**Course Description**: *In this class, we will be studying the genetic basis of life, and how it can shape entire species. We will begin our studies with a unit on genetics and reproduction, taking a look on a micro level at how DNA is turned into protein and eventually traits in our bodies. We will then look at how cells reproduce through the processes of mitosis and meiosis and how those processes can affect organisms. From there, we will move into a study of disease and evolution, looking at how an organism’s traits will affect survival in its environment, and the unlikely role diseases may play in that survival. Last, we will look at how forensic scientists can use data and evidence to make predictions such as height and weight.*

* Unit 1: Genetics and Reproduction
	+ Essential Question: Will the children of 2 sets of identical twins who marry each other be identical cousins?
	+ Major Assessments: Mitosis/Meiosis question of the week writing, Reproduction CER, Coin baby lab.
* Unit 2: Evolution and Disease
	+ Essential Question: Has disease had a positive or negative impact on human evolution?
	+ Major Assessments: Evolution questions of the week, Skin color CER, Sickle cell/Malaria CER, Sugar Glider Lab
* Unit 3: Body Systems and Forensics
* Essential Question: How can forensic scientists use data and evidence to make predictions about the human body?
* Major Assignments: Body Ratios Lab, Blood Splatter Lab

**Grading Policy:** Your grades in this class will be determined by a combination of the following categories:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Worth** | **Example Assignment** |
| Major assessments/Exhibitions | 50% | * Identical Twins CER
* Sugar Glider Lab
* Content test
 |
| Classwork/Homework | 30% | * NewsELA
* Any worksheet done during class that is graded
 |
| Professionalism | 20% | * Classwork/Homework completion
* In-class behavior
 |

**Supplies Needed:**

* A place to write. A binder is nice because you can add more pages when you need them. A notebook is nice because the pages don’t fall out. Either one is fine, just make sure you have places to put notes.
* Calculator
* 1 or more highlighters

**Class Policies and Procedures:**

* 100% Respect.
* NO CELL PHONES OR ELECTRONICS! Have them OFF and away before you enter. There will be times that you can use your phone as a resource in class at the teacher’s discretion.
* Revisions to major assignments must take place in after school or breakfast study.
* Say “please” and “thank you”. It makes a difference!

Beginning Class

1. Enter class **silently** and take your assigned seat.
2. Complete the warm up.
3. If HW is assigned, write it down in your class calendar

During Class

1. During class discussion and lectures pay attention and participate. **Do not interrupt** Marc, another educator, or a classmate while they are speaking by yelling out or having a side conversation.
2. During independent work **do not disrupt** other students. No side conversations.
3. During group work, do your part/role to contribute to the task without distracting others.
4. When Marc has dismissed the class, **push in your chair** before you leave.

Bathroom or Water Pass

1. **Never** during class discussion or lecture.
2. Request only during independent or group work.
3. Raise your hand for permission.
4. Take the pass and return quickly.

Some Quick Facts about Your Teachers

Marc is left handed and does not like cilantro (it tastes like soap - it’s genetic, look it up). He has a dog named Melvin, who hates most people. He also really enjoys running and crossword puzzles, a lot.

Thai is born and raised in Brooklyn and was the first person in her family to graduate from college. She loves the walking dead, but does not like fear the walking dead. She also likes to run stairs, a lot.

HC lives in Westchester and commutes to East Side Community High School every morning. He enjoys to ride his bicycle in his free time but his last ride gave him a bad scar on his right knee. Though, it doesn’t stop him from riding his bike.

I look forward to a great semester that will result in every student presenting a Biology PBAT that they can be proud of.

Sincerely,

Marc Sole

11th grade Biology

929.249.1965

marcs@eschs.org

PLEASE KEEP THIS DOCUMENT FOR YOUR RECORDS