



# Welcome to 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Biology 2021-2022 School Year

## **ISI VISION :**

*To be the Islamic school of choice in North Texas weaving academic excellence with the highest morals and ethics.*

## **MISSION :**

*To provide our children an environment that will enable them to achieve their highest potential, founded on Islamic morals, scholastic excellence, and good citizenship.*

### **Dear Students and Families,**

*As-Salamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatu Allah-i Wa Barakatuh,*

**Welcome to Biology Class! I'm excited about the opportunity to get to know you, and I'm looking forward to a joyful and productive school year.**

*As your child is getting ready to continue his/her journey of acquiring knowledge Insha'Allah, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and express my excitement about working with your child/ren this year. For those who don't know me by now or are new parents, my name is Khalil Jourane, and I'm a parent before being a teacher. I have six kids, Alhamdulillah, that attended (graduated), or are still attending ISI.*

*This is my Seventh year at the Islamic School of Irving and my Fourteenth year of teaching overall. I carry two separate bachelor's degrees in both Biology and Chemical Engineering with minors in Chemistry and Biochemistry. I'm also working, though at a very slow pace, on an M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction program.*

*In my "free" time, I love spending good time with my family, reading Qur'an, driving, working in my backyard, surfing the net for current events in science, and always looking for new opportunities to attend as many professional developments as I can.*

*It is, indeed, very challenging to raise good Muslim kids in this land, and I believe that together, teacher and parents, we can raise committed and balanced Muslims, knowledgeable scholars, and community citizen builders. I, therefore, need your support all the time.*

*Welcome to ISI Biology! I'm excited about the opportunity to get to know you, and I'm looking forward to a happy and productive school year.*

*Biology is a one credit course that focuses on learning terms and facts of biology. Teaches students to begin to appreciate the beauty of the processes and the orderliness of the living condition. Emphasizes basic understanding of ecology, cell studies, genetics and heredity, evolution, and microbiology. Assists students in achieving their education goals and helps them experience the living world around them. Requires access to a computer with speakers.*

*To help me know your child better, I have attached several important documents for your review and written acknowledgment. Even though I will be teaching in-class, Google classroom will play a critical role this year-as in previous years in organizing my lectures and assignments-so here is the **Student's** Google classroom code :*

**6gyzhfr**

*Action Items:*

1. *Read the syllabus.*
2. *Sign all agreements.*
3. *Meet today from 5:00 PM -7:00 PM, inshaAllah.*

*Again, I look forward to helping you understand Biology Concepts, appreciate the Creator, and have fun! Hope to see you on orientation night inshaAllah!*

## **Curriculum areas we will focus on this year include the following Units:**

*Unit 0: Introduction to Biology (1day)*

*Unit 1: Ecology (15 days)*

*Unit 2: Biomolecules (6 days)*

*Unit 3: Cell Structure, Function, and Transport. ( 11 days)*

*Unit 4: Cell Processes: Photosynthesis, Cellular Respiration, & Cell Cycle. (16 days )*

*Unit 5: Genetics & Epigenetics: DNA Replication, Protein Synthesis, and Meiosis. (15 days)*

*Unit 6: Heredity (10 days)*

*Unit 7: Biotechnology (9 days)*

*Unit 8: Viruses and Microorganisms ( 5 days)*

*Unit 9: Natural Selection and Evolution (15 days)*

*Unit 10: Classification ( 10 days)*

*Unit 11: Plant Systems and Interactions ( 10 days)*

*Unit 12: Animal Systems and Interactions ( 12 days)*

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**Students are asked to bring , to school, the following supplies before 08/23/2021:**

- Kleenex
- Wipes (personal size)
- Hand Sanitizer (personal size)
- A Pack Of Expo Markers (All black or Variety Pack)
- Pencils and Heavy Duty Eraser
- 5 Subject Spiral Notebook or a 3 Ring Binder, 2" One Touch
- Colored Pencils
- Pens (Red and Black or Blue)
- Organizational binder (Recommended: Accordion Binder)
- 100-sheet composition notebook [Lab]
- 4 oz bottle Glue (**not** glue sticks)
- A Pair of Scissors.
- Index cards
- A basic 10 Key Calculator or higher.
- Multipurpose printing papers [Ream of 500 sheets]
- Laptop /Ipad [highly recommended]

**My grading weight policy is:**

- Homework: 15%
- Classwork/Participation: 25%
- Projects: 20%
- Tests: 30%
- Quizzes: 10%

**My homework policy and class procedures can be summarized as follow:**

**DISCLAIMER:**

*Before discussing the class procedures, I want all the students to understand that I DO NOT accept hard copies of their assignments. All the returns and submissions are digital and should be submitted through Google Classroom. NO*

**EXCEPTIONS**

**Daily Agendas and Warm-ups:** *A daily agenda as well as a warm-up assignment will be posted on the GCR, as well as a hard copy, when you arrive to class. The student is expected to start immediately working on the Warm-up activity as it could be graded and counted as a participation.*

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**Textbook:** There is no online textbook for Biology now as I have chosen to use my own packets that are TEKS aligned and customized to my teaching assignment. However, there are hard copies of the Glencoe Biology Textbook that the students could use for extra reading and exploring. Many other excellent biology pdf textbooks are available for the students on GCR.

**Labs:** When you are involved in a lab, you **MUST** act accordingly. Participating in a lab is a privilege, one that can be taken away if the proper procedures are not followed. Specific lab rules and guidelines will be handed out separately, and they will be enforced when the lab is in session. If you do not follow the rules of the lab then you will not be allowed to participate and will receive a zero for that lab. To participate in the lab, you must make at least an 80% on the safety quiz and turn in a signed safety contract. More details will be given once the lab is assigned, Insha 'Allah.

**Lab Reports:** Lab reports are to be professional quality, and in the format provided by the instructor. They are due at the beginning of class usually within one week after the lab is completed. Not all labs will have a report. Labs missed due to excused absences (as stated above) need to be made up in/on an agreed upon time with the teacher. You cannot borrow data! It is the student's responsibility to make sure these labs are made up and will be at the teacher's convenience. If a student is absent, they have 3 school days (after their return) to make up the lab and turn in the assignments for it.

**Absences:** You are expected to attend class every day. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to promptly gather and figure out the assignments that you missed (all of them will be in Google Classroom, IA). I will not remind you of missed assignments, Google calendar will! You must take the initiative to find out what you have missed. If you miss a Test/Exam, YOU must schedule a retest, but keep in mind that the format and the content of the retest is at the teacher's discretion. It is your responsibility to reschedule your missed test in a timely manner (no more than 3 school days after return to school). Any assignments not submitted or submitted after 2 WEEKS of its due date will result in a zero grade (See Grading Policy below).

Please do not disturb the teacher during class to discuss your missed assignments. Do it before class, after class, or after-school.

Projects must be turned in on the day they are due. If a student is absent, a different project will be assigned.

**Late Work/Missing Assignments:** All assignments are due **ON TIME**. Islamic School of Irving late work policy gives students 2 WEEKS (including Saturday and Sunday) to submit late work after the due date of the assignment. However, submitting a late assignment is penalized. The deductions are calculated based on the following pattern:

- 10% deduction if submitted before the next meeting class after the due date.
- 15% deduction if submitted before the 2nd meeting class after the due date
- 20% deduction if submitted before the 3rd class meeting after the due date
- 25% deduction if submitted before the 4th class meeting after the due date
- 30% deduction if submitted before the 5th class meeting after the due date
- A zero grade will be assigned if received after the 5th class meeting.

Again, as a reminder, all work should be submitted to Google Classroom. **I do not accept hard copies, period!**

**Tutorials:** I am available to help you better understand information in a small group or individually. Tutoring is available after school on Tuesday and upon request. Forming a study group with other students, getting tutored by an upperclassman, and/or using the internet are also great ways to better understand and learn biology content

**Retakes:** The policy for my class is outlined below. Please review it carefully.

- Retakes are for in-class assessments and assignments, such as quizzes and classwork only
- Tests are not eligible for retakes due to the incorporated extra credit
- Maximum of 2 retakes per grading cycle for a failing grade (69 or below)
- Maximum retake score is 70, (score of 70 to 100 = 70).
- The highest grade between the original and the retake is counted (however the grade will not exceed a 70).
- The student, not the parent, must request the retake.
- Students must request the retake within 24 hours of the grade posting and complete the retake within one week of grade posted. I will announce in class when grades have been posted.
- If you have a retake, then it is your responsibility to reschedule with me in advance.
- No shows count as a taken retake and cannot be redone.
- Missing assignments fall under my late policy, not the retake policy.

**Academic Integrity:** Cheating, copying, and plagiarizing will not be tolerated in this course. Any student displaying academic dishonesty will face the full consequences of their actions. In like manner, the student will receive a zero on the assignment, parents and admin will be notified of the incident. There will not be an opportunity to make up the assignment.

**Projects:** Projects will be assigned approximately each six weeks (2-3 projects per semester). These may include presentation of the project to the class as part of the grade. A project grade is equivalent to a test grade. Most, if not all, project work will be done outside of the class period. The written or turned in part of a project may be due before the scheduled presentation (if applicable). All Projects should have a soft copy and pics of the project demo (if applicable) and should be submitted to Google Classroom before the due date. Projects will not be accepted late. You will have plenty of time to complete it.

**Homework:** You will have homework or items to review EVERY CLASS! It is not acceptable to come to class unprepared because this will put you behind. To be successful homework must be completed.

#### **Student Expectations:**

- Students should study for the course a little every night. Students should not feel the need to study an excessive amount the night before a test.
- Students are expected to come to class prepared (with all materials, already used the restroom even during Zoom meetings, etc.) and ON TIME. If the attendance is taken, always the first five minutes after the second bell, then you are tardy. Three tardies are replaced with one unexcused absence.

#### **Class Expectations:**

1. Students are to come to class prepared with all materials needed.
2. Be productive and participate in class. Participation during lectures, labs, and projects (as well as your attitude) at all times in the classroom play a large role in your grade.
3. Follow the teacher's directions the FIRST time they are given. This is extremely important at all times to ensure the most effective and efficient learning possible, and is especially important during laboratory exercises to ensure safety for all persons.
4. Students are to take care of their personal needs (bathroom, etc.) prior to class. Leaving class causes you to miss information. Go before or after class!

5. *Students are to respect all persons in the class (physical or virtual). Inappropriate comments, bullying, or other things that are uncomfortable for any student(s) are not allowed. If infractions occur your participation grade will decrease, a write up in renweb with the possibility of referral to the admin and the guidance counselor.*
6. *When one person is speaking no one else needs to. Talking while other people are talking is rude and will not be tolerated. Your actions will be brought to your attention. If this occurs your participation grade will decrease.*
7. *Electronics of any sort must be off and stored away during class time. if the phone rings, vibrates, or causes any other distraction, it will be collected and turned in to the admin ( see handbook policies).*
8. *Students that are tardy and miss the warm-up assignment will receive a zero for that assignment. It is your responsibility to get to class on time.*
9. *Students are considered late if they are not in their seats working on the "do now" when the door closes for class.*
10. *There is no need to wander around or chat with others. Come in, get set up, and get to work. The same principle applies for the online class during COVID.*
11. *Students that are absent are to check the Google classroom for items they have missed and what is due next class. Being absent does not mean you are exempt from the work of that day.*
12. *Assignments are to be turned in ON TIME. You have ample time to complete needed assignments and have no excuse for the assignments not to get finished. Late work will receive a deduction each day and must be turned in within 2 weeks. After 2 weeks, the grade will be a zero.*
13. *Homework is imperative for class and MUST be done on-time whenever it is assigned. You will not do well if you are not reviewing your notes, powerpoint presentations, watching the assigned videos, and outlining. Quizzes will be frequent over homework to ensure students are completing it.*
14. *Cheating in any form is unacceptable. Copying homework, photocopying someone's paper, having your phone out during quizzes or exams , etc. are all forms of cheating. If the teacher feels that a student(s) is/are cheating or has cheated, the involved person(s) will receive a zero for the assignment, and a call home. If it occurs more than once a zero will be given again, parents contacted, and a referral to the admin and guidance counselor.*
15. *Students are expected to try their best and put forth the best effort they can. Slacking off or not doing your work will cause your grade to suffer.*

**Academic Dishonesty:** *Academic dishonesty takes many forms and can sometimes be confusing for students and parents.*

*Some forms of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Plagiarism, falsification of data, providing false information to an instructor including excuses for late work or falsely claiming to have submitted work, any form of cheating in which a student has an unfair advantage on an assessment by using notes or other materials not allowed by the instructor; providing unauthorized assistance or information to others on homework, projects, tests, quizzes, etc., intentionally preventing other students from completing their work, impersonating another student to give them unauthorized assistance... This is not a comprehensive list and therefore it is the teacher and the administrator who will ultimately decide whether a student has committed an offense.*

*There are many reasons why a student chooses to engage in academic dishonesty. When students have an unfair advantage over other students, this presents a situation in which students who are doing everything right are punished for not cheating when they receive lower scores than those who did cheat. The instructor will constantly try to prevent*

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academic dishonesty so that all students have the opportunity to show what they really know and what assistance is needed.

Academic dishonesty will be reported to the administration and action will be taken according to the school's policy.

### **Special classroom events planned for the year include**

- *In-School Science Fair*
- *Dallas Regional Science and Engineering Fair (DRSEF)*
- *In-School Olympiad Competition*

Once the dates of the above events are decided by the school, please mark them on your calendar. Studies show that parental involvement in a child's education is one of the strongest indicators of student success. We hope you will make it a priority this year, inshaAllah, to attend as many school-sponsored events as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns or if you would like to visit our classroom, schedule a conference, or volunteer to help out, you can contact me at [[khalil.jourane@islamicschoolofirving.org](mailto:khalil.jourane@islamicschoolofirving.org)] or call the school at (972) 812-2230. The best time to reach me is during my prep times or after school. I will share my planning periods with your child soon inshaAllah.

Please return the enclosed supply list by 08/20/2021

Once again, welcome to High School Biology! Let's work together to make this the best year ever, Insha'Allah!

May Allah SWT bless our time together,

Br.Khalil Jourane

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**LAB SAFETY GUIDELINES:** *There is no place in my class for unsafe use of materials. To guide you in being safe, I am giving you this lab safety contract. It contains guidelines for safe behavior in my class. You must read this contract carefully, have your parents read it and you both must sign it and return it to me through Google Classroom (even if you are 18 your parents need to sign!). Only after I have your signed agreement and have passed the safety exam will you be able to participate in any lab activities in this class.*

### **General guidelines**

1. *Conduct yourself responsibly at all times, including following all written and verbal instructions carefully.*
2. *Do not touch any equipment or materials before instructed to do so.*
3. **NO FOOD IN THE LAB!!!**
4. *Never start the lab unless you have received prior approval from me.*
5. *Always read the lab information provided to you before performing the lab.*
6. *Keep your work area neat and clean, and stay at your lab desk.*
7. *Never leave liquid-filled containers uncovered.*
8. *Know the location and operation of all safety equipment.*
9. *Do not run, shout, or throw things in the lab.*
10. *Notify me if an unsafe condition exists in the classroom.*
11. *Dispose of all chemicals properly. I will instruct you about how to dispose of specific chemicals.*
12. *Keep your hands away from your face while doing labs. Also, always wash your hands after the clean-up is complete.*
13. *Rinse out all glassware and leave it to dry in the designated locations.*
14. *Know what to do if there is a fire drill.*
15. *Treat preserved biological specimens respectfully*
16. *Carry sharps appropriately; tips down and away.*

### **Accidents**

1. *Immediately report **ALL** injuries, no matter how minor, to me. This includes not during lab.*
2. *Use the eyewash if you are splashed with a chemical. Always assume that the chemicals are hazardous.*

### **Clothing**

1. *Goggles and aprons must be worn. If you wear glasses you still have to wear goggles.*
2. *Only close-toed shoes may be worn on lab days.*
3. *Tie long hair behind your head.*
4. *No loose clothing or jewelry.*

### **Handling Chemicals**

1. *Consider all lab chemicals to be hazardous.*
2. *Double check the label before using a chemical*
3. *Take only the amount of chemical you will use.*



4. *Never return unused chemicals to their original container.*
5. *Never let a chemical near your mouth.*
6. *Never remove chemicals or other materials from the lab.*
7. *Always hold chemical bottles with two hands when transporting them.*
8. *Never smell chemicals or substances right from the container or jar. Waft to obtain smell.*

### **Handling Glassware**

1. *Never handle broken glass. If a piece of glassware breaks, notify me immediately and I will dispose of it.*
2. *Never use chipped glassware.*

### **Heating Substances**

1. *Use caution when heating something with a hot plate. Do not put empty glassware on the hot plate and always use insulated gloves when unsure of glass temperature.*
2. *Never leave a hot plate unattended.*
3. *Never look into a container that is being heated.*

***This form is due the next coming Friday (08/20/2021) inshaAllah! Failure to do so will result in NO Lab.***

***Therefore, It is MANDATORY to return this form!***

### **LAB Agreement**

Name:

Period:

Date:

#### **Student**

*I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the guidelines listed in the Lab Safety Agreement. I promise to follow these guidelines. I understand that failure to follow these or other verbal guidelines may result in removal from the lab, detention, failure and/or dismissal from the course.*

Signature

Date

#### **Parent or Guardian**

*I \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the guidelines listed in the Lab Safety Agreement. I understand that my child is expected to follow these guidelines. I also understand the consequences of my child's failure to abide by these guidelines.*

Signature

Date

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**SYLLABUS Acknowledgment**

Students submitting this form on time will earn a grade for the participation. For the class, circle what applies to you.

**SCHOOL:** Islamic School Of Irving

**CLASS:** Biology

**INSTRUCTOR:** Br.Khalil Jourane

**YEAR:** 2021-2022

My child and I have read and reviewed this syllabus together and we understand the requirements of this course.

**Father's Name**

**E-mail address**

**Home or Cell Phone**

**Mother's Name**

**E-mail address**

**Home or Cell Phone**

**Student Name:**

Do you prefer to communicate through telephone or email?

Telephone

E-mail

Is there anything special I can do to ensure the success of your student? (e.g. a seat close to the board, computer assistance, etc.)

Any additional information I need to know?