**Biology Honors Class Syllabus and Policy, 2018-19**

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*The mission of Haddam-Killingworth High School is to provide a personalized and collective experience through which students are challenged to develop the knowledge, skills, and work ethic to contribute to a global society.*

1. **Course Description – Biology**

The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) places special emphasis on developing and using models, planning and carrying out investigations, and constructing explanations and designing solutions. Students continue to grow in their capabilities with science and engineering practices over the course of the year and the level of sophistication at which they are able to engage in them, over time. The course is broken down into 5 major bundles listed below.

**Bundle 1 – Matter and Energy in Living Systems** - Cellular Respiration, Photosynthesis, Transfer of Energy/Matter

**Bundle 2 – Systems Dynamics and Homeostasis** – Homeostasis, Anaerobic Respiration, Maintaining Equilibrium in an Ecosystem

**Bundle 3 – Inheritance and Variation** – DNA, Protein Synthesis, Cell Division, Cell Differentiation

**Bundle 4 – Natural Selection** – Evolution of Species, Survival of the Fittest

**Bundle 5 – Sustainability** - Generation of New Species and the Extinction of Species due to Human Impact

1. **Class Supplies / Materials**

All students must have the following supplies/materials below every day in class for the entire year.

1. Notebook/Binder – stay organized!
2. Agenda to record homework
3. Office 365 School account – know your password
4. Turnitin.com account
5. **Attendance/Absences Policy**
6. Attendance- in compliance with the HKHS Student Handbook
7. Absences– It is your responsibility to make-up any class time you miss. Please see the instructor and refer the class website to find out what you have missed in class and for homework. Make-up work will not be done during regular class time. Absences will not delay any assessment except under special circumstances approved by your instructor. If you are absent on the day of an assessment, you will take the assessment (test, etc.) on the next day you are present.
8. **Science Department Homework Policy**

Homework is defined as the time students spend outside the classroom in assigned learning activities. The Haddam-Killingworth High School Science Department believes that homework should be to practice, reinforce or apply acquired skills and knowledge. We also believe, as research supports, that assignments completed and well done are an effective part of the learning process. Homework should serve in the development of independent study skills and we believe that completing homework is the responsibility of the student.  
  
It is the intention of the Haddam-Killingworth High School Science Department to assign relevant and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives. Homework should provide the opportunity for students to apply and reinforce information presented in class, complete unfinished class assignments and should build student responsibility, self-discipline, and lifelong learning habits.

***I do not provide extra-credit opportunity to support poor grades. My expectation is that you will complete the assignments given.***  
  
Homework will be assigned regularly and it is the responsibility of the student to record assignments down their agendas.   
  
There are to two types of Homework

*Monitored Homework* is not graded, but will be assessed in PowerSchool as follows:

2 (Valid attempt at completing homework and handed in on time

1 (Partial attempt at completing homework or handed in late)  
0 (No attempt at completing homework)

*Graded Homework / classwork*– Graded work

*Late work:* **No late work will be accepted, a zero will be put in PowerSchool.**

1. **Grades**

Your final course grade will consist of the following:

Percent Breakdown per quarter:

Monitored Homework 0%

Graded Homework / Graded Daily work 10%

Labs and Projects 30%

Tests and quizzes 60%

Midyear Grade: Quarter 1 – 40%, Quarter 2 – 40%, Midterm -20%

Final Grade: Q 1 – 20%, Q 2- 20%, Q 3 – 20%, Q 4 -20%, Midterm 10%, Final 10%

Please refer to PowerSchool to check grades; it is my policy to update PowerSchool weekly.

1. **PowerSchool**

PowerSchool will be used as a homework calendar. All daily homework assignments as well as long term projects and tests will be posted on PowerSchool; therefore it will be important to note the date of each entry in PowerSchool and when things are due.

If you are absent for an assignment or test a zero will be put into PowerSchool, along with an “m” for missing, indicating that you were absent and need to make-up the assignment.

1. **Electronic Devices and Bring Own Technology**

***Cell phones and all other electronic devices (e.g. ipods) may not be used during class periods******and should be kept out of sight or will be taken.*** The only exception is when the technology is explicitly used for instruction and learning under the direction of the teacher. The only acceptable place and time to use an electronic device such as a cell phone is during passing time and lunch – and only in the hallways and in the cafeteria. Student tardiness to class due to phone use is unacceptable, as in leaving class to use the phone in the hallway or lavatory.  
  
In addition, headphones (i.e. ear-buds, etc.) shall not be used at all except in the cafeteria (including the outside dining area) during lunch. This is to encourage appropriate social interactions between students in the hallways and avoid the safety hazard caused by students unable to hear instruction, announcements, etc.

1. **Labs**

Laboratory Safety is of the upmost importance: all classroom rules and safety procedures will be strictly adhered to during lab activities. Failure to comply with these rules will result in removal from the classroom and a grade of zero for the activity. Our classroom is a science lab room – State Law and OSHA Regulations **DO NOT allow food or drink** during lab time. **Students will not be allowed to conduct labs until the safety contract is signed. Students must be dressed appropriately for the lab, closed toe shoes, pants, hair pulled back, no baggy clothes or accessories - if dressed inappropriately, it will result in a zero for the lab and a written assignment (not all labs will be able to be made up).**

1. **No backpacks / coats are allowed in the room, and MUST be stored in the designated storage area – this is a safety issue which must be adhered to.**
2. **Extra Help / Office Hours**

**I am always happy and willing to provide extra help to students who request it. If you feel you are falling behind or do not understand something, please do not hesitate to see me. Come to see me or contact me using the email or phone number provided.**

1. **Instructors Expectations**

**A.** **Be respectful do not disrupt learning in the classroom, come to class prepared.**

**B. Please turn off electronic devices and put them away.**

**C. Talk only when appropriate. Please remain quiet when the teacher is talking or if someone is asking or answering a question.**

**D. Be in your assigned seat and ready to work when the bell rings**

**E. Do your best, complete assignments, stay focused, and ask for help if you need it.**

***Please read the class syllabus and policies with your parent(s)/guardian(s) then sign and return the attached acknowledgement form to me. This syllabus and policy should be kept and used as reference. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at 203-345-8541ext. 3116 or email at*** [*mwalston@rsd17.org*](mailto:mwalston@rsd17.org)***. Looking forward to a productive and successful year together!***

**Biology Honors Class Syllabus and Policy Student and Parent/Guardian Agreement,**

**2018-2019**

I have read, understand, and comply with all of the policies and procedures as stated in the class syllabus and policy for Biology Honors with Mrs.Walston for the 2018-2019 year.

Student Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (print):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_