

7th Grade Advanced Life Science Syllabus 2017-2018

Mrs. Calderón

Welcome! This year, we will use scientific inquiry to explore life sciences with topics such as cells, human body systems, genetics, evolution, ecosystems, and how matter and energy move in an environment. This course will include components of the **Cambridge Pre-AICE program**, where students will incorporate higher-level thinking, collaboration, and communication skills. Please take time to review the information in this syllabus. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Mrs. Calderon. I look forward to sharing this exciting year with all of you!

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Phone: 941-330-1855, ext. 1201 (leave a voicemail)

Course Requirements:

Class Materials:


- **3 Composition Notebooks** (1 for science fair, 1 for semester 1 classwork, 1 for semester 2 classwork)
- **2 Green folders** with pockets & prongs, with loose-leaf notebook paper (1 for each semester)
- **Pencils** (at least 2, with sharpener or refills)
- **Green pen or pencil** (for correcting work)
- All other supplies from 7th grade supply list

Textbook: All students have access to the online textbook

 and its additional resources (videos, audio, lessons, practice quizzes, etc...) at <http://connected.mcgraw-hill.com/>

- Generic accounts have already been created for all students.
- **Username:** SSASLIFEINT001 THROUGH SSASLIFEINT138
- **Password:** Login2017

Blackboard Website: All students must access Blackboard

 on a regular basis for class information, resources and assignments. <http://learn2.sarasota.k12.fl.us>

- **Username:** N number
- **Password:** student's lunch PIN

Microsoft 365: All student have access to an online version of Microsoft products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook email). <http://portal.office.com>

- **Username:** N number @ssasonline.org
- **Password:** student's lunch PIN

Expectations & Consequences:

Rules:

1. **Be Respectful** to your teacher, other students, and our classroom environment.
2. **Be Prompt** by being on time for class and following directions the first time they are given.
3. **Be prepared** to learn every day by bringing all required materials to class, and leaving excuses at the door.
4. **Be Productive** by coming to class ready to work and with a good attitude – always do your best!

Consequences:

1. The "Look" or verbal warning
2. Rules writing assignment (in class)
3. Behavior Essay with signature from parent, and Parent Notification
4. In-school morning detention
5. County Referral

If an offense, at the discretion of the teacher, is severe enough, the first two steps can be omitted resulting in the third step, as long as a phone call from the teacher accompanies this action of discipline. Zero-tolerance behaviors will immediately be a fifth step offense (including refusal to complete rules or behavior essay).

*** Students are not permitted to "tell" the teacher how the discipline plan should be administered.**

Tentative Topics:

1st Quarter:

Nature of Science
Science & Technology
Matter & Energy in the environment

2nd Quarter:

Populations & Communities
Ecosystems & Biome
Cell structures & functions
Cell processes

3rd Quarter:

Cell division & reproduction
Reproduction
Genetics & Heredity
Natural Selection & Evolution

4th Quarter:

Classifying Life
Domains & Kingdoms
Human Body Systems

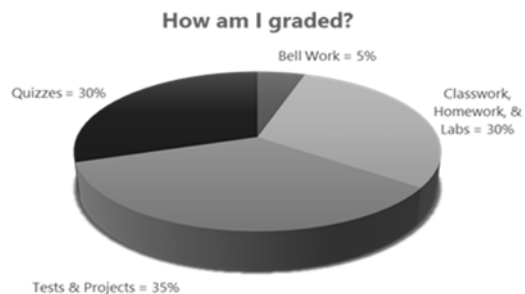
Academic Information:

Grading Scale:

A = 100% - 90%
B = 89% - 80%
C = 79% - 70%
D = 69% - 60%
F = 59% and below

Grading Weights:

35% - Tests/Projects
30% - Quizzes
30% - Classwork /
Homework/ Labs
5% - Bellwork



Assignments, Labs, & Projects: All assignments are due at the beginning of class.

- Late assignments/projects lose 10% credit each day it is late. After day 3, the highest grade possible is 50%. (Keep in mind projects are worth a test grade)
- When absent, you have the number of days absent to turn in missing work (e.g., 2 day absence = 2 days to complete work). Any assignment or project assigned before your absence must be in the day you return or make arrangements to turn it in early.
- It is YOUR responsibility to get any make-up work or missing work and turn it in. Check the class calendar and work bin. Label any make-up work with "absent" & date.
- Most assignments can be found on Blackboard or in the extra copies folder in class.
- Any work copied from another student or **plagiarized** work will result in a zero, and possibly a detention.

Tests & Quizzes: Quizzes occur frequently to check for understanding. Tests occur at the end of the unit or at Mrs. Calderón's discretion.

- All tests will be announced the week before in class, on Blackboard, and on team news.
- Study guides are only given for tests and are due the day before the test.
- In preparation for quizzes, students should review their notes on a regular basis to ensure their understanding of the current concepts.
- When absent, you must make up your missed quiz/test the day you return.
- *If you earn **below a 75% on any quiz or test**, you can improve your grade up to a **C** by doing retakes on Blackboard. This must be accompanied by a parent signature on the original quiz/test or as a written note (no emails accepted).*
- **Cheating** in any form will NOT be tolerated and will result in **zero credit** and a **detention**.

Extra Credit:

- Any extra credit assignments will be offered at the teacher's discretion and cannot be requested on an individual basis by students or parents.
- Any opportunity will be discussed in class and posted on Blackboard.

Science Fair Due dates:

9/5/17	Topic Checklist due with Parent Signature
9/25/17	Phase 1: Research Plan due (Includes: Problem, Hypothesis, Variables, Bibliography, Materials & Procedures, & Signed Form)
10/17/17	Background Research paper (informative essay completed in collaboration with LA class)
10/2/17- 10/30/17	Phase 2: Experimentation (Record observations in log book)
11/6/17	Phase 3: Analysis & Conclusion due (Includes: Tables, Graphs, Results, Conclusion, & Abstract)
11/13/17	FINAL PROJECT DUE (Includes PowerPoint Presentation & Log Book)
11/30/17	SSA+S Science Fair (for selected students only)

Field Trips:

TBA	Myakka State Park field trip
1/8/18	Selby Botanical Gardens field trip

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STUDENT: I have read this syllabus and classroom discipline plan and understand it. I will honor it while in Mrs. Calderon's class.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: __/__/__

PARENT(S): I have read this syllabus and discussed it with my child. I understand it and will support it.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: __/__/__

TEACHER: I will be fair and consistent in administering the discipline plan.

Signature: _____ Date: __/__/__