# Spring 2013
# Life Science


## Mr. Sexton
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**Course overview**
Life science is a course where we study the relationships between organisms and also study the organism itself. It is recommended that you have a basic understanding of chemistry, but necessary information will be covered in class.

**Expectations**
1. **Show up** – You are here on time, in your seat writing in your journal, and have proper materials.

2. **Participation** – You are willing to be active physically and mentally in the daily activities.

3. **Be proactive** – If you are not getting a concept, you need to come in and see me. This is your class; take pride in it.

Note: Students will be expected to submit work into the class dropbox online form time to time, and/or submit blog entries, or online posting in forums. As such you will be able to find your course information and assignments at www.phillipsexton.com. You will also be able to submit work via that website.

**Goals**
*Ecology*
Students will look at different factors that determine the movement of populations, and the effects of a population upon a given area. Ecosystems and the effect of humans upon the ecosystem will also be discussed. Students will end the unit with a debate on the causes of global warming.

*Human Anatomy*
Students will explore the workings of the human body and the interconnectedness of the different organs in the body. This will focus on the functions structures, and English name of the organs of the human body.

*Plant Taxonomy*
Students will develop an understanding of how different plant structures have lead to different classification of the plant kingdom. Students will use a dichotomist key to identify materials in from of them.

*Animal Taxonomy*
Animal taxonomy has undergone great changes in the past 20 years with the addition of genetic information. However, we will still look at the different genius and species and how they are different and cannot reproduce across species.

*Evolution*
Darwin proposed that organisms change little by little over the course of a large number of years leading to different species. Darwin proposed natural selection and the idea that

*Language Objectives*
It is the goal of this course that students would be able to synthesize, analyze, produce, and experience the language of Physics, in English, through: labs, blogs, and forum entries, as well as the demonstration and explanation of their roller coaster.

**Grading**
The student can determine his or her letter grade for all assignments, labs, quizzes, and tests by calculating the percentage of the possible points earned. The corresponding letter grade for each percentage is shown below. Daily work and tests will consist of 40% each of the final semester grade and the final exam will account for the other 20% of the students' semester grade. All grades are **EARNED**, not given.

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|---|---|---|---|
| **A+ = 100 – 98%** | **B + = 91 - 90%** | **C + = 82 - 80%** | **D + = 71 - 70%** |
| **A = 97-93%** | **B = 89 - 85%** | **C = 79 - 75%** | **D = 69 - 65%** |
| **A- = 92-91%** | **B- = 84 - 83%** | **C- = 74 - 72%** | **F = 64 - 0%** |

All **homework** will be accepted on the day that it is due. Any late homework will count as a "0" for that assignment. Students will be given 6 grace passes per semester. These passes may used to: use the restroom during task time, turn in an assignment one day late, be used to place their name on their no name paper, be accepted to class after the class bell has rung without being marked tardy (within reason). Students will be allowed, at times, to **correct** tests as deemed appropriate by the teacher. **Corrections** for incorrect answers will be allowed until the third class period following the test, and may only be worked on in the **classroom** before or after school.

Students will be given the opportunity to attend **help class** on Tuesday afternoons (3:00-4:00pm). These will be times where students may come and receive help in Life Science. Students are encouraged to bring in homework prior to or following the class day to have it looked over by the teacher.

Students will be asked to respond to quizzes and assignments given online, and

**Resources**

Bring all materials necessary for class (3 ring binder, scientific calculator, 2 notebooks, textbook, agenda book, pencil, **assignment that is due**). Students will not be allowed to return to their lockers for missing material, unless they use a grace pass.

- All labs will be done in **pencil**.
- Each student must be seated and begin the daily journal entry before class begins.
- **Each student** is responsible for getting missed assignments. Utilize your lab partner, classmate, agenda, and teacher. Plan on coming to help classes to catch up.
- Make up work is allowed 1 class day for each excused class day a student is absent. It is important that absences be made up ASAP, so that the student does not fall behind.

Students are expected to create their own work. Students that are found to have projects copied from the internet, or done by someone else will result in a zero on the project, and referral to the principal as it violates “our values”. The same applies to daily work.