

# Biology Student Disclosure

## East High School | Ms. Parks | 2018-2019

**Email:** [elizabeth.parks@slcschools.org](mailto:elizabeth.parks@slcschools.org)

**Phone:** 801-577-1477

**Office hours:** By Appointment (email to schedule)

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Welcome to Ms. Parks' Biology class! This introductory biology course is designed to help you develop an understanding of the basic concepts and applications of modern biology, where all content that is learned will prepare you for the AP science courses offered here at East. This class is aligned with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and ACT standards. This class will focus on developing your critical thinking and problem solving skills through the use of the scientific method. To learn more about the world around us, we will be doing many hands-on activities including labs, projects, and dissections to further our learning and development.

### CLASS GOALS

*As a class, we will achieve the following by the end of the year:*

- 80% or higher mastery on ALL objectives
- Become exemplary STEM students equipped for the next years of your education by:
  - Taking ownership of academic learning and growth
  - Working effectively as team members to accomplish goals
  - Persevering in the face of challenges

### MATERIALS

Materials must be in class with you by Monday, August 27 [B Day] and Tuesday, August 28 [A Day]

*In order to be successful in class, you must obtain and bring the following materials to class everyday:*

- 3-subject spiral notebook
- 2-inch binder
- 10-tab dividers for binder
- Agenda, pens and pencils

### CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

- Work hard with a sense of urgency
- Follow instructions the first time they are given
- Help one another and ask for help when you need it
- Respect one another, the teacher, and the classroom
- Ask questions!

### GRADE SCALE BREAKDOWN

Category	%	Description
Homework	20%	To be completed at home every night!
Work Place Skills (WPS)	20%	Participation, coming prepared
Content Assessments	20%	Content Tests and Quizzes
Final Exams	10%	Semester Finals
Work	30%	Projects, Classwork, Papers, Lab Reports, Socratic Seminars, Debates, Exit Tickets

No district employee or student shall be subjected to discrimination in employment or any district program or activity on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. The district is committed to providing equal access and equal opportunity in its programs, services and employment including its policies, complaint processes, program accessibility, district facility use, accommodations and other Equal Employment Opportunity matters. The district also provides equal access to district facilities for all youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code, including scouting groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries and complaints regarding unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation: Tina Hatch, Compliance and Investigations, 440 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, (801) 578-8388. You may also contact the Office for Civil Rights, Denver, CO, (303) 894-5695.



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## HOMEWORK

*You can earn 100%, 75%, 50%, or 0% for homework assignments:*

- 100% HW is entirely completed, as instructed, with clear effort put into the assignment, and is presented at the beginning of class
- 75% HW is almost, but not entirely, completed, as instructed, with effort put into the assignment, and is presented at the beginning of class
- 50% HW is not completed by class on the due date, but is completed that day, and shown to the teacher the following day
- 0% HW is not completed by class-time and is not shown to the teacher the following day

## WORKPLACE SKILLS/PARTICIPATION

*Points in this category are earned for the following behaviors:*

- Coming to class prepared for the day with the necessary materials and the right mindset
- Contributing in a positive manner to our classroom by consistently participating in class (asking and answering questions, putting forth best effort during group assignments in class, etc)
- Working as an effective team-member
- Exceeding expectations in class discussions by offering up your ideas

## QUIZZES/TESTS/PROJECTS

- Quizzes will typically be given weekly to measure content mastery.
- There will be a test at the end of each unit, a midterm exam, and a final exam at the end of the year.
- There will be approximately 2 projects per unit: individual and group projects, writing assignments, and/or lab reports

## OFFICE HOURS

*Office hours by appointment (send Ms. Parks an email to schedule an appointment at [elizabeth.parks@slcschools.org](mailto:elizabeth.parks@slcschools.org) or see her in person)*

## ABSENCES

*If you are absent, you MUST come see Ms. Parks the next day you are in school to get any missing work and schedule a time to make-up any missed tests or quizzes.*

- If you missed a regular quiz or test the day you were absent, and do not come to see Ms. Parks the next day you are in school to schedule a time to make-up the assessment, you will receive an automatic zero and will not be able to make up the quiz or test grade.
- You will have the number of days you were absent to complete the missing work (ex. If you were absent Tuesday, and came to get your missing work Wednesday, that work would be due Thursday)

## LATE/MISSING WORK

Any late work must be turned in to the silver, wire basket that is labeled on the corner of the table outside of Ms. Parks' office. Late work must be turned in with a **late work form** located beside the silver basket. If you are absent, missed work can be picked up from the black filing system on the table outside of Ms. Parks' office.

## CELL PHONE POLICY

You have probably already noticed the cell phone storage area on the closet door. There are going to be seriously good benefits to putting your cell phone in your appropriate slot to charge during my class. If you choose to keep your phone, it will need to be placed on silent (no blinking or vibrate) during my class. Cell phone usage in my class is not allowed, but we will use them for various activities throughout the school year. If the device becomes a regular problem, there may be other measures taken: taking the device and contacting parents.



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## LABS

In class, labs may encompass a variety of activities, including laboratory experiments, hands on activities, diagramming and drawing exercises, etc... students can expect to complete multiple labs per term throughout the year.

## SAFETY

Safety will be a critical concern this year because Biology is a lab science. Each student will be trained in proper safety procedures for the lab. Students that do not follow safety guidelines and place the safety of another person at risk will not be allowed to participate in class labs.

## CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

### Entering the Classroom:

1. Greet Ms. Parks at the door!
2. Pick up materials for the day from the table by the door.
3. Get out homework from the night before and place in on the corner of your desk.

Talking before the bell rings is allowed. When the bell rings, you must be in your assigned seat, silently working on the Brain Warm Up!

### Exiting the Classroom:

Ms. Parks will dismiss you; the bell DOES NOT dismiss you. When students are silent, workspace is clean, and ready to go, Ms. Parks will dismiss you from class. Students will push in their chairs and exit the classroom.

### Teacher-led Instruction:

When Ms. Parks is leading the class whole group, students will be silent and following along with the notes or instructions. When Ms. Parks or another student is speaking, students will be tracking with their eyes. Students will raise their hand to speak, participate, or ask a question. Students need permission to leave their seats.

### Group-work:

When working with a partner or in groups, students will be focused on the task at hand. There will be NO side conversations: our work deserves our full attention! Students will be talking at a Level 1 or 2 voice, depending on what is designated by Ms. Parks.

### Independent Work:

When working independently, students will be silent. Students will only be working on the assigned material, or if finished, will be working on other Biology related work or reading a book. If help is needed, they will raise their hand to ask a Peer or Ms. Parks.

### Discussion:

During class discussions, students will raise their hands to participate, and use phrases like *"I agree with you because..."*, *"I disagree with you because..."*, and *"I would like to add on..."* Students will also learn hand signals for responding to classmates.

### Dealing with Unpreparedness:

First, ask a classmate *at an appropriate time* to help (pencil, piece of paper, etc.). If no one can assist or it is not an appropriate time, raise your hand and ask Ms. Parks. If you need to borrow something from Ms. Parks, Workplace Skill/Participation Points will be deducted. Before leaving class, return any borrowed items to Ms. Parks. If any materials are not turned back in, you will receive no WPS points for the day.

### Scientist of The Day:

Each day, I will be observing and looking out for the most outstanding scientist in the room. I am a looking for strong habits of discussion, creative/innovative ideas, exceeding expectations, and bringing scientific knowledge to the classroom.



# Biology Student Disclosure

## Parent/Guardian Notice of Acknowledgment

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to East High! On behalf of our staff, we hope you find your child's time at our school rewarding and valuable. I will be your student's Biology teacher this year. I feel that when parents and teachers work as partners in a child's education, students have the best chance at succeeding. I hope you share this thought as well. Therefore, over this upcoming year, I look forward to forming a strong educational relationship with your child, as well as with you.

East High is a Salt Lake City school with high expectations. All students are held to the same standards and the same level of accountability as a way to prepare your student for optimal success later in life. Because of that, what is stated in the above syllabus will be followed under **all** circumstances. As I will be seeing your child every day, I ask that you please read the above syllabus with your child to become familiar with the expectations of your child and the classroom procedures of this class.

You can expect that your child will be challenged academically every day, and that he/she will work with the other members of class to grow and develop as scientists. You can expect that homework will be assigned every night. You can expect me to cultivate the skills of academic ownership, teamwork, and perseverance, and help your student become a better and more self-sufficient studier.

From me, you can expect open lines of communication. You should always feel free to contact us at any time regarding your child's progress or with any questions/concerns you might have.

Cheers to a wonderful year!  
Ms. Parks

### DISCLOSURE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

I have carefully read and understand the disclosure for Ms. Parks' \_\_\_\_\_ class.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

### (PLEASE FILL OUT CONTACT INFORMATION ON THE BACK)

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## Contact Information

Preferred Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Parent/Guardian Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Parent/Guardian Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Best time of day to contact you: \_\_\_\_\_

