**Biology Syllabus**

**Instructor Information**

Instructor: Mr. Brandon

School: Rockdale Career Academy

Location Room: 1240 B Hall

Office Phone: 770-388-5677 Ext: 1240

Email: jbrandon@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Teacher Support: Help sessions are available during the week after school from 3:30-5:30 Monday-Thursday\*

Office Hours 7:30am-3:30pm

**Course Description**

This course is designed to introduce students to the principles of biological science in the classroom and laboratory environments. Areas of study will include: scientific method, chemistry of life, the cell, photosynthesis, mitosis, meiosis, heredity, evolution, viruses, bacteria, microscope use, classification, human systems and characteristics of plants and animals. The course will also provide opportunities for students to prepare for further education at the college level.

**Course Outline**

**SEMESTER I**

I. Intro to Biology, Scientific Method, History of Science

II. Ecology, Habitat, Environmental Issues

III. Chemistry of Life

IV. The Cell, Organelles, Membranes, Diffusion, Osmosis

V. Cellular Energy Cycles, DNA, RNA

VI. Cellular Reproduction; Mitosis, Meiosis

VII. Genetics, Heredity

**SEMESTER II**

 I. Evolution, Geologic Time Scale, Change Through Time

II. Classification, Kingdoms, Phyla

III. Viruses, Monerans

IV. Protista, Fungi

V. Plants, Non-Vascular, Vascular, Botany

VI. Animal Kingdom; Sponges, Worms, Mollusks, Invertebrates, Vertebrates, Fish, Amphibians, Reptiles, Birds, Mammals

VII. Human Systems: Anatomy & physiology of the mammalian system

**Grading Policy**

Grades are based on 65% from progressive grades like daily work and quizzes and 35% from summative grades such as Unit Exams & Projects

**Absent and Late Work Policy**

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to see the teacher for make-up work. Mr. Brandon will always provide an opportunity for missing or late work to be submitted.

Absence excuses must be provided to RCA front office. They may be turned in in person or emailed to Ms. Jenny Benson at jbenson@rockdale.k12.ga.us

**Course Materials**

The students will be provided with materials that review or enrich the content presented in class. In addition, students are expected to bring a three-ring binder to organize all class notes or handouts, loose-leaf notebook paper. A set of calculators will be provided for use in the classroom. Students are expected to bring paper, pen or pencil every day. The 3 ring notebook/binder will be helpful but not required.

**Infinite Campus Parent Portal**

The Infinite Campus Portal (also known as the “Parent Portal”) is an essential tool for every family. **It is also a primary method of communication – please double check that the correct email is in use. I often use this to send grade or absences reports.** Please use this link to set up or access your already existing account. [Infinite Campus Parent Portal Instructions](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rockdaleschools.org%2Fdepartments%2Ftechnology%2Fadministrative_technology%2Finfinite_campus_parent_portal&data=04%7C01%7Ccmataragas%40studentsrockdalek12ga.onmicrosoft.com%7Cc9fca2d5da684ecf157a08d952051f75%7Cbfd25eb83dfc4e5cadabad073f23ac72%7C1%7C0%7C637631004229038599%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=zyNNn4nbSBALLxQZDj4UvwgjhFxh9%2BxWLyDNWYQdBOg%3D&reserved=0)

**Academic Honesty Policy and Rule Violation**

A student shall not cheat on any assignments, including tests, examinations, projects, homework, or reports by giving or receiving unauthorized assistance or be involved in plagiarism or other acts of academic dishonesty.  See RCPS Student Handbook, Rule 21.

**Student Non-Discrimination Policy**

The Rockdale County Board of Education (Board) desires that all students receive the benefit of an adequate education.  With this view in mind, the Board prohibits discrimination against students and employees on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, or disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to all students including the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.  In keeping with this commitment, the Rockdale County Board of Education will not tolerate harassment, discrimination, or other unlawful treatment of its students.  The Student Non-Discrimination Policy and Complaint Procedures are set forth in its entirety in Board Policy JCA.  This policy shall be located on the website of each school and the District. Copies of this policy shall be available at each school and at the District's offices. The designated person to handle inquiries regarding the School District's non-discrimination policies is: The Executive Director of Student Support, 1143 West Avenue, Conyers, Georgia 30012.  Phone: (770) 860-4235.

**Students with Disabilities**

Rockdale County Schools in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, will make every reasonable accommodation for students with special learning needs, including hearing impaired and visually impaired students and students with diagnosed learning disabilities, as well as other classifications of disability specified in the act.

I have read and understand the policies of Biology.

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Student signature Date

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Parent signature Date