

Welcome to **BIOLOGY** at Fremont High!

A. Instructor

Ben Watkins

Room B-110

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B. Required materials

- The textbook is provided in class, and is *Biology* (Dragonfly), by Miller & Levine (ISBN-10: 013036701X). If you check out a copy and it isn't returned, you'll be charged \$25.
- 3-ring binder with 5 divider tabs
- 30 sheets lined paper

C. Webpage

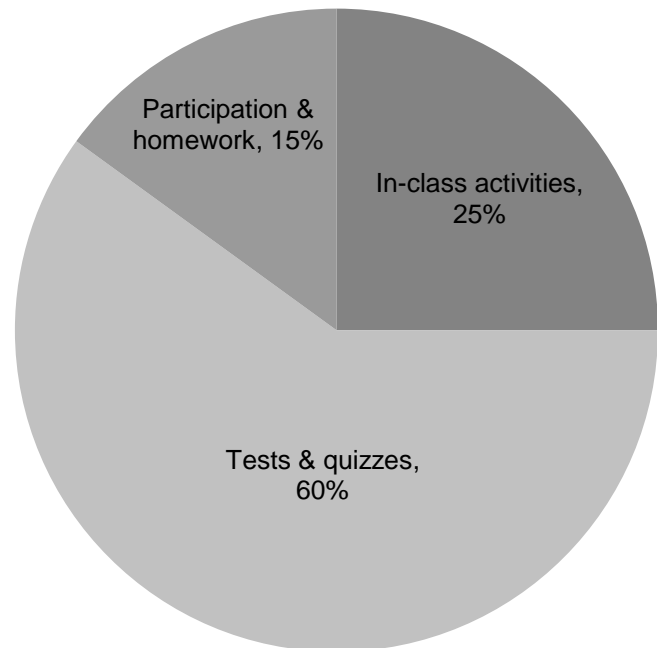
1. plainscience.weebly.com
OR
2. Fremont.wsd.net, then "Staff," "Science," and link under my name

D. Grading

Grading Scale

93% A	73% C
90% A-	70% C-
87% B+	67% D+
83% B	63% D
80% B-	60% D-
77% C+	<59% F

Grading Categories



Definitions

Tests: A mix of multiple-choice, problem-solving, and short answer. Practice tests will help you get a sense of the test.

Quizzes: Short and sweet. Mostly to give me a sense of how I can help you. Some graded, some not.

Participation: Are you "playing ball?" or are you "watching from the stands?" Those who jump in to class activities and labs with enthusiasm and effort will rock this.

Homework: Practice on your own time.

In-class activities: projects, discussion, labs, exit tickets, warmups, debates, etc.

E. Getting work you missed:

- **Class leaders** will put together **packets** of missing work for the days you missed, and place those in the "Mr. Absent Guy Closet." (Note: Students absent excessively will lose this privilege.) **First ask class leaders to explain** what you missed. If it's still unclear, ask me.
- I'll also post a **schedule of what we do each day**, with some linked assignments. You can find that by going to plainscience.weebly.com, scrolling down to Biology, and clicking "What you missed in class." There are lots of other helpful resources there—videos, study guides, etc.

F. Tests

- **If you're absent on a test day ...**
 - If the absence is excused, you can make it up for **100% credit** within 5 school days after you return from your absence. After 5 school days, you can get a max score of **80% credit**
 - If the absence is unexcused, you can get a maximum score of **80%** and may not retake the test. After 5 school days, you can get a max score of **60% credit**
- **Retakes:** One retake allowed per term. You can earn up to **80% credit** on a retake.
- There will be a **final test** at the end of each semester, in January and May. Students will also take the **SAGE test** in April.
- **Practice test:** I'll give a practice test a few days before the end-of-unit test. This will be used to identify what areas you need to work on to be successful on the end-of-unit test.

G. Flex time. Stuck on homework? Need to take a test? Feel free to ask me for a **Flex pass**, to be used the following day. If I can't see you the following day, we'll set up another day you can come.

H. Honesty. Students are expected to demonstrate honesty and integrity while in attendance at Fremont High School. We expect each student to do his or her own work. Giving aid, receiving aid or observing aid being given (without reporting) on any assignment is considered dishonest. Copying homework is cheating. You should have received an ethics policy paper that we will go over in class. Cheating on a test will result in a 0% on that test. Plagiarism or copying homework will also result in a significant grade drop.

I. Lab fee. There is a **\$10 lab fee** payable to the bookkeeper. The lab fee is an essential part of the hands-on curriculum. All students need to pay the lab fee within the three weeks of the start of school.

J. Turning in work: in the trays.

- On time & excused homework
 - Turn in homework during first 5 minutes of class.
 - If you had an excused absence on **the day an assignment was due**, write **EXCUSED** on the top, so that you'll have better odds of getting 100% credit. If you were absent **the day homework was assigned**, you may not write "EXCUSED." You're responsible to get the work you missed—promptly.
- Late Work
 - Work received **after the class period it is due** is subject to a deduction of **50% credit**. Work is also considered late **if you had an unexcused absence** on the day it was due.
 - After each unit exam, **no late work** will be accepted for that unit.

K. Grading Work. Students will occasionally correct the work of other students. Talk to me if you have concerns about this.

L. If you want to easily 1) have me contact your parents, 2) drop your citizenship, and/or 3) lose participation points, you can:

1. Use your cell phone or earphones when the GREEN light isn't on
2. Ignore the seating chart
3. Slip out of class early (may be marked absent also)
4. Line up at the door before the YELLOW light is on
5. Use the hall pass too much

M. Seating charts: Seating will be assigned in this class. If you have a valid issue with where you are seated, please explain it to me in writing. Valid concerns will be considered, but no guarantees.

N. Hall pass:

- Clock in and clock out of the **hall pass log** by the door. A hall pass gives you 5 minutes. Excessive time out of class will result in use of a second hall pass, and, if necessary, marking you absent.
- You **can use a hall pass twice** during the term without a penalty to your citizenship or participation grade.

O. Cell phones, I-pods, Kindles, Laptops, and so forth. Wait for the GREEN LIGHT! Otherwise, they need to be out of sight and silent/off.

1. **1st offense** – I'll deliver a reminder to your desk.
2. **2nd offense** – You'll receive a reminder. Citizenship now an S.
3. **3rd offense** – You'll receive a reminder. Citizenship now an S. Parent contacted.
4. **4th offense** – You'll receive a reminder. Citizenship now a U. Parent contacted.

P. IEP/504 Accommodations. All 504 and special education students are entitled to reasonable accommodations as determined by the student's 504/IEP team. It is the responsibility of the student and parents to review the accommodation sheet with each teacher at the beginning of each trimester and determine the appropriate accommodations for any given class.

↑Keep for your records↑

↓ Tear off below & turn in ↓

Parents: *Please sign, write in your email (best way for me to contact you, or you contact me), phone number, and a good time to reach you. Thank you!*

Students: *Please write in your name and sign below. I look forward to working with you!*

“I have read and understand this disclosure.” (Sign below)

(He leído y entiendo este plan de estudios. (Firme abajo))

Student name _____ Grade _____ Class period _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Parent email _____

Parent phone(s) _____

Best time(s) to reach you _____

-----Marque aquí si quiere que comunique con usted en español.-----