

7th Grade Advanced Life Science Syllabus 2018-2019

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!

Email: juliacalderon@ssas.org

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

Course Requirements:

Class Materials:

- **3 Composition Notebooks** (1 per semester & 1 logbook)
- **1 Green folder** with pockets & prongs, with loose-leaf notebook paper
- **Pencils** (at least 2, with sharpener or refills)
- **Green pen or pencil** (for correcting work)
- **Earbuds**
- All other supplies from 7th grade supply list
- *Recommended:*
 - Stylus (for use with iPads)

Techbook: *Discovery Education Life Science (Online)*

<https://office365.discoveryeducation.com>

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

Blackboard Website: All students must access Blackboard Learn (Bb) 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 students have access to an online version of Microsoft products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, Sway and Outlook email).

<http://portal.office.com>

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

Student/Parent Portal: Access to gradebook.

<https://parentportal.sarasotacountyschools.net/>

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

Expectations & Consequences:

Classroom Rules:

1. Show respect to teachers, students, and other's property.
2. Listen & follow directions the FIRST time they are given.
3. Raise your hand before speaking or leaving your seat.
4. Come to class prepared and ready to learn.

Consequences:

1. The "Look" or verbal warning
2. Rules writing assignment (in class)
3. Behavior Essay and Parent Notification
4. Detention and Parent Notification
5. County Referral

**For major infractions, Steps 1-4 may be skipped at the staff member's discretion (including refusal to complete rules or behavior essay).*

Tentative Topics:

1st Quarter:

Nature of Science
Science Fair
Cell Theory

2nd Quarter:

Organizing Life
Human Body Systems

3rd Quarter:

Heredity and Reproduction
Infectious Agents

4th Quarter:

Interdependence of
Organisms
Evolutionary Theory

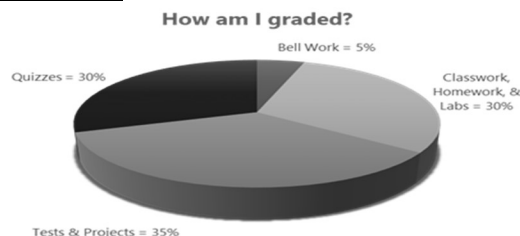
Academic Information:

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 in the gradebook.
- 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 at home.*
 - *This must be accompanied by a **turned in parent signature** on one of the following:
Original quiz/test/study guide, completing the retake form **OR** as a written note stating the original grade received (NO agenda book signatures or 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/or posted on Blackboard.

Science Fair Due dates:

8/31/18

Topic Checklist due with Parent Signature

9/10/18

Phase 1: Research Plan due

Includes: Problem, Hypothesis, Variables, Bibliography, Materials & Procedures, & Signed Form

10/24/18

Background Research paper

Informative essay completed in collaboration with LA class

10/1/18-
10/29/18

Phase 2: Experimentation

Starts after teacher approval;
Record observations in log book

11/5/18

Phase 3: Analysis & Conclusion due

Includes: Tables, Graphs, Results, Conclusion, & Abstract

11/12/18

FINAL PROJECT DUE

Includes PowerPoint Presentation & Log Book

11/29/18

SSA+S Science Fair
(for selected students only)

Field Trips:

TBA

Myakka State Park field trip

TBA

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: __/__/__

MY SCIENCE SIGN-ONS:

Classflow	www.classflow.com
<i>Username</i>	
<i>Password</i>	

BrainPop	www.brainpop.com
<i>Username</i>	
<i>Password</i>	

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