

Linganore High School Science Department

Advanced Placement Biology

Theresa Wilttrout and Beth Ericsson, Instructors

www.mrswilttrout.com

Course Description: The Advanced Placement (AP) Biology course is representative of a two-semester college introductory biology course, and students may earn college credit by examination. This course provides students with the conceptual framework, knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the science of biology. Both short-term and long-term laboratory investigations are an integral part of the curriculum.

Semester One: The AP Biology I semester incorporates the following topics: Biochemistry, Cell Structure and Function, Cellular Respiration, Photosynthesis, Molecular Genetics, Heredity, and Evolutionary Biology

Semester Two: The AP Biology II semester is a continuation of AP Biology I and completes the necessary requirements for students to be eligible to take the AP examination in May for college credit. Topics include the following: Phylogeny and Systematics, Microbiology, Virology, Botany, Zoology, Anatomy and Physiology, and Ecology.

Course Objective: The AP Biology student will demonstrate the ability to use specific skills and processes, appropriate scientific terminology, and major biological concepts to explain the uniqueness and interdependence of living organisms, their interactions with the environment, and the continuation of life on earth.

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry with a semester grade of A or B.

A Word About Our Course: Our AP Biology course provides the student with an experience equivalent to a college freshman biology course. There are extensive text reading assignments that the student must complete in order to be successful. Supplementary readings in the form of journal articles and selected expository textbook chapters are also required. Frequent after-school study sessions are provided throughout the semester to help students keep up with the rigor of this course.

In addition, our combined 26 years in biomedical research, 17 as a senior research associate for Science Applications International Corporation (Mrs. Wilttrout) and 9 as a doctoral candidate at Georgetown University (Mrs. Ericsson) allows us to bring real-world experience to our students. We look forward to providing your child with a solid introduction into the wonderful world of biology!

AP Courses are a Smart Choice! Today, more and more students are making the smart decision to start their college studies in high school by enrolling in advanced placement courses. There are over 1500 colleges and universities throughout the United States that are currently accepting credit for AP courses.

Theresa Wilttrout

theresa.wilttrout@fcps.org

240-236-7790

Beth Ericsson

beth.ericsson@fcps.org

240-236-7788