

Aquatic Biology Syllabus

Instructor Olivia Hearn

Email hearno@cocke.k12.tn.us

Subject Aquatic Biology

Room 104

Course Overview

The Aquatic Biology course is a detailed look at various aquatic ecosystems. Over the duration of the year we will touch on many topics; the organisms that reside in aquatic ecosystems, their adaptations, data collection and analysis, and the conservation efforts underway to protect Earth's waters are among major topics covered. The class is designed to educate students about the natural world around them, as well as elaborate on concepts explored in Biology I. 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.

Curriculum: Conserving Missouri's Aquatic Ecosystems

Supplemental: Texas Aquatic Science, Your Inner Fish, The Biology of Aquatic and Wetland Plants, SAVVAS Marine Biology, The Secret Life of Fish

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-assignments in other colors will not be accepted.**)

Assessment

Daily Grades (20%)	Homework, class work, activities, labs.
Summative Assessments (50%)	Tests, major projects.
Formative Assessments (30%)	Quizzes, benchmarks.

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. Any work handed in after the due date will be docked 15%. 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>

PBS Nova Videos: <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/>

Possible Films

Remarkably Bright Creatures

Shark Tale

The Spongebob Movie

Moana

The Life of Pi

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.

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. Any student with a medical need to use the bathroom during class may turn in a parent note. Students will not be allowed to leave for any other reason unless absolutely necessary.

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.

According to Harbrace Handbook, 15th edition:

Plagiarism is defined as “presenting someone else’s ideas, research, or opinions as your own without proper documentation, even if it has been rephrased.” This includes but is not limited to:

- Copying verbatim all or part of another’s written work;
- Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without citing the source;
- Paraphrasing ideas, conclusions, or research without citing the source;
- Using all or part of a literary plot, poem, or film without attributing the work to its creator.

Consequences of Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a form of stealing and academic fraud. Students who are found guilty of plagiarism have the option of either redoing the assignment within a specified time period and accept a letter drop or taking a zero on the assignment. Parents are to be involved in making this decision.

Tickets

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

- 1 ticket = candy & stickers
- 3 tickets = stress/fidget toys
- 5 tickets = 5 points of extra credit (Not applicable to test grades).

General Expectations of Teacher

Communication

Phone: (423) 237-4682

Email: 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.

Religion in the Classroom

The Board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion - and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective, and respectful manner in accordance with the following guidelines: List all four guidelines found on Board Policy 4.804 found at cockecountyschools.org