

Mr. Sapora
THS Science Department
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THS Biology Proficiency Grading

- Each Unit that we cover is based on specific Oregon State Science Standards and aligned with Common Core Standards for Literacy in Science and Technical Subjects.
- Each standard covered in a Unit is further broken down into specific **Learning Targets** / Proficiencies. Each Learning Target addresses a specific piece of content that a student needs to know or do.
- **Students must demonstrate a Meets / Proficient score (equivalent to a C) for each individual Learning Target in order to pass the Unit.**
- Homework, labs, and class activities are designed to provide students with practice and help students meet proficiency on these standards.

Learning Target scoring rubrics

These will be given to each student at the beginning of every unit, posted on Mr. Sapora's website, and clearly displayed in the classroom each day. Units are broken down into specific, numbered learning targets that clearly state what the student must know in order to meet proficiency.

Daily Assignments / Guided Practice

Students will be given daily assignments in class: note-taking, writing prompts, worksheets, group activities, and exit slips. These will be entered into the grade book at the end of the week, will be counted as **complete / incomplete**. Students must have all daily assignments completed in the grade-book in order to retake a test. Each student has a folder at the back of class where they can keep their assignments if they do not wish to keep them organized in their binder.

Formative Assessments

Formative Assessments are short quizzes based directly off of the Learning Targets and are used to help provide clear information to the student, teacher, and parent/guardian as to how student learning is progressing. These will be given on a regular weekly basis (both announced and unannounced) and are only a small percentage of the overall grade for the class. Students will be allowed to make up any missed Formative Assessments **ONLY** if their absence is excused and **ONLY** during appropriate office hours.

Daily Assignments and Formative Assessments count for 20% of the total grade for the Unit.

Summative Assessments

At the end of each Unit a Summative Assessment will be given over each of the Learning Targets covered in the Unit. Students **MUST** attain a Meets (C) grade for each individual Learning Target in order to pass the Unit.

- Students can retake the Summative Assessment to attain a Meets grade as many times as needed **BEFORE** the end of the trimester.
- Students can retake the Summative Assessment to up their grade from a Meets to either Advanced or Mastery only **ONE** time.
- **ALL** Daily / Guided Practice Assignments **MUST** be complete before a student is allowed to retake any Summative Assessment.
- Summative Assessments can **ONLY** be made up during appropriate office hour times if you are absent.
- Students **MUST** complete any assessment on the day it is started.
- Students are **NOT** allowed to use notes on any Summative Assessment.

Summative Exams count for 80% of the total grade for the Unit.

Grading

The grading system to be used in this course will be the ABCF/I format in the grade book.

In my classroom, on Learning Target Rubrics, and on all Summative Assessments the following Proficiency Scoring Codes will be used instead:

BEG = Beginning (F) - the student has little or no understanding or skill demonstrated yet.

APP = Approaching (F) - the student is occasionally demonstrating a working knowledge of the essential skills that encompass the learning targets, but there are still more weaknesses than strengths.

MTS = Meets [C] - the student generally meets the learning target and demonstrates a basic knowledge of the essential skills, some errors may be present, but the strengths are dominant.

ADV = Advanced (B) - the student consistently meets and sometime exceeds the basic level and demonstrates a complete understanding of the learning target.

MAS = Mastery (A) - the student demonstrates superior academic performance, an in-depth understanding of the learning target, and an ability to apply knowledge and strategies to complex problems.

Parents Contact Me

The best way to contact me is via email, and I **WILL** respond promptly and quickly. Phone calls will be returned at the end of each day. Feel free to arrange a visit to the classroom to check things out, have a chat, and share any concerns or address any questions you have in person.