

# Advanced Placement Biology 2017-2018

Mr. Charneske and Ms. Diepholz

Room 3-103      Room 4-165

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**Grades:** myStudent

**Summer Assignment:** Accessible on the WRHS School Website, <http://wrhs.pasco.k12.fl.us/>.

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## Course Description:

Advanced Placement (AP) Biology is a course that is designed to be the equivalent of a first year, biology college course. As such, the course is suitable only for high school students who are (or will be) particularly able in biology. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes—energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions.

This course requires that 25% of the instructional time will be spent in hands-on laboratory work, with an emphasis on inquiry-based investigations that provide students with opportunities to apply the science practices.

Since AP Biology students at Wiregrass Ranch High School (WRHS) are enrolled in a college level class, they need to exhibit unusually high levels of commitment, motivation and academic maturity. In order to strive for excellence in this course you must have already completed high school courses biology and chemistry successfully.

## Summer Break/Summer Assignment Info:

Students are expected to complete a summer assignment that will be posted on the WRHS School Website, <http://wrhs.pasco.k12.fl.us/>

Students are to complete the summer assignment which will be posted on the website at the top of the information sheet. **One of the assignments will be due via email on July 5<sup>th</sup> by 2pm. Make sure you complete this portion of the summer assignment as it will be counted as the first assignment of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.** It is recommended that students follow the attached *suggested* timeline for the summer assignment. Students are encouraged to contact Mr. Charneske or Ms. Diepholz through email over the summer if needed at [dcharnes@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:dcharnes@pasco.k12.fl.us) and [jdiephol@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:jdiephol@pasco.k12.fl.us).

Students will take an exam on the **second day of school** based on the summer assignment. Students who do not perform well on this exam are unlikely to be prepared to begin the course at a high level of performance and may struggle with the material going forward.

## Required/Suggested Materials:

- Spiral notebook for lab days
- 2"-3" binder with 5 dividers
- Writing utensils, including pencils, black or dark blue pens, and highlighters
- At least one dry erase marker
- Paper for notes (another notebook or loose leaf)
- A review book (do not buy any yet because we will be deciding between the Princeton and Barron's for the 2017-2018 school year)

## Late Work

As this is an Advanced Placement class, late work is not an option. Due dates are not flexible and it is not my responsibility or problem if you fail to plan or attempt to plan at the last minute. If for some reason you honestly feel you have extenuating circumstances that justify a deviation from the late work policy, you must see me *beforehand*. Talking to me about it when it is already due is unacceptable.

## Make-Up Work

If an absence is excused, you may turn in a make-up assignment. You have one day per day absent to make up any homework, class work or tests. It is totally up to you to approach me to find out what make-up work you have. Make-up tests will be at my discretion. If you know ahead of time that you will be out, please see me and I can give you work before you are absent.

## Grading Scale

Your grade will be determined by a combination of factors, including homework assignments, tests and quizzes, and labs. The breakdown is as follows:

Course Work	Percentage of Final Grade
Tests and Quizzes	75%
Labs/Homework	25%

**AP BIOLOGY SUGGESTED TIMELINE FOR SUMMER ASSIGNMENT 2017-2018**

<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>SUGGESTED WORK</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
June 8 <sup>th</sup> to July 5 <sup>th</sup>	Have fun! Enjoy your summer with your family and friends! When it gets to be July, be prepared to submit <b>Task 1</b> of your summer assignment via email.	<b>Task 1 of the Summer Assignment due July 5<sup>th</sup> by 2p.m. via email to <a href="mailto:dcharnes@pasco.k12.fl.us">dcharnes@pasco.k12.fl.us</a> AND <a href="mailto:jdiephol@pasco.k12.fl.us">jdiephol@pasco.k12.fl.us</a></b>
July 9 <sup>th</sup> to July 15 <sup>th</sup>	Complete <b>Task 2</b> of the summer assignment.	
July 16 <sup>th</sup> to July 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Complete <b>Task 3</b> of the summer assignment.	
July 23 <sup>rd</sup> to July 29 <sup>th</sup>	Complete <b>Task 4</b> of the summer assignment.	
July 30 <sup>th</sup> to August 5 <sup>th</sup>	Complete <b>Task 5</b> of the summer assignment.	
August 6 <sup>th</sup> to August 12 <sup>th</sup>	Complete <b>Task 6</b> of the summer assignment.	<b>Tasks 2-6 of the Summer Assignment are due Tuesday August 15<sup>th</sup>.</b>
August 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Summer assignment test in class.</b>	<b>Summer assignment is due.</b>
August 16 <sup>th</sup>	Pass back summer assignment test.	

There will be some students who will procrastinate and try to do **ALL** of this summer work and studying just before (like the night before) the start of school. Those students may even cram well enough to do well on the initial test. However, they will quickly forget key concepts that will be explored throughout the course, which will make the course much harder than it should be.

All research on human memory shows us that frequent, short periods of study, spread over long periods of time will produce much greater retention than long periods of study of a short period of time.