



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CHARTING THE COURSE

Department of Teaching & Learning *Parent/Student Course Information*

Biology (SC 4310) ***Online (SCO 310)*** ***One credit, one year*** ***Grades 9-12***

Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Biology is the study of life – the basic characteristics and functions of living organisms and their place in our environment. Laboratory and field investigations are the primary means for developing problem-solving skills and for developing knowledge and understanding of biological concepts. Topics include the history of biology; the cell and cell processes; genetics and heredity; cycles in nature; photosynthesis and respiration; ecology; plants, animals and microorganisms; continuity of life; and the interaction of science, technology and society. Students will take the Standards of Learning (SOL) test for Biology or a substitute test approved by the State Board of Education. Specific dates for the spring SOL test or the summer SOL test will be announced by the school system.

COURSE GOALS

- Develop a foundation of interrelated biological concepts for understanding the characteristics and functions of living things
- Develop investigative skills in order to solve real problems
- Apply the processes of rational thought to make responsible decisions about issues relating from the interactions of science, technology and society
- Explore the application of biological principles in modern life, in careers and in other areas of interest

PREREQUISITE

None

OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE

Chemistry (Algebra II prerequisite or co-requisite)
Earth Science
Oceanography (Earth Science prerequisite)
Astronomy (Earth Science prerequisite)
Physics (Geometry prerequisite)

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

VBCPS Biology FlexBook

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of all core objectives through laboratory investigations, issue investigations, projects, and oral and/or written tests, quizzes and reports
- Participate in the core laboratory experiences
- Prepare written reports for core laboratory activities and adhere to all safety procedures
- Investigate an issue of local, regional, national or global concern; suggest possible solutions; design a plan of action for solving the problem; and report the results
- Design and conduct at least one experiment; interpret and report the results
- Investigate and report on career opportunities and areas of interest in biology
- Read and share current literature on relevant topics

Virginia Standards of Learning

Please follow the link below to view the standards for Biology on the Virginia Department of Education website.
[Biology](#)

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Produced by the Department of Teaching and Learning.
For further information, please call (757) 263-1070.

Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy

Virginia Beach City Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation/gender identity, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, disability, marital status, age, genetic information or veteran status in its programs, activities, employment, or enrollment, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. School Board policies and regulations (including, but not limited to, Policies 2-33, 4-4, 5-7, 5-19, 5-20, 5-44, 6-33, 6-7, 7-48, 7-49, 7-57 and Regulations 4-4.1, 4-4.2, 5-44.1, 7-11.1, 7-17.1 and 7-57.1) provide equal access to courses, programs, enrollment, counseling services, physical education and athletic, vocational education, instructional materials, extracurricular activities and employment.

Title IX Notice: Complaints or concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of sex or sexual harassment should be addressed to the Title IX Coordinator, at the VBCPS Office of Student Leadership, 641 Carriage Hill Road, Suite 200, Virginia Beach, 23452, (757) 263-2020, Mary.Dees@vbschools.com (student complaints) or the VBCPS Department of School Leadership, 2512 George Mason Drive, Municipal Center, Building 6, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 (757) 263-1088, Elizabeth.Bryant@vbschools.com (employee complaints). Additional information regarding Virginia Beach City Public Schools' policies regarding discrimination on the basis of sex and sexual harassment, as well as the procedures for filing a formal complaint and related grievance processes, can be found in School Board Policy 5-44 and School Board Regulations 5-44.1 (students), School Board Policy 4-4 and School Board Regulation 4-4.3 (employees), and on the School Division's website at Diversity, Equity and Inclusion/Title IX. Concerns about the application of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act should be addressed to the Section 504 Coordinator/Executive Director of Student Support Services at (757) 263-1980, 2512 George Mason Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 or the Section 504 Coordinator at the student's school. For students who are eligible or suspected of being eligible for special education or related services under IDEA, please contact the Office of Programs for Exceptional Children at (757) 263-2400, Plaza Annex/Family and Community Engagement Center, 641 Carriage Hill Road, Suite 200, Virginia Beach, VA 23452.

The School Division is committed to providing educational environments that are free of discrimination, harassment, and bullying.

Students, staff, parents/guardians who have concerns about discrimination, harassment, or bullying should contact the school administration at their school. Promptly reporting concerns will allow the school to take appropriate actions to investigate and resolve issues. School Board Policy 5-7 addresses non-discrimination and anti-harassment, Policy 5-44 addresses sexual harassment and discrimination based on sex or gender. Policy 5-36 and its supporting regulations address other forms of harassment.

Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write the Department of Teaching and Learning, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038. Telephone 263-1070 (voice); fax 263-1424; 263-1240 (TDD) or email him at Keith.Goodman@vbschools.com.

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