



El Capitan High School

“Learn, Love, Lead, and Leave a Legacy.”

Syllabus : Mrs. Dumars Biology

Email: jdumars@muhsd.org

Classroom: Room D-104

Classroom phone number: 209 - 384 - 5500

Website: <http://sciencewithdumars.weebly.com/>

Gaicho Mission Statement:

El Capitan High School is committed to developing 21st century leaders who demonstrate integrity, honor, and compassion as they gain the academic and technological skills needed to achieve excellence in college and career.

Goal:

El Capitan High’s Biology course is an extremely rigorous course of study, designed for students who are capable of higher level thinking skills and who possess advanced reading and writing skills. This class is designed to help you learn the fundamentals of biology to better understand the world around you and to give you the knowledge and ability to tackle more complex science classes. The students in science welcome the challenge and excitement of learning more complex and demanding material. The expectations for students in this program are very high. The profile of an El Capitan student is multi-dimensional. The student’s work ethic is demonstrated by timely, consistent, complete, and high quality response to academic assignments along with consistent, active participation in classroom discussion and presentations with a focus on technology.

Biology Sequence

Semester 1

Unit 1: Science and Engineering Practices

Unit 2: Ecosystems

Semester 2

Unit 3: Cellular Respiration/Photosynthesis

Unit 4: Macromolecules

Unit 5: Heredity and Mitosis

Unit 6: Evolution

Unit 7: Anatomy/Physiology

Unit 8: Reflection Project



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The Rules in this Room: The Six Pillars of Character: **Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.** This includes keeping your hands, feet and objects to yourself. No insults based on ethnic background, skin color, gender, sexual orientation, or religion will be tolerated.

Procedures: I start class as soon as the bell rings, therefore you should be seated with your materials out and ready to work. You can be considered tardy if you are not seated in the room when the bell rings. Much of our work will be done using the Internet. You are **required** to have an acceptable use contract on file so you can use the Internet at school. While Internet access at home is not required, your device is very useful and important. In class you will work on project based assessments, practicing concepts, learning concepts, complete labs, and take computerized assessments.

Tardies:

When the bell rings, you must be **in your assigned seat with your materials ready.** If you are anywhere but in your seat, you will be considered tardy. Please see page 15 of the agenda for the school wide policy.

Gum Chewing and Eating in the Classroom:

In order to keep our school clean, gum chewing and eating in the classroom are not permitted. Spills and crumbs can make your Chromebook become defective. Violations will result in lunch duty or detention.

Technology

The following are expected for Chromebook use:

- Bring your power cord and device fully charged with you to class each day.
- Pass the Chromebook User quiz with a 100% grade.
- Full understanding with signatures from you and your parent/guardian on the Technology Code of Conduct.

*** Remember: You have checked out your Chromebook from the school; it is not your own personal device.**

Attendance and Absences: Attendance is critical for your success in this course. Absences generally will not count negatively towards your grade as long as you show a



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mastery over the course content. Deadlines in class are **firm** so you need to plan in advance for absences. Excessive absences can interfere with participation in labs, discussions and projects, which **can** hurt your grade. I maintain an extensive website that can always be used for reference or for missed lectures.

Course Materials: For this course you must have a **writing materials, headphones, and school internet access**. Additional useful materials include **pencil, paper, a wireless computer mouse, and whiteboard markers**. Home internet access will be **beneficial**, but is not required to be successful in this course.

Tutoring and Outside Assistance: If you are struggling, I expect you to let me know and for us to work together so you are no longer having difficulty. I am more than happy to tutor you before school. I only ask that you let me know in advance so we can make an appointment so I am sure to be available when you need me. Fifth period intervention is an excellent time to come to the classroom for extra assistance.

Grading:

Your grade in this course will be determined on two factors that are weighted:

75% **Assessments:** *Unit Exams, Formative Assessments, Lab Reports, and Signature Assignments*

25% **Concept Development:** *Practice of concepts, Warm ups, Reflection pieces, and daily participation*

Grade Breakdown

A+	98-100%
A	94-97%
A-	90-93%
B+	85-89%
B	79-84%
B-	75-78%
C+	70-74
C	64-69
C-	60-63%
D+	55-59%
D	45-54%
D-	40-44%
F	0-39%

All devices used in the room must be used for an academic



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purpose.

This includes computers, iPods, iPads, tablets, mp3 players, cell phones, PSPs, etc. This also encompasses calculators when being used to play games. **Cell phones must be on silent at all times.** I do allow these electronic devices to be used in class **for educational purposes with my prior permission** and clear instruction as to their use in the classroom. If a device is seen or heard outside of a designated usage time, I reserve the right to confiscate the item. To use it without my permission constitutes a violation of the school’s electronic communication policy.

In addition, if the electronic device is being used to cheat, plagiarize, cyber-bully, conduct illegal activity, sexually harass or some other violation of school policy or local law there can be further repercussions beyond what is noted here.

This policy is your warning; by reading this you indicate understanding of the expectations. If you violate this policy your Electronic Device will be confiscated and taken to the Student Support office.

ECHS Academic Honesty Policy

As members of an academic community, students and faculty have the responsibility to foster and maintain Academic Honesty. Academic dishonesty is a serious violation of the trust upon which an academic community depends. Examples of academic dishonesty follow.

Plagiarism/Copying- The definition of plagiarize is “to steal or pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one’s own without crediting the source” (Websters 877). In addition, any unauthorized collaboration, working with or receiving help from others on graded assignments **without the specific approval of the instructor, is considered cheating.** More specifically, copying from another student’s assignment or letting someone copy your assignment (whether it is word-for-word or partially copied) **is a violation of the science Department Academic Honesty Policy as well as against the ECHS policy and California Ed Code 48900.**

Other forms of violation of the Academic Honesty Policy include the following:

- Obtaining an examination prior to its administration
- Using an unauthorized aid during an examination
- Looking at a book, backpack, or purse



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- Having information or materials on the desk or within sight
- Knowingly assisting someone else during an examination
- Talking during an examination
- Helping another student cheat on an exam or assignment unless the instructor has made it clear that the assignment is a partner/group assignment

Ignorance of these standards will not be considered a valid excuse or defense. If a student is ever in doubt about an issue of academic honesty, or has any hesitation about a contemplated course of action, the student should consult with his or her instructor, counselor, or associate principal.