



# Biology Team

## Course Syllabus 2023-2024



***"IT'S NOT THE STRONGEST OF THE SPECIES THAT SURVIVES, NOR THE MOST INTELLIGENT THAT SURVIVES. IT'S THE ONE THAT IS THE MOST ADAPTABLE TO CHANGE"***  
**CHARLES DARWIN**

<p><b>Biology Teacher Names &amp; Contact Information</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Jim Corsetti:</b> <a href="mailto:jcorsetti@bisd303.org">jcorsetti@bisd303.org</a>          BHS Blackboard Website <a href="#">Link</a>          Phone: (206) 780-1272</p> <p><u>Materials Needed:</u> Dedicated 1 inch binder, 3x5 notecards</p>	<p><b>Link to Google Classroom &amp; Remind Messaging</b></p> <hr/> <p>Google Classroom Codes- Mr. Corsetti will send you a personal invitation to your frogrock email</p> <p><a href="#">All Class Daily Schedule</a></p>
<p><b>Charles Dunn:</b> <a href="mailto:cdunn@bisd303.org">cdunn@bisd303.org</a>          BHS Blackboard Website <a href="#">Link</a>          Phone: 206-855-0469</p> <p><u>Materials Needed:</u> Dedicated 1 inch binder, 3x5 notecards</p>	<p>Google Classroom Codes - Mr. Dunn will send you a personal invitation to your frogrock email</p> <p><a href="#">All Class Daily Schedule</a></p>
<p><b>Austin Smith:</b> <a href="mailto:Afsmith@bisd303.org">Afsmith@bisd303.org</a>          BHS Blackboard Website <a href="#">Link</a>          Phone: 206-855-0471          Office Hours: T/TH 2:20-3:15, Fri 9-11</p>	<p>Google Classroom Codes - Mr. Smith will send you a personal invitation to your frogrock email</p> <p><a href="#">All Class Daily Schedule</a></p>
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## Course Information

Welcome to an exciting year-long study of Biology. As a student in this course, you will have many opportunities to formulate hypotheses, perform experiments with sophisticated laboratory equipment, analyze data, and refine scientific models. I believe you will find this course to be both exciting and intellectually engaging. The course follows the “Next Generation Science Standards” (NGSS) and has been broken down into the following important scientific topics:

- Systems & Scale/Biological Molecules
- History of Earth’s Atmosphere: Photosynthesis & Respiration
- Cell Structure, Function & Growth
- Inheritance of Traits
- Evidence of Evolution
- Ecosystem Stability & Response to Climate Change
- Ecosystem Interactions & Energy

## Format

This course is designed for students to be able to access all content and activities using Google Classroom.

For the current BHS schedule, please see the [BHS website](#) or [student portal](#). You are expected to be fully present and engaged in learning activities related to this class during that time.

## Course Site

Assignments will be posted and submitted via each class period’s Google Classroom. Students must [join their class period’s Google Classrooms](#) to access learning activities and other important information. An invitation with class codes to your teacher’s Google Classroom will be sent to your frogrok email or given out the first week of school.

If parents & guardians wish to receive the weekly [Google Classroom summaries](#) for their students, please send one of their teachers an email request within the first week. If you have received these emails before, you should not need to take action, you are already registered as their guardian.

## Learning Objectives

Each unit of study for this course will have clearly defined learning standards; students are expected to commit themselves to master these standards to the best of their ability. These learning standards will be interspersed throughout the unit and will be made clear. Students will have several opportunities to self assess their progress towards meeting them. Here is a sample of the learning objectives that students will be addressing.

## Learning Resources

More tools may be used in class, such as Flipgrid, Goformative, Nearpod, Pivot Interactives, Edpuzzle, Kamipro, Padlet, HHMI biointeractive and phet interactives. Students will be instructed on how to use these tools. All assignments will be posted on Google Classroom, which students should check daily.

# Student Expectations

## Attendance and Engagement

Unless ill, all students are expected to participate in all learning activities. If a student is unable to participate in these activities, they must make alternative arrangements with the teacher. Students are expected to make up missed learning activities as soon as possible. Students must email their teacher as soon as possible, or proactively, to make arrangements for completing missed work.

## Academic Honesty

Integrity is the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles. Academic integrity is a compelling principle by which we operate all aspects of student and school life, and is highly valued at BHS. Students should not cheat or plagiarize, nor should they tolerate such among fellow students. Students do not receive credit for work that is not their own. Cheating is defined as an attempt to earn credit or receive a grade for coursework in a manner other than defined as acceptable by the teacher. Plagiarism is the taking of language, ideas or thoughts from another person or resource without acknowledging the source. Students who use plagiarized papers or projects or are involved in any other form of cheating will be subject to reduction in grades and/or disciplinary action for a first offense. Because of the serious nature of academic integrity, violations of this code may result in loss of credit for the assignment with a recorded failing grade. It may also entail loss of credit for the course with a recorded failing grade, removal from the course with a failing grade, and/ or additional appropriate disciplinary action. (BISD Student Handbook)

## Communications and Self-Advocacy

Students need to be comfortable advocating for themselves. If you have questions or concerns, please email your teacher and/or counselor. We cannot help you unless we know what you need.

## Policies & Procedures

### Attendance

Attendance is expected and taken at the beginning and end of class manually or via participation in activities. Students unaccounted for will be marked absent.

### Grading

**Coursework 10%:** This category includes in-class activities, homework, and binder checks. Homework is graded on completion and mistakes are expected to be corrected in order to gain a better understanding of the material.

### **Mastery of Standards 90%**

Biology standards assessments will include multiple-choice, short answer, diagramming, projects, and debates depending on the concepts learned in each unit. There will be a cumulative final at the conclusion of each semester. Students will create a study guide before each assessment. Reassessments are available.

We will be using Standards Based Grading but are still required to convert the grade to a traditional scale.

Letter grades are calculated using the following grading scale using Standards Based Grading:

Grade			
Mark	Description	High	Low
A	A	100.00%	93.00%
A-	A-	92.99%	90.00%
B+	B+	89.99%	87.00%
B	B	86.99%	83.00%
B-	B-	82.99%	80.00%
C+	C+	79.99%	77.00%
C	C	76.99%	73.00%
C-	C-	72.99%	70.00%
D+	D+	69.99%	67.00%
D	D	66.99%	60.00%
F	F	59.99%	0.00%

4-point scale	Correlating letter grade	Description
4	A	Exemplary work. Mastery. Exceeds grade-level standard.
3	B	Proficient work. Accomplished. Meets grade-level standard.
2	C	Emerging work. Developing. Approaching standard.
1	D	Insufficient work. Basic. Below standard.
0	F	No evidence of work. Missing. Well below standard.

### Submitting Assignments

- Turning in work:** Any numbered assignments listed under the **Classwork** tab in Google Classroom should be submitted by the due date according to the listed instructions.
- Late Work:** Students are expected to check our Google Classrooms for homework assignments and links to useful resources. All assignments should be turned in on time according to the due date on Google classroom. An absence does not excuse you from the daily expectations and activities of the class. If you are sick, email me to let me know. We will negotiate an appropriate due date.
- Resubmissions:** Practice of Standards work may not be resubmitted. Any graded assignment in the Mastery of Standards category may be reassessed pending teacher approval and must be done within a two week period from when the assessment is returned. Please make an appointment to go over any standard that you need more clarification on prior to an assessment.

### Lab Safety

Lab safety is extremely important and guidelines must be followed. Any student caught violating the safety rules for the science class will not be allowed to participate in certain lab activities for the remainder of the semester and will be required to complete supplemental work for all subsequent labs. A safety lecture and examination will be conducted during the first week of the school year. Students are expected to get 100% on this examination to participate in lab activities. A safety lecture will accompany all laboratory activities. If you are not present for safety instruction, for the safety of all concerned, you will not be permitted to participate in the lab portion in which safety is a concern.

[Safety Contract Link](#)

## Technology

- To fully participate in this course, you will need to have access to your BISD chromebook or a similar device every day in class and sometimes at home. Your device must be charged daily and in full working order, with a functional camera, speaker and microphone.
- For tech support, please go to [www.bisd303.org/techsupport](http://www.bisd303.org/techsupport) and report your issue. This includes getting help to troubleshoot your device and setup at home.

## AI

Collaboration with ChatGPT or other AI composition software is permitted in this course with appropriate documentation of how it was used and for what purpose.