

Sydney Academy
Communication Plan/Course Outline 2010

Teacher: Mr. Ron Mazzocca

Course: BIO IB 11

Course Description:

Biology 11 IB is an advanced course that has been specifically designed to follow the International Baccalaureate Program syllabus. Completion of Biology 11 IB and Biology 12 IB prepares students to write the IB Biology exam, usually in May of the senior year.

The Biology 11 IB course is investigative in nature, provides for greater depth of treatment of topic studied and allows students an opportunity to carry out many hands-on experiments. This semester students will study: basic cytology, the chemistry of life, ecology and evolution, human health and physiology, human immunity to diseases, nerve, muscles and movement.

Reading, studying, participation requirements and testing procedures will be stringent. Student participation and involvement in classroom discussions and activities are necessary to maximize the learning process. **Attendance is a key factor in determining the level of success a student will achieve in this course.** Students are expected to show up for class on time and be prepared for the lesson. Illnesses, appointments, as well as personal commitments and problems are an aspect of life and cannot be avoided. *It is however necessary for students to realize they are still responsible for work missed during excused or unexcused absences.* Students who have missed a class or classes should immediately contact a **classmate** and make arrangements for copying the notes missed. After obtaining their notes, students should make arrangements with myself or a fellow student to answer any questions regarding material they have missed.

Students who miss laboratory work will not usually be provided with an opportunity to carry out make-up exercises. Laboratory activities in this course usually require two to three class periods to complete. As well difficulties in scheduling additional lab time and problems in preparing materials and reagents necessary for the experiments make it unlikely for make-up labs to be carried out.

Make up tests will not be given for an excused or unexcused absence in this course. Students will have sufficient numbers of tests and other assessment components to arrive at a mark. Missing two or more tests will negatively impact the course mark, unless the school is notified of an exceptional circumstance within five days of missing the test. It should be noted the value of each test may, vary, depending on the quantity of work covered and the difficulty of the material on the test. Tests returned to the students are to be signed by a parent or guardian and returned to the teacher within 3 school days.

Student Assessment:

Participation	Tests/Final Exam	
Homework/Classwork	Individual/Group Projects	Laboratory Exercises

Evaluation: Students will be evaluated on the following for their final marks

Tests/Assignments	50%
Projects/Laboratory Work	20%
Final Exam	30%

Homework assignments will be posted (sacademy@cbv.ns.ca) on the school web site. I am available to meet with students for extra help most days at 3:00 pm Monday to Thursday.

If any concerns arise regarding the course or the progress of your child in this course, please call the school at (562-5464) and leave a message or send an email to rmazzocca@staff.ednet.ns.ca. I will contact you at the earliest possible opportunity. Most students who have taken the IB Biology 11 course have adjusted extremely well and appeared to enjoy the challenges associated with the class. In order to address any problems that may arise for some students and parents I would appreciate you answering these few questions:

Student name _____

Contact person _____

Phone number for contact person _____

Any medical conditions
which will affect classroom
performance or lab activities. _____

Any personal, ethical or
moral concerns with
dissection of animals. _____

Please sign and date on the following lines and return to me as soon as possible to indicate that the above has been read and is understood.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date
