

Jackson Hole Middle School Vision Statement:

JHMS is a school where each student is provided with an innovative and superior education that instills integrity and promotes personal achievement in an ever-changing world.

Jackson Hole Middle School Course Syllabus

Teacher: Lara Lovett

Course Title: Life Science

Course Standards/Objectives: Students will:

- *Learn the scientific method by completing a science project with a display and oral presentation
- *Identify and explain cell structures and their functions through the use of the microscope and laboratory experiments
- *Demonstrate an understanding of ecological, evolutionary, and genetic relationships by researching, creating models, and presenting information
- *Investigate human body systems, including structures and functions through models, labs, and the dissection of a representative vertebrate
- *Identify the animal kingdom and differentiate it from the other kingdoms of living things

Course Materials/Supplies:

<u>Course Materials:</u>	Text: <u>Life Science</u> by Holt Publishing	Various media: videos, computers, specific lab equipment, etc.
<u>Student Supplies:</u>	3-ringed binder (1" is fine) containing: 1 pocket folder and some loose leaf paper; pens/pencils; school agenda	A pencil/pen carrier is recommended
<u>Teacher Notes:</u>	Lesson notes will be provided in partial outline form for students to fill-in during lecture and keep in their 3-ringed binder. Students' loose-leaf paper will be used for daily brainstorming and writing activities.	

Course Grading Specifics: Based on Total Points

	Description	Approximate % of Final Grade
Tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will be given at the end of each unit of study• Will consist of various forms: essay, short answer, multiple choice, etc.	30%
Quizzes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administered periodically throughout a unit of study	20%
Homework	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assigned for reinforcement, extension or enrichment.	25%
Labs & Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An integral part of the curriculum• Includes the science research project with presentation and display of results	25%

Grading Scale:

A+ Above 97.5%	B+ 89-87.5%	C+ 79-77.5%	D+ 69-67.5%
A 97.5-92.5%	B 87.5-82.5%	C 77.5-72.5%	D 67.5-62.5%
A- 92.5-90%	B- 82.5-80%	C- 72.5-72%	D- 62.5-62%
			F below 60%

Homework: Good News – I do not assign busy work! Homework is a reinforcement or extension of what is done in class. Therefore, it is assigned thoughtfully and only when the task is challenging, critical, novel or important. You may expect to find similar problems on assessments. Therefore, copying homework not only earns you a zero for homework, violates our academic integrity policy, and earns you an office referral -- but also cheats you out of knowledge you need for your tests (thus lowering both scores!)

Make Up Procedures: Please use our week’s agenda and our class blog to keep track of covered material and assignments. If there is an **EXCUSED** absence, the student has 2 days for each day absent to make up the work for **FULL CREDIT**.

Late Work: If there is an **UNEXCUSED missing assignment**, students still have a chance to earn full credit if they attend “**SECOND CHANCE**” during their lunch period. Through this method, if the assignment is completed and handed-in to me by 3:00pm on the due date, credit may be awarded without penalty. By the next day, **the assignment is marked LATE** and will receive a maximum of **50% credit**. The student has until the end of that particular unit or end of the quarter (whichever comes first) to hand in a late assignment. **CAUTION!** Don’t assume that 50% is still an “F” and not complete the work. Do the math: would you rather receive 50 dollars or 0 dollars? Making up late work, even for 50%, can really help save a grade.

PowerSchool Abbreviations: “EX” stands for “excused”; “M” stands for missing; “L” stands for late. “()” means that a score has not been recorded for whatever reason (does NOT necessarily mean the teacher doesn’t have the assignment)—furthermore () does not reflect a zero on a grade.

Special Notes for Succeeding in Life Science:

- **Writing Expectations:** It’s not just for English class, anymore! We will be following 6-Traits Writing and Jane Shaffer methods. Students are expected to use complete sentences and correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation on all written assignments. This will include science projects, lab write-ups, review questions, article summaries, etc.
- **Teacher Help:** I am available to students everyday during lunch, everyday after school from 2:45-3:30pm and I can arrange to meet before school, if need be. Students and parents are encouraged to contact me with any questions or concerns via email and phone as well.
- **Student Responsibility:** In the event of an absence, it is the **student’s responsibility to find out what has been missed and to approach the teacher to schedule any necessary make up work.**
- **Extra Credit:** There are chances for extra credit throughout each quarter in the form of creative, extension assignments. Take advantage of these chances and keep your grade up! **HOWEVER**, extra credit is NOT available at the end of the quarter to students who have not turned in regularly assigned work and are looking for a quick way to boost a poor grade.

Contact Information: Class Blog: <http://laralovett.edublogs.org> Email address: llovett@teton1.k12.wy.us , Best time to call is 2:45-3:30pm, 733-4234, Ext. 3118

Parent Signature _____

Date: _____