Welcome to AP Biology! This course is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory biology course usually taken in the first year of college. In other words, it’s a little like drinking from a fire hose. It will be a rewarding experience, but as with most things that are, it will also be challenging. Throughout the course, you will become familiar with major recurring ideas that persist throughout all topics and material.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The 4 Big Ideas of AP Biology</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Big Idea 1:</strong> The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life.</td>
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<td><strong>Big Idea 2:</strong> Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce and to maintain dynamic homeostasis.</td>
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<td><strong>Big Idea 3:</strong> Living systems store, retrieve, transmit and respond to information essential to life processes.</td>
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<td><strong>Big Idea 4:</strong> Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties.</td>
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Please read the packet of information entirely before beginning assignment.

ASSIGNMENT #1 (Due date: Mon., July 15, 2019)

LETTER OF INTRODUCTION

We are going to spend a great deal of time together next year, so it’s best if I get a head start on learning a little about you. Additionally, we will use the Internet and the Web next year for this course, so let’s get you used to communicating with me via Edmodo. Your first assignment is to successfully send me an introduction letter via Edmodo. The Edmodo class code is: qbdv5r

Follow these rules:

a. Use clearly written, full sentences. Do not abbreviate words like you are on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram with a friend. Use spell check! This is a professional communication like you would have with a college professor, so let’s practice for your rapidly approaching future!

b. Begin the letter with a formal salutation, like “Mr. Bridgett and Mr. Ashraf,” or “Dear Mr. Bridgett and Mr. Ashraf,”

c. Now introduce yourself (your name) and tell me a little bit about yourself, like:

1. What do you like to do (hobbies, sports, music, interests, etc.)?
2. Do you have a job?
3. Was there anything that you liked about your previous science class?
4. What was the last book you read for fun?
5. What are you looking forward to the most in AP Biology?

e. End the letter with a formal closing: “Cordially”, “Sincerely”, “Warm regards”, etc. and add your name as if you signed a letter.
Assignment #2 - Biological Collection Photo Blog – due 2nd day of AP Biology

For this assignment, you will “collect” 25 photographic examples of biological terms/concepts and post them on a photo blog. Select any of the items from the Biological Collection List to include in your blog. This will introduce you not only to the language of biology, but also emphasize that biology is something that’s DONE not just memorized. A hardcopy of your Photo Blog Table of Contents AND a link to your photo blog is due the second day of class. The link should be written on the table of contents AND emailed to your AP Biology teacher. Please see your teacher if access to the needed technology is an issue.

Directions for the Biological Collection Photo Blog:

1. “Collect” an item by taking a picture of it. Define, in your own words, the biological term/concept. Also within a couple of statements, explain how the picture represents the term or concept. Use the Biological Collection List on page 4 to select terms/concepts for your blog. Page 6 will give you examples of what entries should include.

2. Upload the photo, definition, and explanation to a blog that you create for the class. Google’s Blogger is a free and easy blog. Find instructions on page 7 of this packet on how to set up a blog.

3. Be creative. If you choose an item that is internal to a plant or animal, like phloem, you could submit a photograph of the whole organism or a close up of one part, and then explain on the blog what phloem is and specifically where phloem is in the specimen.

4. Use original photos ONLY. You cannot use an image from any publication or from the internet. You must take the photo yourself. The best way to prove that the photo is your work is to have something in your picture that represents you. This could be a key chain, pen, bracelet, small toy, etc. Submit a picture of you with your proof object when you hand in your summer work.

5. You should only use natural items. Take a walk in your neighborhood, go to the zoo, go for a hike in the woods, etc. Humans are natural items and may be used, but only for a few entries.

6. This is an individual project. While brainstorming, discussing, and even going on collecting adventures together is welcome, your items and photos are to be unique. With over 90 concept choices, probability says there is a very slim chance that any two students will have the same items chosen from their list.

7. Be careful and respectful! Never touch plants or animals you are unfamiliar with. Don’t kill or hurt any organisms. Don’t remove any organisms from the natural environment.


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<tr>
<th>Rubric for Biological Collection Photo Blog</th>
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* Points in this selection are awarded in an all or none format. If the guideline is not fully met, no points will be awarded.

Your photo blog is worth a maximum of 150 points (125 points for your photo blog (5 points for each photo blog entry) and 25 points for a completed Blog Table of Contents)
Biological Collection List

1. Adaptation of an animal
2. Adaptation of a plant
3. Altruistic behavior
4. Amniotic egg
5. Analogous structures
6. Animal that has a segmented body
7. Anther and filament of stamen
8. Archaebacteria
9. Asexual reproduction
10. ATP
11. Autotroph
12. Auxin producing area of a plant
13. Basidiomycete
14. Batesian mimicry
15. Bilateral symmetry
16. Biological magnification
17. C3 Plant
18. C4 Plant
19. CAM Plant
20. Calvin Cycle
21. Cambium
22. Cellular respiration
23. Coevolution
24. Commensalism
25. Connective tissue
26. Cuticle layer of a plant
27. Detritivore
28. Dominant vs. recessive phenotype
29. Ectotherm
30. Endosperm
31. Endotherm
32. Enzyme
33. Epithelial tissue
34. Ethylene
35. Eubacteria
36. Eukaryote
37. Exoskeleton
38. Fermentation
39. Flower ovary
40. Frond
41. Gametophyte
42. Genetic variation within a population
43. Genetically modified organism
44. Gibberellins
45. Glycogen
46. Gymnosperm cone – male or female
47. Gymnosperm leaf
48. Hermaphrodite
49. Heterotrophy
50. Homeostasis
51. Homologous structures
52. Hydrophilic
53. Hydrophobic
54. Introduced species
55. Keystone species
56. Krebs cycle
57. K-strategist
58. Lichen
59. Lipid used for energy storage
60. Littoral zone organism
61. Long-day plant
62. Mating behavior (be careful!!)
63. Meristem
64. Modified leaf of a plant
65. Modified root of a plant
66. Modified stem of a plant
67. Mullerian mimicry
68. Mutualism
69. Mycelium
70. Mycorrhizae
71. Niche
72. Parasitism
73. Parenchyma cells
74. Phloem
75. Pollen
76. Pollinator
77. Population
78. Predation
79. Prokaryote
80. R-strategist
81. Radial symmetry (animal)
82. Redox reaction
83. Rhizome
84. Seed dispersal (animal, wind, water)
85. Spore
86. Sporophyte
87. Stigma and style of carpel
88. Succession
89. Taxis
90. Territorial behavior
91. Tropism
92. Unicellular organism
93. Vestigial structures
94. Xylem
**Photo Blog Table of Contents**

(Submit this completed form the 2\textsuperscript{nd} day of class)

Blog URL _______________________________________________________________  
URL submitted via email  
Your photo with proof object submitted via hardcopy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Photo Order</th>
<th>Biological terms/concepts</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Points Earned</th>
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Example Entries for Photo Blog

Notice the toy giraffe in the pictures below. This is this bloggers proof object and is used to demonstrate that the photographs in the blog entries are indeed their original. **Make sure you have proof object in each of your photos.**

4. Detritovore

![Detritovore Image]

This is a picture of an earthworm. The earthworm represents a detritovore. A detritovore, also called a decomposer, is an organism that consumes non-living organic materials (corpses, fallen plant material, and wastes) to obtain its energy and nutrients. They can be found in many different areas (land and water). They can also be found in many different types; for example, fungi, bacteria, and protists, as well.

10. Modified Leaf

![Modified Leaf Image]

This is a picture of pine needles. Pine needles are an example of a modified leaf of a plant. A modified leaf is one that has adapted to perform another function, other than photosynthesis and transpiration. A pine needle’s shape functions to retain moisture, which is helpful in dry and windy areas.
Setting up your AP Biology Biological Collection Photo Blog using Google’s Blogger

1. Set up a Google account if you don’t already have one.

2. In the Google Apps toolbar (upper right corner), select Blogger.

3. Next select Blogger Profile – Create a Limited Blogger Profile.

4. Next you’ll need to enter a Blogger Profile. Use AP Bio_First Name_Last Initial as your format. (You’ll probably want to de-select the Email Notification box.)

5. Click New Blog and follow the rest of the directions for setting up your photo blog for AP Bio.

6. Remember to upload your original 25 photos, definitions, and explanations by the 2nd day on AP Biology to your blog. Email a link to your blog to your AP Biology teacher by the 2nd day as well.
Guidelines for Safe Blogging (Adapted from Kim Foglia’s Class Blog)

Blogging is a very public activity. Anything that is posted on the Internet stays there. FOREVER! Deleting a post simply removes it from the blog it was posted to. Copies of the post may exist scattered all over the Internet. That is why we need to be careful and follow some simple, clear, safety rules.

FIRST RULE: To protect your privacy, you need to set up your account using ONLY your first name. This means that many of you need to go in and change your profile. If you have the same first name as another classmate, then let's add only your last initial to your first name, like DanielF.

SECOND RULE: We do not use pictures of ourselves in our profiles. If you really want a graphic image associated with your posting use an avatar -- a picture of something that represents you but IS NOT of you.

Other teachers who have blogged with their classes have come up with a list of guidelines for student bloggers. One of them, Bud Hunt, has these suggestions, among others:

Students using blogs are expected to treat blogspaces as classroom spaces. Speech that is inappropriate for class is not appropriate for our blog. While we encourage you to engage in debate and conversation with other bloggers, we also expect that you will conduct yourself in a manner reflective of a representative of this school.

Never EVER EVER give out or record personal information on our blog. Our blog exists as a public space on the Internet. Don’t share anything that you don’t want the world to know. For your safety, be careful what you say, too. Don’t give out your phone number or home address. This is particularly important to remember if you have a personal online journal or blog elsewhere.

Again, your blog is a public space. And if you put it on the Internet, odds are really good that it will stay on the Internet. Always. That means ten years from now when you are looking for a job, it might be possible for an employer to discover some really hateful and immature things you said when you were younger and more prone to foolish things. Be sure that anything you write you are proud of. It can come back to haunt you if you don’t.

Never link to something you haven’t read. While it isn’t your job to police the Internet, when you link to something, you should make sure it is something that you really want to be associated with. If a link contains material that might be creepy or make some people uncomfortable, you should probably try a different source.

Keep all of these in mind as you create you Biological Collection Photo Blog for AP Biology. Email your teacher if you have questions or concerns about blogging.
ASSIGNMENT #3: (Due 1st Day of School) Read a Book & Write a Report

Choose a book from the following list. Read the book and write a well thought out and detailed report discussing the key ideas. The report must be in proper MLA format and submitted through “turnitin.com”. Instructions for turnitin will be posted on edmodo. Any form of plagiarism will result in an automatic 0. See the attached grading rubric for specific details.

a. Your Inner Fish by Neil Shubin
b. The Hot Zone by Richard Preston
c. The Greatest Show on Earth: The Evidence for Evolution by Richard Dawkins
d. The Making of the Fittest: DNA and the Ultimate Forensic Record of Evolution by Sean Carroll
e. The Gene: An Intimate History by Siddhartha Mukherjee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AP Biology Summer Book Report Rubric</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summary 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quotes 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author &amp; Sources 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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8
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Work.</th>
<th>Critique consists of thoughts, responses and reaction to the novel. The student reviewer may discuss only two aspects, for example, themes and writer's style. There is not a thorough review of various aspects.</th>
<th>Critique consists of thoughts, responses and reaction to the novel. The student may discuss only one aspect of the novel, such as themes. This review just states, &quot;Well, I liked it.&quot; or &quot;Well, I hated it.&quot; It lacks a critical eye.</th>
<th>Critique consists of a basic opinion based on personal feeling of &quot;I liked it&quot; or &quot;I hated it&quot; and is not considered a critique because it does not focus on themes, author's intent, or writer's style.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Critique</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Critique consists of thoughts, responses and reaction to the novel. The student reviewer reacts to the themes, the author's aims or intent, the subject of the book, how well it is written and overall success or failure of the book.</td>
<td>Critique consists of thoughts, responses and reaction to the novel. The student may discuss only two aspects, for example, themes and writer's style. There is not a thorough review of various aspects.</td>
<td>Critique consists of a basic opinion based on personal feeling of &quot;I liked it&quot; or &quot;I hated it&quot; and is not considered a critique because it does not focus on themes, author's intent, or writer's style.</td>
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<td>Organization</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Structure of the paper flows and is easily read because of smooth transitions from paragraph to paragraph. The sequence of topics is in logical order. There is a clear cut introduction, body, and conclusion.</td>
<td>Structure of the paper does NOT follow a logical order. The writing or ideas may &quot;jump&quot; around; it is not cohesive. There is not a clear introduction, or conclusion.</td>
<td>Structure of the paper does NOT follow a logical order. There are no transitional phrases that make it easy to read the paper...OR... review is just a copying of the original book.</td>
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<td>Structure of the paper flows and is easily read, but 1 or 2 transitions may be faulty or missing. There is some illogical order in sequence of topics. There is a clear cut introduction, body, and conclusion.</td>
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