

**Biology Lab Syllabus**  
**Torah High School 2024-2025**  
Instructor: Tracey Milani, Ph.D.  
Student Contact: Canvas Inbox  
Parent Contact: tmlani@gmail.com

Welcome to the Biology lab! This portion of your biology class will provide you with hands-on experience with concepts related to the living world. Students will have a chance to conduct experiments, analyze data, and think critically about the implications of experimental results. Our time together will include wet labs, dry labs, and modeling of biological concepts.

### **Required Materials**

Please bring these items to class every day:

- *A 3-ring binder with lined paper (not digital),*
- *calculator,*
- *a computer.*

### **Communication**

The best way for students to reach me is through the Canvas Inbox. I encourage students to be proactive in communicating with me. If you know that you will miss a day, let me know ahead of time. If you have any questions at all, send me a message in Canvas or ask before or after class.

Parents, please feel free to reach out via email at any time. My goal is for each student to be successful in this course and to foster a love of the sciences. I will typically respond to emails within 24 hours on weekdays. It may take me a little longer to respond if I am contacted over the weekend.

### **Grading Scale**

All course work will be awarded point values. Points will be earned for pre-labs, post-labs, data analysis/presentations, and the student's lab notebook. All grades will be posted in Canvas. The lab portion of the biology course will determine 30% of a student's grade for the first semester. See the lecture syllabus for the grade breakdown for the overall course.

### **Attendance and Late Work**

Attendance is critical. Generally, wet labs will not be able to be made up due to the prep time involved. Alternate assignments may be assigned for excused absences or students may be asked to work with someone else's data to show content mastery. Please understand that students are responsible for all class content, even if they are absent.

Any student will be able to clear absences/truancies by following the Torah High School guidelines.

Whenever a student is absent for any reason it is their responsibility to find out what they missed/how to make up work.

In the case of truancies/unexcused absences, late work will not be accepted, and the student will earn 0 points on the graded item(s) (formative and/or summative).

General late work: If a student attended class but did not turn in a graded item by the due date/time, late work will be accepted for a period of one week after the due date/time for a reduced point value. Typically, there is a 5% deduction on the earned score per day late up to the 7-day mark, after which no work will be accepted.

### **Tardiness**

Please see the Torah High School policy on attendance.

### **Academic Honesty**

Do your own work. Plagiarism/cheating earns 0 points on the assignment, a phone call home, and a possible conference. You will never receive point deductions for an experiment not working (and will often learn more than when things go according to plan). **You always need to do your own work**

**and write answers in your own words even if you are working with a partner.** If you turn in an identical assignment as another person, it is cheating. If someone takes your work and copies it, both parties will still be held accountable. Unless expressly designated in the assignment instructions, use of AI is not allowed in this course.

### **Safety**

Goggles and other personal protective equipment must always be worn during lab activities. Safety instructions must be followed at all times. **Students who are negligent during lab activities (safety violations) will receive a 0 on the lab assignment, and a phone call home.**

### **A note to parents/guardians**

Thank you for taking the time to review this syllabus with your student. This should be a fun and engaging course. If you have any questions or concerns at all, please contact me. I look forward to working with you to help your student succeed.

Sincerely,



Tracey Milani, Ph.D.  
Biology Lab Instructor