# Life Science Course Syllabus

## White Pine Charter School

### Teacher: Mrs. Hughes

### Email: [hughesju@whitepinecharterschool.org](mailto:hughesju@whitepinecharterschool.org)

### Website: <http://whitepinemsscience.weebly.com/>

#### Teacher availability

I welcome communications with students and parent outside of regular classroom hours. Please do not hesitate to contact me or arrange a meeting to discuss homework or topics covered in class. Additionally, I welcome any and all suggestions that parents or students may have to make this year a successful learning experience.

#### Course Content

In this course we will cover concepts relating to the structure, function, and organization of life. We will address these issues at scales ranging from the molecular and microscopic to whole ecosystems. A special emphasis will be placed on critical thinking throughout the year.

#### Computer Access

There will be an occasional need for computer and internet access throughout the school year in this course for completion of homework and projects. Please indicate below what level of after-school access you have to the internet (accommodations will be made as necessary for individual students):

1. Unrestricted access
2. Restricted access (please specify)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. No Access

#### Homework and Grading

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assignment Type** | **% Overall Grade (Weight)** |
| Homework\Class-work | 25% |
| Binder | 15% |
| Quizzes\Tests | 35% |
| Labs | 25% |

Below you will find the break-down of assignment types and grades:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| A | 90-100% |
| B | 80-89% |
| C | 70-79% |
| D | 60-69% |
| F | <60% |

As organization is a key skill, not only in science but in nearly every field, 15% of each student’s overall grade will correspond to periodic binder checks. Students will be required to file all papers and assignments into a three-ring binder, with a table of contents and organization as will be specified the first days of school.

As outlined in the student handbook, middle school students who do not return homework and/or projects on time will have their grade adjusted as follows:

1 day late = 10% grade reduction

2 days late = 20% grade reduction

3 days late = 50% grade reduction

4 or more days late = student receives a grade of zero.

#### Expectations

It is my expectation that every student will arrive promptly and prepared to learn. I expect all students to be respectful and courteous. I also expect students to take charge of their academic experience, and therefore present comments, critiques, and ideas to me that could improve their experience in my classroom. Likewise, students may expect that I will follow the same code of conduct and be subject to the high expectations that I place on my students.

I hereby acknowledge that I have read and adhere to the policies, procedures, and expectations as outlined in this course syllabus.

Name (Printed)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name (Signed)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_