



Chandler Unified School District

SCI215A AP Biology

SY 2023-24



Course Overview

Course Description

The class is equivalent to a two-semester introductory college-level biology course for biology majors. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore topics like change over time in populations, energetics, information storage and transfer, and system interactions. Students will spend 25 percent of the instructional time in hands-on laboratory work and inquiry-based investigations that provide opportunities to apply science practices.

AP/IB/Dual Enrollment

This is an AP course that may be offered for Dual Credit

Prerequisite/Fee(s)

Concurrent enrollment in Chemistry. Grade 10 or above.

Course Materials

Class Supplies: 3-ring Binder, composition notebooks, ruled paper, graph paper, colored pens (black, dark blue, red), pencils, eraser, calculator and a weekly planner is highly suggested.

- Students will be required to keep a notebook to write free response questions and lab observations, a Notebook or ruled paper to take class notes/ AP classroom video notes and one 3 ring-binder organized with dividers to save all the graded warm-ups/ Assignments/ Labs.

Adopted Resource(s)

Campbell Biology in Focus -Urry, Cain, Wasserman, Minorsky (Savvas).

**An asterisk will indicate a resource containing sexually explicit materials per legislative definitions. CUSD has determined that all resources listed above are of exceptional educational value.*

Site and Faculty Information

School name and address:

Hamilton High School, 3700 S Arizona Ave, Chandler, AZ 85248

Building principal:

Michael Delatorre

delatorre.michael@cusd80.com

Teacher:

Dr. Jyoti Nair B.S., M.S., Ph.D.

nair.jyoti@cusd80.com

Office hours: Tues & Thurs 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Course Access

This course is taught in-person at Hamilton High School. Students will have access to the curriculum and instruction in the classroom. Google Classroom is the primary location for students to access material when absent from classes taught in person.

Help

Academic Support

- Contact the teacher to schedule an appointment during office hours

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- [Ed Tech](#) support for students, parents/guardians, and community link (cusd80.com/Page/45109)

Mental Health Support

- CUSD mental health support cusd80.com/Domain/10528 or 480-573-8808 (talk or text)
- Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: 9-8-8 hotline
- 24-hour Crisis Line Talk: 602-222-9444, Text: 741-741

Student Conduct, Success, and Responsibilities

Student Handbook

Students must follow the policies and procedures established in the Student Handbook. Copies of the handbook can be found at cusd80.com/handbooks. Printed copies will be provided upon request.

Student Responsibilities

Coming into class - When students enter the classroom, there will be warm-up posted on the board that students are immediately begin working on, independently.

Attendance: It should be expected that with such a rigorous course, any absence from class would be discouraged. We cover an extensive amount of material each day, of which some assignments cannot be fully made up.

Lab Safety and Behavior - Safety is a major consideration in any science laboratory. All students will be required to sign Flinn lab safety contract before participating in the laboratory. Goggles, apron and closed toed shoes must be worn during labs. Every precaution in the lab must be taken so as not to endanger yourself, classmates or the lab equipment. Any lab equipment that is damaged by a student will be replaced by that student. It is everyone's responsibility to maintain a safe environment. Disobedience and horseplay will result in a referral and removal from the lab area.

Electronic Devices - All electronic devices are to be turned off while in the classroom, unless otherwise instructed by the teacher. All electronic devices, seen or heard, will be confiscated and returned at the end of the class on the first offense. Upon the second offense, the device will be turned into security. Electronic devices include cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, ipods, bluetooth earbuds, laptops.

Respect - Disrespect toward others or materials (desks, rulers, ANYTHING) will not be tolerated. If students damage something, they must be prepared to replace it.

Class Dismissal - The bell does not release students from class, the teacher does. Prior to the bell, students must be sitting in their seats and silently waiting for the teacher to dismiss them.

Consequences for Rule and Expectation violations - The following management plan will be used for most violations in the classroom. At times, the teacher may need to modify steps due to safety and extreme behavioral concerns.

1. Meet with student individually to address and document the violation/ concern.
2. Call home to parent/ guardian to address and document continued violation/ concern.
3. Meeting with parent/ guardian and counselor to address violation/ concern and document and/ or Referral to alpha administrator with previous steps documented.

Hamilton High School Student handbook - please see for policies on cheating, plagiarism, and conduct.

Late work

Late Work - Homework will be collected at the beginning of the class on the due date and any work turned in after that time will be considered late. Late work will receive a 40% reduction in the earned grade and must be submitted by the following class period. Work submitted beyond this time frame will receive no credit.

Missed Work/ tests: "I was absent" is not an excuse for missing an assignment. The Google Classroom

will be updated with the agenda and links to the missed work. You have the equivalent of the number of the days you missed to make-up missed assignments or tests. Missed labs may require an alternative written assignment. Missed work due to an excused absence must be made up after school. Obtaining missed work is the responsibility of the student.

Assessments and Assignments

Students will complete assessments during each unit of study to assess their understanding. Students will complete the CUSD Common Final at the end of the first and second semesters. The Common Final will count for 20% of the student's final semester grade in grades 9-12 and 10% in grades 7-8 (some exceptions may apply at the Junior High level). Common finals will be in ELA, Math, Science, Social Science, and World Language.

Final exams will be given during the CUSD Jr High/High School Early Dismissal days in December and May, as identified on the [District Calendar](#).

If students are requested to participate in a survey, the survey questions will be provided to parents/guardians seven days before student contact.

Grading

Grade Percentage

A	B	C	D	F
90% - 100%	80% - 89%	70% - 79%	60% - 69%	<60%

Quarter grades

Grades for the course will be computed on a weighted average of your scores in the following categories:

- Assessments 60%
- Lab Reports 25%
- Class Participation/Warm-up/Classwork & Homework 15%

The grading scale is:

- A 90% - 100%
- B 80% - 89%
- C 70% - 79%
- D 60% - 69%
- F <60%

Semester grades

Semester grades are calculated using 80/20: A combination of the two quarters accounts for 80% of the semester grade and the final exam accounts for remaining 20%.

Units of study

Units for SCI215A AP Biology

- Unit 0 - Statistics and Graphing
- Unit 8 - Ecology
- Unit 1 - Chemistry of Life
- Unit 2 - Cell Structure and Function
- Unit 3 - Cellular Energetics

**An asterisk will indicate a unit of study containing sexually explicit materials per legislative definitions.*



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Parent/Guardian

Acknowledgment

Parents/Guardians should indicate if they "Acknowledge" or have a "Potential Conflict" with their student's participation in the following units by checking the appropriate box for each unit of study listed. Students cannot opt out of a standards-based unit. Marking "Potential Conflict" will prompt the teacher to make contact regarding assignment alternatives.

Unit of study	Acknowledge	Potential Conflict
Unit 0 - Statistics and Graphing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unit 8 - Ecology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unit 1 - Chemistry of Life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unit 2 - Cell Structure and Function	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unit 3 - Cellular Energetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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By signing and returning this form, the parent/guardian acknowledges they have reviewed the resources and units of the study included in the syllabus.

- ☐ As the parent/guardian, I understand that I may contact the teacher if I have questions about the resources, content, or units of study.
- ☐ As the parent/guardian, I understand I can check my student's grades in Infinite Campus anytime during the school year.

Student name (printed)

Student signature

Parent/Guardian name (printed)

Parent Signature

Date

Please return this page to your student's teacher.