

## **AP BIOLOGY GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS**

**MS. THAYER**

**2015-2016**

The purpose of the AP Biology Guidelines and Expectations is to provide information to students and to facilitate students' success in an academically challenging course. Please carefully read the list of guidelines and expectations below.

1. Participation in AP Biology requires students to:
  - a. Demonstrate increased student independence
  - b. Take on a high degree of responsibility
  - c. Meet higher standards than other high school classes
2. AP Biology is the equivalent of a college level biology course and therefore requires the same amount of work as a college level biology course (approximately 1 ½ - 2 hours of homework per class period).
3. In order to cover everything that may appear on the AP Biology National Exam, this course must proceed at a rapid pace. Therefore, students will be responsible for summer and break assignments that will be due upon return to class. Students will be responsible for all concepts and chapters in the textbook even if it is not directly covered in class. If a student is unclear about any topic that has been covered in previous classes, it is their responsibility to seek help outside of class in order to keep pace. After school weekly tutoring is available throughout the year.
4. Due to the nature of some labs, extra time may be required to complete them. Therefore, it may be necessary to continue some labs into the lunch hour, before school, or after school in order to finish in one class period.
5. Students are expected to attend AP Readiness training at UCLA. AP Readiness is offered once a month on Saturdays. Of the 8 scheduled sessions, students must attend at least 4 sessions.
6. The material covered in AP Biology is extremely challenging. While a student's grade in this course and the score they receive on the AP exam matters, the amount and quality of knowledge students take from this class to college is most important.
7. I understand that Ms. Thayer is available to help me whenever possible. All I have to do is advocate my needs.

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**I have read the above guidelines and expectations of AP Biology and confirm my commitment to this class.**

**Student name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student email** \_\_\_\_\_  
(printed)

**Student signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_