return. Make-up work will receive full credit, unless turned in late.

We are preparing for an EOC. This is an important exam. You must come to school, complete your work, ask questions when you do not understand, and study. Even if there's no homework, you still need to study since we have five-point quizzes almost every school day.

Parents: Please make sure you monitor your child's grades. You may do this on ASPEN. Please, do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions or just want to know how your child is doing. The best way is to email me, and I will respond within 24 hours during the school week.

**Please complete and return to Mrs. Norberto the next
class day.**

Student Name: _____

| Name | Relalon to Student | email | Telephone | Best Way to Reach (circle one) |
|------|--------------------|-------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| | | | | Email phone |
| | | | | Email phone |
| | | | | Email phone |

The signatures below indicate that we have read Mrs. Norberto's Biology Syllabus. We understand the expectations for this class and agree to ensure those expectations are met.

Student Signature and Date

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date: