



# Biology I Syllabus

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Instructor      Olivia Hearn

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Subject          Biology

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Room            104

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## Course Overview

The Biology I course is an introductory course to the life sciences. This course is designed to touch on each of the major subdisciplines of biology. Over the course of the year we will touch on many topics; characteristics of life, cellular biology, genetics, microbiology, ecology, and evolution are some of the areas covered. The class is designed to prepare students for more advanced and/or specific biology classes. Students will be informed of various moral and ethical conversations happening in scientific spaces today, and will be provided with tools with which to make educated decisions regarding new technologies and developments. It is the goal of this course that students who apply themselves will broaden their understanding of the world around them.

**Textbook:** SAVVAS Experience Biology

### *Student Expectations*

- Be on time and prepared for class each day.
- Complete each assignment given as directed.
- Give an honest effort.

- Be respectful of others.

### *Materials*

- Binder (at least one inch)
- College ruled paper
- Pencils, pens (black or blue ink ONLY)

## **Assessment**

Daily Grades	Notebook checks, homework, class work, quizzes, activities, labs.
Tests	Chapter tests.
E.O.C. (15%)	TN Ready E.O.C. Exam (Required state testing).
Final Exam (5%)	Comprehensive final exam.

The E.O.C. exam will be given during the spring of 2026.

### *Grade Scale*

A= 90-100

B=80-89

C=70-79

D=60-69

F=0-60

### *Absent Work*

It is the responsibility of the student to make up any missed assignments, tests, etc.

Students may discuss make up work with me before or after class, or via email. I will not be reaching out or reminding students about their work. Missed quizzes or tests may be made up during a free period or during lunch on Fridays.

### *Late Work*

This is a fast-paced class, and it is important to keep up with work as it comes. All assignments should be handed in by the due date. Students who have not turned in or spoken to me about any missing work within 5 days of the assignment will receive a zero. Extenuating circumstances can absolutely be accommodated for, but you must communicate with me.

### *Video Resources*

Crash Course Biology: <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3EED4C1D684D3ADF>

Amoeba Sisters: <https://www.youtube.com/@AmoebaSisters/videos>

Inside a Cell: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ai2X4GZyYYo&t=1s>

## **General Expectations of Students**

### *Class Rules*

- Be courteous and respectful of others.
- Be on time, prepared, and willing to try.
- No snacks in my room. Drinks with a lid/cap are permitted.
- Follow any and all safety procedures exactly as given.
- Follow all rules in the student handbook.

### *Attendance Policy*

This class will likely be first time exposure to a majority of the material for most students. Consistent attendance is crucial to success. Class will begin as soon as the tardy bell rings and end with the dismissal bell. Please make sure that you are in your seat and ready to begin when the tardy bell rings. If a student misses fewer than three days of class for the semester, they will be automatically exempt from the midterm or final. This incentive does NOT apply to the state required E.O.C.

### *Tardy Policy*

You will be counted tardy if you are not in the classroom, seated, with all materials when the tardy bell rings. 3 tardies will equal an absence and will count against you for the exam incentive policy.

### *Leaving Class*

Students must have teacher permission to leave the classroom for any reason at all. Use the restroom between classes to avoid wasting classroom time. You will be given a bathroom pass with 5 uses on it per semester; once those uses are gone, you will not be permitted to leave. Any unused uses can be turned in for extra credit at the end of the term.

### *Honor Code*

Academic honesty is vital and nonnegotiable. Students will complete their own assignments, binders, and tests. Cheating, including but not limited to, copying others' work, use of AI or apps, plagiarism, etc, will result in automatic failure of involved assignments with no option of appeal or redo. Any student who allows another student to copy their work will also receive a zero.

### *Seating*

All students in all classes will be given an assigned seat. These may change throughout the year for variety or as I see fit. Seating requests for valid reasons (i.e., vision, hearing, attention issues) may absolutely be accommodated- don't hesitate to talk to me about any concerns or requests!

### *Tickets*

Behavior may be rewarded with tickets. Students may save tickets to turn in for prizes such as candy, stress/fidget toys, laptop stickers, or extra credit.

- 1 ticket = candy & stickers
- 3 tickets = stress/fidget toys
- 5 tickets = 5 points of extra credit (Daily Grades only).

## **General Expectations of Teacher**

### *Communication*

Phone: (423) 237-4682

Email: [hearno@cocke.k12.tn.us](mailto:hearno@cocke.k12.tn.us)

If students or parents have concerns about progress or difficulties with the class please feel free to contact me at any time. It is important that I am made aware if the needs of a student are not being met. I am more than happy to help in any way I can, but I can't do that without being properly informed when situations arise.

I am more than willing to provide extra aid, practice, tutoring, etc. I do request that you contact me with any requests of this kind at least two days in advance in order to coordinate time, place, and depth of help desired.