

Biology 1P FACT: 2016 - 2017

Mr. Durand Period 1 or 2

ross.durand@gmail.com

Assignments

Each unit of learning will focus on one central summative project and exam. Within that framework our unit of work will be the school week. Each week will focus on a particular subtopic in biology and will culminate with a Friday Quiz (Thursdays if there is a Friday holiday), and a weekly packet of work due on that Friday. Due to vacation days and other schedule issues, there may be occasional breaks from this routine. Weekly work packets are assessed towards your work habits score.

Tasks completed during the school week may include (but are not limited to) –

- completing classwork in class
- completing group work in class
- bringing completed work to class
- participation in seminar style learning
- participation and completion of lab/activities
- demonstration of standards mastery on the weekly quiz
- assignments integrating Biology with other subjects in the FACT program

Work is due on the due date announced, however, much of the work will be collected into weekly packets collected each Friday. Work completed by the due date but not up to class standards may be re-done on a timeframe to be established by the teacher.

Tests – At the end of a unit of study we will have a test which will be one of the main pieces of work used to assess mastery of the standards towards determination of the class grade (in relation to the weeks of work preceding the test). The test will be summative of the preceding weeks, and will involve showing knowledge and applying knowledge. For most tests, there will be a second opportunity to test on the same standards and replace the original grade with a higher grade. Unit tests will be NOT be multiple choice.

• **Writing assignments** – In addition to daily work, there will be longer assignments such as writing assignments and lab reports. Writing assignments vary, labs include experiments, models, and simulations. They are generally be assessed towards your unit score and most will follow a format that will be presented at the time of the first lab.

• **FACT Projects** – Throughout the year, there will be other projects integrating biology with ELA and/or Human Geography. these will be assessed and weighted as announced at the time of the project and counted towards your FACT unit score in science class.

• **Final** - Each semester there will be a cumulative final exam that will be worth 20 percent of your semester grade. These final exams are multiple choice.

Grading

The Garden Grove Unified District Grading Guidelines state

“Grades should reflect a student’s mastery of district approved, state or national content standards.”

As such – each assignment completed that measures mastery of the standards will be assessed on the following 5-point scale

5	Advanced	In addition to level-4 performance, in-depth inferences and applications go BEYOND what was taught in class
4	Proficient	No major errors or omissions regarding any of the information, terminology and/or processes that were explicitly taught in class
3	Basic	No major errors or omissions regarding the Simpler details and processes BUT major errors or omissions regarding the more complex ideas and processes
2	Below Basic	Some major errors and/or omissions regarding the Simpler details and processes and major errors or omissions regarding the more complex ideas and processes
1	Far Below Basic	Very little or no understanding or skill demonstrated

At the end of each unit of study, the student will be assigned an overall “Unit Score” of 1-5 determined by assessing their total mastery by the end of the unit. This Unit Score will take into account all of the measured assessments for the unit but will most heavily weight the summative assessments such as tests and projects.

In addition to specific units of study, each semester there will also be a unit score for FACT work and a unit score for lab work.

Some classwork may never be assessed towards mastery, for instance class notes, but will still be collected towards establishing the student’s work habits and citizenship grades. It is important for the student to recognize that this class work is still useful in preparing for tests and quizzes.

SEMESTER GRADE CUT POINTS

4.1 - 5.0 - Advanced = A

3.25 - 4.0 - Proficient = B

2.5 - 3.24 - Basic = C

1.75 - 2.49 - Below Basic = D

0.0 - 1.74 = Far Below Basic = F

Guidelines for completing work

1. Clearly label each assignment, including your name, date, period, and the assignment itself.
2. If questions are assigned, write the questions.
3. Always use complete sentences when answering a question.
4. Except when being asked to list, answer in your own words (paraphrase).
5. The assignment must be legible and easy to follow.
6. All assignments must be turned in on the day announced. Any task that must be redone to earn a point can be redone until an announced deadline.

For questions regarding policy refer to the school handbook.

I take especially seriously matters regarding cheating. All cheating offenses will result in zero points for that assignment. In addition, I will strictly adhere to the school cheating policy.

Materials

Each students should always have with them: paper, pencils, a black or blue pen, a place to store papers - a 3-ring binder is recommended.

Recommended – a calculator (not a cell phone), a USB flashdrive, colored pencils, a portable three-hole punch.

What will we learn?

We will be learning fundamental concepts of biology by mastering the California State Standards in Biology/Life Science. These will include units in:

Cells

Cell Membranes

The Human Immune System

How Living Things get Energy

How the Human Body Gets Energy to Cells and Removes Waste from Cells

Genetics

How DNA works

Evolution by Natural Selection

Ecology and Human Impacts on the Environment

The Human Nervous System