



**Mountain Range High School**  
 12500 Huron Street • Westminster, CO 80234  
 Office: (720) 972-6300 • Fax: (720) 972-6529  
<http://www.mountainrange.adams12.org>



<b>School Year</b>	2020-2021	
<b>Course Name</b>	General Biology	
<b>Course Description</b>	This course surveys ecology, cellular and biochemical processes, basic genetics, populations, and natural selection/evolution. Activities presented emphasize the development of science skills, experimental design, collection and analysis of data, reporting and communicating results and the use of technology.	
<b>Unit of Study</b>	<b>Content Standards/Grade Level Expectations</b>	<b>Approximate Time Spent or Percent of time Spent</b>
Unit 1: Ecology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems</li> <li>● Matter and Energy</li> <li>● Population changes over time</li> </ul>	30-35 days
Unit 2: Cell Processes: Energy and Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Homeostasis, Structure and Function</li> <li>● Photosynthesis and Cellular Respiration</li> <li>● Diffusion, Osmosis and Cell Transport</li> </ul>	30-35 days
Unit 3: Genetics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● DNA Structure and Function</li> <li>● Inheritance and Variation of Traits</li> <li>● Cellular Division</li> </ul>	35-40 days
Unit 4: Evolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Natural Selection and Adaptations</li> <li>● Scientific Evidence for Evolution</li> <li>● Environmental Factors Influencing Evolution</li> </ul>	35-40 days

Course Grade Scale	
<b>A</b>	89.5 - 100
<b>B</b>	79.5 – 89.4
<b>C</b>	69.5 – 79.4
<b>D</b>	59.5 – 69.4
<b>F</b>	0 – 59.4

Assessment/Practice Proficiency Levels	
<b>4</b>	Advanced Understanding of the Standard
<b>3</b>	Meets the Standard
<b>2</b>	Approaches the Standard
<b>1</b>	Does not Meet the Standard
<b>M</b>	Missing or not enough content knowledge has been demonstrate to reach a 1-4 score
<b>I</b>	Incomplete (75%)
<b>U</b>	Unsatisfactory or incomplete (50%)
<b>S</b>	Satisfactory work completed (100%)

Grade Reporting Criteria/Weights	
Disciplinary Core Ideas (Content)	<b>50%</b>
Science Practices	<b>20%</b>
Communication in the Discipline	<b>20%</b>
Practice	<b>10%</b>
Grades are based on achievement of Content Standards and Grade Level Expectations. *Weekly progress grades are posted at <a href="https://ic.adasm12.org/campus/portal/adams12.isp">https://ic.adasm12.org/campus/portal/adams12.isp</a>	



### General Expectations

- Grades are based upon the demonstration of proficiency on units associated within specific grade reporting criteria (GRC). A Unit Test (DCI category) earning less than a 40% will earn a M until the student has demonstrated understanding of the content.
- **Assessment: 90%** Assessments are a means to determine a student's mastery and understanding of information, skills, concepts, or processes. This includes disciplinary core ideas (tests), science practices (labs), and Communication projects.
- **Practice: 10%** Practice includes opportunities for students to receive clear, specific, and timely feedback as they are developing knowledge and skills, prior to Assessments.
- Assessments will be graded based on teacher/district/state rubrics.

### Class Expectations

#### **Missing or incomplete assignments/assessments for this course:**

Superintendent Policies 6280 Homework and 6281 Make-Up Work will be followed for this course. They state that it is the student's responsibility to request and obtain missing work. When a student has an excused absence, the student has the same number of days they were absent plus one day to make up assignments. *Example: A student is **excused** absent, Monday and Tuesday. The student would have Wednesday, Thursday and Friday to make up the work, which would then be due at the beginning of the period on Monday.*

Unexcused absences for assessments, labs, and projects will result in a missing score until an alternate assessment is completed and students will lose the ability to complete a retake.

In order to preserve test security, students may be required to take a missed test immediately upon return from an authorized absence if that student has had the opportunity to access all learning prior to the absence. Students missing a group or individual presentation will be required to give that presentation upon return. *Example: A test is given on Thursday and a student is absent on that day (authorized, excused), but was present the days prior. This student may be required to take the test on Friday.*

In Biology for Disciplinary Core Ideas (ex. Unit Tests), a retake opportunity will be available after each unit exam. Once exams have been handed back, students have two weeks to complete a retake.

In Biology, for Scientific Engineering Practices and Communication (Labs), a minimum of 2 opportunities each semester will be given. As scores are recorded the category grade will be trended.

#### **Plagiarism/Cheating:**

Plagiarism means to present, as one's own, the work, writing, words, ideas or computer information of someone else. These sources could be either published or unpublished. Cheating is supplying, receiving or using inappropriate devices to improve performance on a test or assessment. Students who engage in plagiarism or cheating will receive a missing score and will be disciplined according to the school discipline matrix.

#### **Weekly Progress:**

Current grades are accessible through Infinite Campus. A link to Infinite Campus can be found on the Mountain Range website: <http://www.mountainrange.adams12.org/>



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**Time Frame for Assignments:**

In order to receive the best score possible and prompt feedback all work is expected to be turned in on time. Late work for assessments, labs and projects may result in a lowered score, and/or the inability to turn in the late work to help protect from plagiarism.

Due to the nature of scientific labs and their complexity, supplies, and time frame, alternative assignments may replace the original lab assignment if a lab is missed.

**Assessment Cell Phone Policy:**

Cell phones are not permitted during tests or assessments. Students may not wear headphones or have cell phones out during tests. Violation of this policy will result in the test receiving a 0%.