

AP Biology

What's this class all about?

AP Biology is equivalent to a 1st year college introductory biology course. This might be a little misleading as we tend to go into a fair amount of detail in most subjects. A typical college course might cover a 6-8 week period whereas we study biology for the entire school year. This allows us to more completely explore the topics at hand and often place them in a context that is useful for students.

What kind of work can I expect in this class?

The course contains the following units:

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| 1. Chemistry of Life | 5. Heredity |
| 2. Cell Structure and Function | 6. Gene Expression and Regulation |
| 3. Cellular Energetics | 7. Evolution |
| 4. Cell Communication and the Cell Cycle | 8. Ecology |

In addition a minimum of 25% of this course will consist of laboratory work. Depending on the year we typically cover labs in:

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|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Animal behavior | Bacterial transformation |
| Enzyme Structure and Function | Genetic fingerprinting |
| Cellular respiration | Mitosis and Meiosis |
| Photosynthesis | Artificial Selection |

What will I be expected to complete for summer work?

During the summer I typically ask students to perform all the reading and associated reading guides for the ecology unit as this tends to be the easiest to grasp on your own.

What is the format of this AP Exam?

- Section I: Multiple Choice (60 questions, 90 mins)
- Section II: Free Response (6 questions, 90 mins)
 - Interpreting and evaluating experimental results
 - Scientific investigation
 - Conceptual analysis
 - Analyze a model or visual representation
 - Analyze data