**Freshman Academy Biology Syllabus**

**2011-2012**

Miss Corvello

**Academic Expectations**

* The rationale for this course is to provide students with an understanding about the structure, function, and behaviors of living things. It is a lab science course, offering an in depth study of molecular and cellular biology, genetics, organisms, and ecology. Students will be involved in extensive laboratory studies emphasizing lab and problem solving skills as well as independent investigation on selected topics.
* Emphasis throughout the semester will be placed on:
  + The Scientific Method
  + The Chemistry of Life
  + Cell Theory, Cell Structure and Function
  + Metabolism and Chemical Reactions
  + Cellular Reproduction
  + Molecular Genetics
  + Anatomy and Physiology
  + Evolution
  + Taxonomy
  + Ecology
  + MCAS Review
* These scientific concepts will be explored through direct observation and laboratory investigations, class work, and homework, with an emphasis on the development of scientific process skills. All students are expected to pass the MCAS exam for Biology in the Spring of 2012.

**Materials Required:**

* 3 ring binder with paper
* Pens and pencils

\*\*NOTE: APPROXIMATELY 2-3 QUIZZES WILL BE GIVEN FOR EACH CHAPTER, LABS AND ACTIVITIES VARY PER CHAPTER\*\*

**First Semester (Terms 1 and 2) Exam Dates**

September 15/16: Scientific Method

October 06/07: Chemistry of Life

October 27/28: Cell Theory, Cell Structure and Function

November 17/18: Cell Membranes, Passive and Active Transport

December 09/10: Metabolism, Photosynthesis, Cellular Respiration

January 05/06: Cellular Reproduction

January 13 & 16: Midterm Exam

**Second Semester (Terms 3 and 4) Exam Dates (all dates are tentative)**

January 26/27: Mendelian Genetics

March 01/02: Anatomy and Physiology

March 22/23: Evolution

April 19/20: Taxonomy and Classification

May 17/18: Ecology

First Week of June: MCAS Test (Review will be done the week prior to MCAS)

June 13/14: Final Exam

**Grade Distribution—Term 1: Grade Distribution—Term 2:**

Tests – 25% Tests – 25%

Laboratories/Projects/Activities – 20% Laboratories/Projects/Activities – 20%

Homework – 15% Homework – 10%

Classwork – 10% Classwork – 10%

Quizzes – 20% Quizzes – 15%

Notebook –10% Notebook—10%

Midterm Exam – 10%

**Grade Distribution—Term 3: Grade Distribution—Term 4:**

Tests – 25% Tests – 25%

Laboratories – 20% Laboratories/Projects/Activities – 20%

Homework – 15% Homework – 10%

Classwork – 10% Classwork – 10%

Quizzes – 20% Quizzes – 15%

Notebook – 10% Notebook –10%

Final Exam – 10%

**Consequence of Actions:**

* If any student exhibits inappropriate behavior (including, but not limited to: disrespect, disobedience, disruption of class, threatening, bullying, refusal to do work, insubordination, and/or defiance), they will be escorted to the Tan House Office with a Conduct Card.
* If a student is given a Priority (2:10-2:25 pm) for a minor behavioral issue, they MUST serve it within 48 hours, or else a Conduct Card will result. (Consequences of Conduct Cards range from: Detention, Saturday School, In or Out of School Suspension, conference with Headmaster.)