

AP Biology

A quick reference survival guide. It's your education you will get out of it what you put into it.



Important Dates

September, 2017	Back to school night
Dec 2017	Fall Final Exam
April __, 2018	8 am – 12pm Practice Exam. Can be used as spring Final exam grade.
May 14, 2018	AP Biology Exam

Interactive Notebooks

Time spent on interactive notebooks will greatly help you on your exams and studying for the exam. Here are some things to remember about your notebook

- Highlight your notes and interact with the material
- Connect information to **Big Ideas & learning objectives**
- Make connections in your reflection – statements about what should have been done or how you want the class to change will not help your learning
- You need at least 3 learning type (output) pages per unit
- Add details from your textbook and Mastering Biology
- Connect lab activities to course content in your notebook
- Study at least 60 minutes every day! Form a study group.



Mastering Biology

Mastering Bio assignments count as course participation. The more time you spend doing assignments the more it will help you on exams. We have carefully chosen the best tutorials and questions to help you understand the course content. If you chose to copy or cheat your way though assignments you are only harming yourself

Tips, Strategies & Procedures

The dictionary is the only place success comes before work

Study Groups

Study groups are required! Plan a time to meet once a week and stick to it. You can discuss labs & class activities. The AP biology exam is more about application of science knowledge than memorization. Understanding concepts is critical. Groups should be no more than 4 students.

Late Work

Assignments are only accepted late for up to one week. It is your responsibility to make up late or missing work. This is a college level course and instructors are not responsible for reminding you.

Late assignments will receive 50% credit. If you are absent the day a stamp is given you **MUST** ask the teacher for the stamp the day you return or you will not receive it.

Test Corrections

1. Summarize the question
2. Write each option and **explain why it is correct or incorrect**

Ex: a) incorrect because.....

3. **Highlight** the correct answer

You will gain ½ the points back

No credit will be given for incorrect answers.

Staple order = Scantron, corrections, test

Lab Notebooks

Detailed lab notebooks will help you throughout the year. Most important is going to be organized data and detailed procedures

1. Make sure to document procedures and any changes you may make
2. Use blue or black pen only.
3. Organize data into tables
4. Make references to information in your book and notebook
5. Follow lab report format carefully for turning in lab reports
6. Conclusions should be based on what YOU did and what YOU learned. Comments about how the teacher could have helped you will not improve your grade or your learning of the information.
7. Remember that inquiry is messy and difficult! The harder it feels the more you are probably learning.



Online Tools:

Mastering Biology – Use the assignments and study area to help you with information you find difficult.

Brainscape – Join the classroom. You will have access to decks created by past students. You can study them from anywhere.

Google classroom– used for many online assignments

Course website- will be updated regularly, please check the calendar!

Citation Machine – use it to properly reference your work in APA format.

Socrative – Used for in class short quizzes. Please have the student app on your phone if you can. Sign up for an account online