

Hello Biology Honors Student,

Congratulations on joining the prestigious Clifton High School Science Honors Program! Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Mrs. Graziano and I will be sharing my passion and knowledge of Biology as your Science teacher during the 2019-2020 school year. We have an exciting curriculum which includes hands-on labs, in-depth discussion and debate, and innovative projects to help inspire a respect and understanding for Biology. For Life.

As a Clifton High School Science Honors student, much will be expected of you. My first expectation is that you will be able to show the same passion for learning in the classroom, outside of it. This summer assignment is aimed at emphasizing that science is more than a body of knowledge. It is a way of thinking. A way of skeptically interrogating the world with a fine understanding of human fallibility. Your scientific skills will be tested and refined throughout the summer. Challenging? Perhaps, but after all, you're a high school honors student now!

On the following summer assignment sheet you will be given directions on completing work on two chapters. But don't worry, I will be available for questions through Google Classroom and e-mail all summer long and I will also be available in the high school media center one or two days over the summer - those dates will be posted on the Google Classroom page in early July.

I look forward to meeting you in September and until then have a great summer. And with this assignment – how could you not?!

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Megan Graziano
Honors Biology Teacher
Clifton High School
mgraziano@cliftonschoools.net

Where can I find my summer work?

The summer work, online text book in pdf format, study guides, practice tests, and PowerPoint presentations are all available on the Google Classroom page (classroom code: **9uy79p**). If you do not have access to the internet at home, you should become a regular at the library.

So what is my summer assignment?

1. You are to read Chapter 1, Exploring Life (all sections), and Chapter 2, The Chemical Basis of Life (sections 2.1 thru 2.9). These chapters should provide you with important facts, terms, and explanations of ideas and relationships.
2. Complete the Study Guides for each chapter.
 - Each study guide must be answered on a separate sheet of paper.
 - You CANNOT type these assignments - they must be hand written.
 - The final copy must be neat and organized.
 - You do not need to rewrite each question, but should restate the question into your answer.
 - Answers should be in complete sentences. If there is a table, please copy the table *in its entirety* onto your hand-written response sheet.
 - Your responses and study guides must be turned in the **first day of class on September 4th!**
 - Be sure your responses have your name and the chapter on each page.
3. Print and Review practice tests for the 1st day of school.
 - Typically, students taking Honors Biology have difficulty with the first few tests. We will spend class time going over the practice tests. Not only will it help you prepare for the in class assessment you will be taking the second week of school on your summer work, but it will also help you understand the format and questions you will see on future Honors Biology tests. The practice tests will not take the place of the actual test given in class. Do not expect to see the same questions. Do not assume that if after you take the test and do corrections that you are done studying. If there was something in your assignment that was not on the practice test, it is still fair game for the actual test. If it was on your practice test, it still could be on the actual test. The practice test is only meant to give you an example of what to expect for the multiple choice questions on honors tests in general, not hints for your first exam. The study guide questions are a great indicator of what to expect for the type of open-ended questions you will see on future tests. It is not the policy of the department to drop low test grades or allow students to retake tests or make up points by doing test corrections. **Be prepared the first time!**

Remember, **all assignments are due the first day of class**. If you complete your work the first week of summer, don't forget about it until the first day of school. Be sure you are studying the week before coming back. You are being given the responsibility for your own learning. Honors students are expected to take this responsibility seriously. Biology is an exciting field of science because almost every aspect of it can be related to you. This year, we will examine how life works. Although challenging, the course will provide you with a

new understanding of who you are as an organism, and why the living things around us are the way they are.
Good luck and have a great summer!