

## High School Biology Honors Course Overview

The Honors Biology Course is an academically challenging and fast-paced program aimed at introducing students to the fundamental principles of biology. This includes exploring basic biochemistry to understand the essential chemistry of life, providing students with a strong foundation in comprehending life processes. Throughout the course, students will delve into various topics such as cell structures and functions, genetics, evolution, ecology, and physiology.

In addition to covering scientific content, the course prioritizes the development of critical thinking skills. Students are encouraged to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information objectively and logically to make well-informed judgments and decisions.

Moreover, the course emphasizes the enhancement of reading literacy skills. Participants learn how to read and comprehend scientific information presented in textbooks, articles, and research papers. This includes the ability to grasp complex scientific concepts, analyze data and graphs, and assess the reliability of scientific sources. Strengthening reading skills also facilitates building science vocabulary, improving communication, and conducting research effectively.

Technological integration plays a crucial role in this course, enriching student engagement, collaboration, and personalized learning experiences. Utilizing digital tools such as a digital notebook accessible on laptops and iPads using Microsoft Office OneNote Classbook, the Canvas Learning Management System, virtual labs, and simulations, the classroom environment is dynamic and interactive. By leveraging these digital resources, the students are equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in a technologically driven world.

Academic requirements for enrollment include achieving a Level 4 or 5 on the Language Arts FAST assessment and being enrolled in an advanced mathematics course such as Algebra 1 and/or Geometry.