



**Elk Grove
High
School**

**2009-10
Course
Syllabus**

Course:
**Agriculture
Biology**

Instructor:
Patton

Course Title: Agriculture Biology

Grade Level: 10th

Instructor: Patton

Prep Period: 1st

Tutoring: Tuesday @ 11:39 p.m. to 12:22 p.m. room F-1
Tuesday @ 12:27 p.m. to 1:19 p.m. room P-63

Office Hours: 7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. and by appointment

E-mail: mmpatton@egusd.net

Website: www.elkgroveffa.com

Elk Grove High School Mission Statement

The commitment of Elk Grove High School is to provide a safe, positive environment for **all** students in order to establish a unified community which promotes respect, individual achievement, and responsible, productive citizens.

Course Description

Agricultural Biology is a course designed to develop a scientific viewpoint in students and provide each student with a background in biology as it relates to agriculture. During the year, students will study organisms and their relationships with one another and the environment in which they live. In addition, students will learn of the diversity of organisms and evolutionary relationship and adaptations.

Evaluation/Assessment Procedures

Assessment of student understanding of material will be based on portfolios, written and oral tests, projects, and written and oral reports.

Grade Check Procedures

Grades will be posted in the classroom and on "School Loop" every Thursday. Walk around grade checks will be filled out on Thursdays also.

**Grading Policy
Weighted Grading Structure**

Required Task	Percentage of Grade
Class work (tests, quizzes, projects, reports and assignments)	65%
SAE Projects/ FFA Participation	15%
Midterm - First Semester or Final - Second Semester	20%

Grading Percentage Distribution

Percentage	Grade
90% - 100%	A
80% - 89%	B
70% - 79%	C
60% - 69%	D
Below 60%	F

Course Standards

Investigation and Experimentation

- Scientific progress is made by asking meaningful questions and conducting careful investigations. As a basis for understanding this concept and addressing the content in the other four strands, students should develop their own questions and perform investigations.

Cell Biology

- The fundamental life processes of plants and animals depend on a variety of chemical reactions that occur in specialized areas of the organism's cells.

Genetics

- Mutation and sexual reproduction lead to genetic variation in a population.
- A multicellular organism develops from a single zygote, and its phenotype depends on its genotype, which is established at fertilization.
- Genes are a set of instructions encoded in the DNA sequence of each organism that specify the sequence of amino acids in proteins characteristic of that organism.
- The genetic composition of cells can be altered by incorporation of exogenous DNA into the cells.

Ecology

- The frequency of an allele in a gene pool of a population depends on many factors and may be stable or unstable over time.
- Stability in an ecosystem is a balance between competing effects.

Evolution

- Evolution is the result of genetic changes that occur in constantly changing environments.

Physiology

- As a result of the coordinated structures and functions of organ systems, the internal environment of the human body remains relatively stable (homeostatic) despite changes in the outside environment.
- Organisms have a variety of mechanisms to combat disease.

For more information regarding standards please refer to the following website:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/sciencetnd.pdf>

Course Outline

Agricultural Biology

- Unit 1: SAEP – FFA
- Unit 2: Experimentation and Investigation, and Research Project
- Unit 3: Ecology
- Unit 4: Cell Biology
- Unit 5: DNA
- Unit 6: Natural Selection
- Unit 7: Genetics
- Unit 8: Physiology

Texts / Supplemental Instructional Materials

California Agriculture Record Book

Biology, The Dynamics of Life by Glencoe

No late work will be accepted, except for Patton's Pardon Days:

October 7th

December 9th

March 10th

May 19th

Additional Class Policies

- Homework will consist of homework packets given at the beginning of each unit. Students are advised to work on this packet 3 to 4 nights a week in order to complete it on time.
- To insure that Elk Grove High School students are **quality producers**, work that is to be turned in must be complete and typed or written in black or blue ink or with pencil. Any work that does not demonstrate quality and effort will not be accepted.
- Make-up work is the **student's** responsibility. Tests and quizzes may be made up before school on Wednesday mornings at 7:30 am or by appointment.
- All assignments are given at the beginning of the week. So students should have assignments completed when returning to school. Students will have **1 day** to make up any assignment. If a student is absent on the due date of an assignment the student must turn in that assignment on the day of his/her return. Students have one week to make up tests and quizzes.
- Extra help and/or assistance will be available before school, at lunch or by appointment.
- The Elk Grove High School **Honor Code** will be strictly enforced and should be reviewed on "School Loop". Plagiarism (using someone's idea as your own or copying material without proper references) will not be tolerated. Plagiarism will result in a zero score for all students involved.
- All Elk Grove High School guidelines and policies will be followed at all times. Please refer to the student handbook that has been posted on "School Loop".

Things You Will Need Every Day

- Textbook (*Biology, The Dynamics of Life* by Glencoe)
- Workbook (*California Agriculture Record Book*)
- Notebook / Binder (*three ring binder with paper*)
- Writing Instrument

Additional Information

Please refer to the Elk Grove High School grading policy and FFA point chart