**Biology 20**

**Course Outline**

**Teacher:** Ms. Christine Mishra **Room:** 204

**Website:** [www.mrsmishra.ca](http://www.mrsmishra.ca)

**Email:**  [christine.mishra@rbe.sk.ca](mailto:christine.mishra@rbe.sk.ca)

**Remind (text/email reminder service):**

Text: send message “**@mishbio20**” to **(902) 701- 9279**

Email**:** send a blank email to **mishbio20@mail.remind.com**

**Welcome to Biology 20!** This course aims to introduce you to the scientific study of life. We will be studying various aspects of the natural world through direct instruction, videos, labs, discussions, hands on activities, reading, writing, and a field trip to Grasslands National Park. This is an upper year course which contains a lot of content, and I will have very high expectations of students in this course.

**Note:** The course website is a very important tool for this course. Please explore the website and check it regularly for deadlines, updates, resources, and copies of assignments.

**Course Content**

Unit 1: Introduction to Biology

Unit 2: Ecological Organization

Unit 3: Diversity of Life

Unit 4: Agricultural Botany of Saskatchewan

**Assessment Breakdown**

* 15% Chapter Tests & Unit Tests
* 20% Lab work and Class Assignments
* 10% Written Article Assignments
  + **Due Dates** (electronic submission)**:** Friday October 10,Monday November 10
* 10% Notebook Quizzes
* 10% Logbook Assignments
  + **Due Dates:** Friday October 31,Friday January 9th
* 15% Presentation on Biomes
* 20% Comprehensive Final

**Parent/Guardian Form:** *Please complete and return* ***this section only*** *to Mrs. Mishra by* ***Sept 5***

**Parent/Guardian:** I have read this course outline and the attached expectations document and discussed it with my student. I understand the expectations and agree to support Mrs. Mishra in educating my student.

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* I have visited the class website and blog, and know where to find the class calendar

**Student:** I have read the course outline and expectations. I understand and agree to follow the expectations.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* I have visited the class website and blog, and know where to find the class calendar

Parent/Guardian email for communication purposes (please print neatly):

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Mrs. Mishra’s Specific Expectations**

**Be present. Be on time.**    
School starts promptly at 8:30 a.m. and in the afternoon at 1:10p.m.

* + If you come late to class, you are not only affecting your own learning, but also disrupting the learning of your peers. Please enter the room QUIETLY if you are late, and immediately sit down and get to work. If the door is closed, knock once and wait patiently to be let in.
* If you miss a day, or will be late for any reason, you and/or your family need to inform the Office by calling 523-3550.
  + - Your SWAP teachers will be contacting home on a weekly basis for those who need encouragement regarding their attendance, punctuality, and assignments.
* Students planning on missing extended periods of time must fill out an Application for Exemption form from the Office.

**Come prepared for class**

* Make certain you have an iGo school account.  Many of your teachers will expect that you are able to complete work using Google.
* If you have technology at home available to you, please bring it and use it each day.  Remember you, and only you, are responsible for your technology.
* Bring all materials with you each day (textbook, binder, paper, calculator, writing utensils, highlighter – plus other materials when requested)
* Phone calculators will be allowed during class time at the teacher’s discretion, however, **not ever for exams**.  Please buy and use a **scientific calculator.**
  + - A scientific calculator must have a square root button **at the very least.**

**Technology** (cell phones, tablets and other devices)

* Cell phones and other devices may **only** **be used with permission** from Mrs. Mishra during class time.
* The following are **encouraged uses** of your technology (but all **still require permission** to do them during class time):
  + - Use your technology to check on your own progress in PowerSchool.
    - Use your technology for organizational purposes (enter due dates, reminders, to do lists)
    - Use your technology for educational purposes (calculator, periodic table app, measurement conversions, internet research)
    - Use your technology to obtain and submit assignments using your school iGo account
* If there is a non-educational reason to use your device, you **must ask Mrs. Mishra**.
* When asked to put your phone or other device away, please do so **immediately**. If you do not, it may be confiscated for the rest of class or the rest of the day, at the teacher’s discretion.
  + - Confiscated cell phones will be held by Mrs. Mishra or in the office and returned at the discretion of the teacher and/or administration.

**Assignments**

* + You are responsible for material missed due to your absence. You should always check the **extra handout folders** (at the back of the room) first for any missed handouts, then ask another student, and then come speak to Mrs. Mishra.
    - Assignments will also be posted **on the class blog**, so check there as well!
  + Neatness is expected for all assignments. Be proud of your work!
  + Please hand in hard-copy assignments TO THE **HAND-IN FOLDER**, not on my desk or anywhere else.
  + Electronic assignments will usually be handed in through Google Classroom or iGo.
  + A Note on Plagiarism:
    - Plagiarism is not only pretending someone else’s work is your own, but it also includes the use of another person’s work without giving them credit. For this reason, you must pay extremely close attention to the documentation provided on websites, in books, articles, etc. and be sure to provide this information in your own written work. Any plagiarized work will result in a discussion between you and myself and an appropriately determined punishment, such as a grade of 0 or being asked to re-do the plagiarized piece.

**Deadlines**  
Assignments **must** be completed and handed in **by the specified due date.**  

* It is the sole responsibility of the student to be aware of and to submit assignments on time.
* All assignments will be due the day after they are given, unless otherwise stated.
* If you have an excused absence, the assignment(s) will be due the **first day you return**.
* Missing assignments, tests, quizzes, and labs will be **marked as a zero** and the **“missing” indicator will be attached**. This zero will remain until arrangements are made to make up the work, through discussion with the teacher.
  + - All late assignments should still be completed (remember: these are learning experiences, not just busy work).
    - Assignments that are handed in more than a couple of days late without prior arrangements will be kept in a *Mercy File* and assessed **only** at the teacher’s discretion and if necessary to pass the course.

**Exams are to be written at the designated date and time**

* Chapter, Unit and Midterm Exams will be set with a minimum of one calendar week notice
* If students are not able to write at the date and time designated, and their absence is excused, they may choose:
  + To not write the exam and a mark of 0 will be entered
  + To write missed exams on the designated re-write day, or at another time by appointment.

***Note:*** *Flexibility will be granted to students who advocate for themselves well in advance*

* + If students miss an exam with an unexcused absence, they will receive a zero.
* Students needing to write Final Exams on an alternate date must fill out an Application for Exemption Form at the Office in advance.

**Extra Help**

* Mrs. Mishra is always happy to provide extra help! Come by Room 204 before school, at lunch (after 12:35), or after school. It’s important that you take responsibility for your learning, and I’m always more than willing to help you out if you show some initiative!