

Biology

Course Number: SC1115

Grade level: 9–10

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisite Courses: None

Course Description

A compelling two-semester course, SC1115 engages students in the study of life and living organisms and examines biology and biochemistry in the real world. This is a two-semester course that encompasses traditional concepts in biology and encourages exploration of new discoveries in this field of science. The components include biochemistry, cell biology, heredity and reproduction, the evolution of life, classification and the first four kingdoms, plant and animal kingdoms, human body systems, and ecology.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- Understand the relationships among living organisms
- Describe the functions and processes that control cellular activities
- Trace the discoveries and scientific thought that increase the application of new technology in the field of DNA and genetics
- Examine the taxonomy that organizes all organisms
- Recognize the structures and functions of systems of the human body
- Relate the interdependence of ecosystems and propose solutions to issues impacting the environment

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course would. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on the following activities:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson
- Assessments including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

Communication

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, e-mail, chat, and system announcements. Through this communication with your teacher, you will monitor your progress through the course and improve your learning by reviewing material that was challenging for you.

You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face-to-face, as you do the following:

- Collaborate on projects
- Ask and answer questions in your peer group
- Develop speaking and listening skills

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Assignments	10%
Labs	0%
Lesson Quizzes	20%
Unit Tests	50%
Cumulative Exams	20%
Additional	0%

Scope and Sequence

When you log into the Virtual Classroom, you can view the entire course map, which provides a scope and sequence of all topics you will study. Clicking a lesson's link in the course map leads to a page listing instructional activities, assignments, and learning objectives specific to that lesson. The units of study are summarized below.

- Unit 1:** Biology Introduction
- Unit 2:** Ecology
- Unit 3:** Cells
- Unit 4:** Genetics
- Unit 5:** Evolution of Life
- Unit 6:** Microorganisms and Fungi
- Unit 7:** Plants
- Unit 8:** Invertebrates
- Unit 9:** Vertebrates
- Unit 10:** The Human Body