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| VMHS Biology classes are following the California Living Earth Science Framework for High School. This course centers on the biosphere and examines how it interacts with the other Earth systems. The instructional sequence will begin at the macroscopic level with the study of ecosystems and how they interact, then zoom into the metabolic processes of photosynthesis and respiration. Semester 1 will conclude with the history of Earth and the evolution of the organisms that occupy it.  During semester 2, students will explore inheritance, chromosomes and DNA and mutations. A subsequent unit will examine cellular division, processes, and organization. In the final unit, students will study how Earth’s systems have responded to changes over time. UnitsEcosystem Interactions and Energy Students use mathematical and computer models to determine the factors that affect the size and diversity of populations in ecosystems, including the availability of resources and interactions between organisms. History of Earth’s Atmosphere: Photosynthesis and Respiration Students build a model of an ecosystem to study the interactions between Earth systems. There will be a focus on photosynthesis, respiration, energy flow, and cycling of matter. Evidence of Common Ancestry and Diversity Students develop a model about how rock layers record evidence of evolution as fossils. They focus on effectively communicating this evidence and relate it to principles of natural selection. Inheritance of Traits Students develop explanations about the specific mechanisms that enable parents to pass traits on to their offspring. They make claims about which processes give rise to variation in DNA codes and calculate the probability that offspring will inherit traits from their parents. Structure, Function and Growth (from Cells to Organisms) Students use models to create explanations of how cells use DNA to construct proteins, build biomass, reproduce, and create complex multicellular organisms. Ecosystem Stability and the Response to Climate Change Students use computer models to investigate how Earth’s systems respond to changes, including climate change Class Layout  1. **Check in**- Students will use their work from last class to take a practice quiz on canvas. There are unlimited tries. 2. Lab/Activity- Students will work in their table groups to complete the assigned lab or activity with help from the teacher. 3. Exit Ticket- Students will complete a graded reflection of the day’s assignment. 4. Homework- Students will complete homework on Canvas or from the textbook and show their notes the next class.  Academic Dishonesty Students are expected to complete their own work to the best of their ability. Students who show academic dishonesty will be sent to the VMHS discipline office and all district procedures will be followed, including receiving a zero on the exam, quiz, or assignment, without the opportunity to resubmit. Examples of academic dishonesty are as follows:   * Using the internet to search answers during a test. * Using class materials on a closed note test/quiz. * Sending or receiving pictures of your own or other student’s work to copy. * Submitting someone else’s work as your own. * Participating in a Snapchat, Instagram, or other social media group for the purpose of copying work or gaining access to test questions.  Cell Phone Use The use of phones is not permitted during class, unless specifically given by the teacher. They are to be out of sight and out of mind so students can focus on learning biology and interacting with their teacher and classmates. Students are to use the “cell phone hotel” to store their phones at the front of the room during class.  **Consequences of a phone being out during class are confiscation for parent pickup.** | Mrs Amanda Kuelbs S204 – Vista Murrieta High School  Email:  akuelbs@murrieta.k12.ca.us  Or send a message through canvas Welcome to Bio! I am very excited to meet all my students! This class will be fun and engaging, but to learn and succeed, students will have to put forth individual effort. Please come to class on time and prepared to learn. Expect group labs and activities in class and 2-3 homework assignments a week. Materials  * **Spiral Notebook (200 pgs) REQUIRED** * Calculator (not your phone) REQUIRED * Highlighters * Colored pencils * Ruler * Double sided tape or glue.  Course Content Textbook: California Inspire Biology: McGraw Hill  All course content and grades are available on Canvas.  [www.Murrieta.instructure.com](http://www.Murrieta.instructure.com) Attendance I understand that there may be times when students are out for days or weeks at a time due to illness. Please minimize “optional” sorts of absences (vacations etc). Please check canvas to see what has been missed and complete as much as you are able. Grades **50 % Assignments | 50% Assessment** Assignments Assignments will include check in activities, reading articles, taking textbook notes, completing lab investigations, and doing group class activities.  **Assignments need a STAMP and your NAME IN PEN to get (up to) full credit.** Assessments Assessments will include notebook quizzes, Claim Evidence Reasoning responses, and end of unit exams. Late Work Policy Late work will be accepted until the end of the unit. Canvas deducts 5% per day late, up to 50% off. If you have an excused absence, I will remove late marks for work completed within a reasonable period of time IF you put ‘absent’ on your paper.  **Late work is due Nov 8th for Unit 1 / Dec 11 for Unit 2 for Fall, and the Friday before Finals week for Spring.** Quiz/exam Retakes If a student scores below a 70% on a quiz or exam they may retake the quiz or exam for up to a 70%. Please pre-arrange this with your teacher in a timely manner. The Grading Scale: A – 90% +  B – 80-89%  C – 70-79%  D – 60-69%  F - 0 – 59% Parent Signature and Date:Student Signature and Date: |