

**AP Biology 2023-2024
Summer Reading Assignment**

Welcome to AP Biology! First, allow me to say that I am both pleased and excited that you have chosen to challenge yourself by diving into collegiate level biology while still attending high school. This being said, please also allow me to warn you that this course will be a large amount of work and that when you registered for this course you have made the commitment to do all of the work that is necessary for not only the successful completion of the course but the mastery of this content as well.

So, why is this course so much work? Well, largely the fault lies in the fact that the field of Biological Sciences is an incredibly broad one with many subfields, each largely capable of standing apart from the others. As a result of this, this course will feel like a tour of many continents, some more similar and closely related than others. We have a tremendous amount of ground to cover and a VERY short period of time in which to do so.

In order to ensure that we are starting the year and our subject in the best possible position, you will be required to complete a study of the first three chapters of the text; re-familiarizing yourself with both the characteristics of Biology as a science but also with the structure, function, and diverse types of biomolecules used within living things.

We will cover the first two chapters on the first day of school and start an analysis on chapter 3 on the second day of class. You will need to keep an eye out over the summer for an email informing you about software that we will be using for class. The software comes from our textbook's publisher and is focused on helping students prepare for the AP exam. I'm not sure what the learning curve is for using the software so I'm not sure what assignments will need to be finished before class starts. I expect that the first two chapters will need to be completed before the first day of school with the third chapter due after the first week of school.

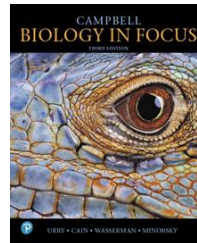
The software package should come with an e-textbook; however, you will also be given a hard copy of the textbook for this course. You can pick up your copy of the textbook during computer distribution in July.

Textbook Info: (3rd edition)

**ISBN-13: 978-0321813800; 978-0321962751;
978-0134710679**

Publisher: Pearson

Published 2013; 2017; 2020



You may also wish to purchase one or a couple of the many study guides that are available for this course. While they are not required, they are very handy, especially when gauging your level of preparedness for an upcoming exam. These books are typically paperback and can be easily found in the test prep section of Barnes and Noble etc.

Summer Reading Assignment:

Read, take notes on, and write out complete answers for all of the questions within and at the end of the following chapters:

- Chapter 1: Intro: Evolution and the Foundations of Biology
- Chapter 2: The Chemical Context of Life
- Chapter 3: Carbon and the Molecular Diversity of Life

Notes need to be neat and well organized but they DO NOT need to be in any specific format. I know that many of you are familiar with Cornell notes, that is fine and you are free to use them. My thoughts on the subject are this, you are taking a college level course and should by this point have found a style of notetaking that works best for you. Seeing as these notes are designed to help you in preparing for your first test, I should allow you to use the format that you have found works best in achieving this level of preparation.

Again, keep an eye out for information regarding the software package. It has self-check assignments as well as quizzes, labs, and activities that we will make use of.