

## **Welcome to AP Biology!!**

AP Biology is college level Biology. It is a rigorous, fast-paced course. Students taking AP Biology are expected to read and work independently as well as together on assignments, laboratory investigations, etc. Students are expected to take the AP Biology exam in May (and if cost is a problem, please let me know – we have scholarships available).

The textbook we use for AP Biology is Biology (by Campbell and Reece – 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> edition) or Campbell Biology (Reece, Urry, and Cain - 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> edition). As long as you have the 7<sup>th</sup> edition or more recent, you are fine for AP Biology. The most recent edition is the 10<sup>th</sup> edition and is the textbook you are most likely to use if you take Biology in college.

You have a few options for your textbook:

- You can check one out from school. We have 8<sup>th</sup> editions. This would need to be returned at the end of the year and cannot be marked/written in.
- You can buy a new or used copy of the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, or 10<sup>th</sup> editions on Amazon.com. If you purchase your own textbook, you can mark up your book, margin note, close-read, etc. This is recommended.

Because we are covering a year of college Biology by the May 2015 AP Exam, you will have summer break, winter break (and possibly spring break) assignments. We also have 13 required labs, many that will spill over 2<sup>nd</sup> period and into brunch. You will get calendars in advance so that you can prepare for labs and exams and such ahead of time.

### **Summer Homework**

1. You need to obtain a textbook (either checking one out from school or buying one from Amazon.com or buying one from the used textbooks stores in Berkeley (at Cal or near Cal).
2. The summer unit is Ecology (unit 8 – all chapters). You are expected to read through the material in the textbook for this unit. You will be tested on this unit during the first week of school in August. I will have review questions to help you learn and study the material that you can pick up during brunch or right after final exams on Wednesday (6/11), Thursday (6/12), or Friday (6/13).

First Day of School - Bring your textbooks and any questions you have about the summer assignments. That's our day to review Ecology. I'll have a calendar for you that will include lab and test days.

I'm looking forward to a great year! I will not be available most of the summer so if you email me please don't expect a rapid reply.

Ms. Tewksbury

