Course Description: Biology is the science that studies all living things. See more details in the Goals and Course Outline sections. This class is required for high school graduation and university entrance.

Goals/Objectives/Academic Outcomes: In this class students will...
- focus on the chemistry, function and needs of cells, as well as heredity and DNA Technology.
- discuss and explore, at a basic level the methods, possibilities, and limitations of science.
- gain a basic understanding of biology-related issues faced by society and the living world.
- develop or strengthen their scientific curiosities and/or interests through observation, inquiry, laboratory investigations, teamwork, and communication.

Course Outline: based on the Science Content Standards for California/Biology and the district’s Instructional Guide for Biology, the following topics will be covered this semester: Unit [Standards]: Topics

| A. Macromolecules [1b, 1h, 4e, 4f]: atomic structure and characteristics, acids, bases, pH scale, & macromolecules of life (carbohydrates, lipids, proteins/enzymes, & nucleic acids) | D. Central Dogma [1d, 41, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 7c]: DNA, RNA, protein, genetic code, central dogma (DNA replication, transcription, & translation) |
| B. Cellular Structures [1a, 1c, 1e, 1j]: structure and function of prokaryotic cell and eukaryotic cells (plant & animal), transport (diffusion & osmosis) | E. DNA Technology [4d, 5c, 5d, & 5e]: methods, transgenic organisms, uses & dangers |
| C. Cellular Energetics [1f, 1g, 1i]: chloroplasts & photosynthesis, mitochondria & cellular respiration | F. Gamete Formation & Fertilization [2b, 2d, 2c, & 2f]: Meiosis & gametogenesis |
| G. Mendel’s Laws [2a, 2c, 3b, 3d, 2g, 3a, 3c]: Mendel’s Laws of heredity, heredity patterns, & genetic diseases |

Grading Scale: 100% - 90% = A 89% - 80% = B 79% - 70% = C 69% - 60% = D Bellow 60 = F

Grading Policy/Standards: 

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Grades are based on the following categories and percentages:</th>
<th>Class Materials you must bring everyday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final/Tests/Quizes [40%] [includes 10% of comprehensive final]</td>
<td>- 1-inch three ring binder with 5 dividers (organized as indicated!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classwork &amp; Homework [30%]</td>
<td>- Textbook - BIOLOGY The Study of Life</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labwork/groupwork [20%]</td>
<td>- Color pencils, hand-held sharpener, lined paper, pens &amp; pencils</td>
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<tr>
<td>Binder, Academic reflective journal, special projects [10%]</td>
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Assessments/Benchmarks: lab reports, 3-D models of cell & DNA, culture sharing, fieldtrip, projects (dioramas, posters, brochures, power points, videos, etc.), & project presentations.

Academic and Behavioral Expectations/Norms – 6 P’s

1. Prompt – Be in your assigned seat before the bell rings. Meet deadlines.
2. Prepared – Bring necessary materials and a well-rested, fed, and alert brain.
3. Polite – Respect school property and those around you. Discipline yourself so others don’t have to!
4. Productive – Follow instructions! Use your time and energy wisely. Participate arduously in all class activities. Finish all work. Everything has its time and place!
5. Positive – International School of Languages (our SLC/Academy) expects you to: set high academic and personal goals, be a problem solver, help others, and ask for help when necessary. Participate actively to develop your own scientific attitudes and interests to better our world.
6. Presentable – Follow all Belmont policies, including dress code, electronics, and behavior. Please realize that the way you act, talk, and work represents your family values and priorities. The person you are also shows the type of friends you have and the people with whom you associate.
Absences: CANNOT BE AFFORDED. Numerous ongoing projects/lab activities are planned in this class and absences will jeopardize your success. Students MUST find out about the assigned work when absent, tardy, or leaving class early. ASK a classmate or the teacher about the work before or after class. Do not interrupt class time.

Tardies: School tardy policy is strictly reinforced. All students must be in their assigned seats working when the bell rings. If you come late to class without an excuse, expect low marks in work habits and cooperation and even in class grade.

Late Assignments are NOT accepted (without a reasonable excuse): For each day late 5% will be deducted from the total points for the assignment. Assignments will no longer be accepted after the teacher returns graded assignments (1-2 days). If a student does not complete an assignment and he/she is earning bellow a 70% in class, he/she will be expected to stay with the teacher (as soon as possible) after school to complete it. Please make up missed work immediately!

Multiple Opportunities: this class accommodates a variety of learners by using a variety of teaching strategies, student grouping, and assessments. However, all students must take responsibility in their own learning by taking initiative to ask for help. **If the student is having difficulties earning a satisfactory grade, he/she will be encouraged and sometimes required to attend tutoring at least two hours a week. The parents of that student are encouraged to contact the teacher.

- Tutoring provided by Ms. Fuentes:
  - In class during lunch and nutrition almost everyday. Ask me for a semester hall pass. Bring your food! You need to feed your brain!
  - After school (3:30pm – 5:00pm): 2 days a week. Days and place to be determined.
- Tutoring provided by the school in the library: M-F 6:30am – 7:30am & 3:30pm – 5:00pm. Closed after school on common planning Tuesdays.
- Extra credit is available if requested and if all required work has been completed with quality.

*Challenge yourself everyday. YOU are my Biology★

Dear parents/legal guardians
I welcome your child to my classroom. To know what is going on in our Biology classroom everyday, I encourage you to check your child’s Biology binder, which includes a calendar with all the daily activities and assignments. Together with your child become familiar with this document, sign it, and send it with your child. Any time you have concerns or questions send me a note with your child or call the school to leave me a message. I will be delighted to communicate with you about your child’s education.

I have read the course syllabus and agree to pledge all my support and cooperation in urging my son/daughter to comply with the above requirements, rules, and policies.

Parent Name _______________________________ Signature ___________________ Date ______

Best number to call ___________________ 2nd Best number to call ___________________ Best time to call ______

***Students, please take this document to your parents. Both of you need to sign it. Show it to me for credit. I will give it back to you to keep it in your Biology binder at all times. Date ______ Period _____

Student’s name _______________________________ Signature ___________________