

HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY at MMS

601 Sunset Drive, Monroe NC 28112

Class: Biotechnology

Teacher: Ms. Jennifer Netherland

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Welcome!

Welcome to Biotechnology! I am looking forward to working with you and your student to have a very productive and exciting term.

What will you learn this year?

Our 8th grade Biotechnology course is a project based class that will challenge you to work together to problem solve and engineer solutions. Each unit will have a core question that you will answer over multiple classes. You will present your work as well as get feedback from your peers and experts. Biotechnology topics that we will cover include, exploring the earliest forms of biotechnology, engineering MRI safe tools, creating practice tools for robotic surgery, investigating GMO's, and modeling our own microbiome.

What are my expectations?

1. Behavior: My behavior expectations are the same as those of all of Monroe Middle School: **Be Respectful. Be Responsible. Be Prepared. Be Safe.**
2. Science Work:
 - a. **Classwork (45%):** includes almost all activities done in class including learning logs, labs, warm-ups, exit slips, and project work. Students will work mostly in groups of four or partners and will assess their own groups' participation.
 - b. **Homework (10%):** We will rarely assign homework in this biotechnology class, however we will set deadlines for in class projects. Students may have to take work home if class time is not used appropriately.
 - c. **Tests and quizzes (45%)** will be announced at least 2 class days in advance. Organized science notebooks and study guides are great tools to use to prepare for tests and project reflections.

What if I am absent from class?

In this class, it is extremely important to come to class every day! Almost all of our work will be done in groups,

and each student will have a job valuable to the end product! If you are absent, you may have an alternative assignment. All assignments are expected to be turned in by the due date or check point. If you need to take your notebook home to complete any work, it is your responsibility to bring it back to class.

How can I stay up to date with what we are learning?

Everything that we do in class will be posted on canvas including a calendar of when projects are due including checkpoints. If you need extra help, please email me or talk to me before or after school to arrange a day when you can stay after or before school for tutoring.

What do you do if you have any questions or concerns?

Please e-mail me, and I will get back to you as soon as I can! jennifer.netherland@ucps.k12.nc.us

What supplies do I need for class?

- PENCILS
- Composition Notebook
- Earbuds/headphones
- colored pencils (12 pack)
- glue stick

Please sign here that you have read and understand the expectations for Medical Investigators this year.

Student: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____