



Course Outline: **LIFE SCIENCES (BIOLOGY) 11**

Teacher: **Mrs. Towers**  
 Classroom: **W214**

Office: **Careers office**

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 Website: **<http://mrstowers.weebly.com/>**

**Welcome to Life Sciences 11!**

Life Science 11 focuses on cell biology, evolution and classification of life, allowing you to develop an interest in and understanding of science by investigating how the life has come to be on earth.

**Course Objectives & Content:** This course addresses a wide variety of learning outcomes across three main topic areas, as described in the June 2018 Curriculum:  
[https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/sites/curriculum.gov.bc.ca/files/curriculum/science/en\\_science\\_11\\_life-sciences\\_elab.pdf](https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/sites/curriculum.gov.bc.ca/files/curriculum/science/en_science_11_life-sciences_elab.pdf)

TOPIC AREA	RELATED CONCEPTS
<b>Cell Biology</b>	Life is a result of interactions at the molecular and cellular levels
<b>Evolution</b>	Evolution occurs at the population level
<b>Classification</b>	Organisms are grouped based on common characteristics

The Science Curricular Competencies (*questioning/predicting, planning/conducting, processing/analyzing, evaluating, applying/innovating, and communicating*) are integrated throughout Life Sciences 11. Students build competency through activities and assignments such as published lab exercises, student-designed labs, dissections, research-based presentations, and creative projects.

**Required Materials (to be brought to every class):**

- Binder with loose leaf paper
- Pens (various colours), pencils, and ruler
- Agenda (digital or book)
- Wi-fi accessible device (laptop preferably)

**Textbook**

Students will be issued a copy of *Biology* by Miller & Levine. (replacement cost: \$130)

**Expectations**

Life Sciences 11 is a demanding course. You should be prepared to do homework every day to keep up with labs, assignments and readings. Daily review of course material at home is essential for success. Each term will consist of daily reading, approximately 3-5 assignments/lab reports, several checkpoints and 1-2 unit tests.

**Most importantly: Own your learning.** At the end of the day, YOU are the one who controls your success in this course. Stay on top of your work and recognize when you need to ask for help.

**Website**

I maintain a class website <http://mrstowers.weebly.com/> where you can find:

- *A day-by-day summary of class activities (including handouts, assignments & due dates)*
- *Announcements, contact information, and additional resources*

## Lates and Absences

All absences from the class must be excused by a phone call by parent or guardian to the office **on** the day you are absent (before 8:25 a.m.). If you **know in advance** that you'll be missing class, please **let me know as soon as possible** so that we can create a plan for you to stay caught up while you're away. Lates and unexcused absences negatively impact your work habits assessment.

It is **YOUR responsibility** to obtain completed notes, handouts, due dates and to catch up with any material missed. My website is a helpful resource but you will need to copy notes from a classmate. I try to reduce paper waste, so please print any handouts from the site before returning to class as there may not always be extra copies available.

## Deadlines

It is expected that you hand in your completed assignments by the due date *at the beginning of class*. Late assignments collected up to the following class will be marked as late but will receive full assessment. Any assignments handed in after that point will be used to determine pass or fail for the term. If special extensions are needed, please ask well in advance of the due date.

Rockridge holds a zero tolerance policy for academic misconduct. Copied or plagiarized work will result in a mark of **ZERO** for all individuals involved and will be brought to the attention of school administration.

## Assessment

In this course, you will take an active role in assessment and be responsible for your own learning. With the help of myself and your peers, you will develop the ability to understand what you have already learned, determine what you have yet to learn, and decide how you can best improve your understanding. We will assess your work using **performance-based rubrics** with clear criteria.

**GOOGLE CLASSROOM** – Lab reports and other written assignments will be collected via google classroom.

Class Code: **3vfeqx**. All other assignments will be submitted as hard copies. Assignments will not be accepted via e-mail. Students are required to ask for *extensions* if not able to hand in an assignment on time.

## Missed Tests

If you have an excused absence due to sudden illness or extenuating circumstances on a test day, you will be given the opportunity to write an alternate test at a time arranged with me when you return to school.

**NOTE: Make-up tests are only available to students who have both sent an e-mail in advance themselves and have also had their parent/guardian send a follow-up e-mail or note.** If you are absent on the date of a checkpoint, you will miss the opportunity to write that checkpoint.

## Evaluation

The content of this course will be tested in June through an in-class School Final Exam worth **15%** of the overall course grade.

<u>Term marks will be calculated as follows:</u>	<u>Overall Course Mark:</u>	Term 1	25%
Checkpoints & Learning Logs		Term 2	30%
Daily readings and note taking		Term 3	30%
Tests		School Final Exam	15%
Labs & Assignments			

## Extra Help

Please come and see me (typically in the **Careers Office**) if you have questions or need extra help! I don't have a set classroom so consult my posted scheduled or e-mail me in advance to ensure I'm available to meet.

**Anything Else?** *If you have any other questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to talk to me during class or contact me through email. I'm looking forward to a fun, exciting, and rewarding year of Life Science 11 with you! 😊*