

AP Biology 2010-2011

So, I hear that you are signed up for AP Biology next fall. This is a no nonsense class equivalent to a 2 semester college course which is nothing like freshman year Living Environment (what we call 'Biology Lite'). To be prepared as soon as we start in September, you need to get a few things in order:

1. Send an e-mail to **goldie@alum.rpi.edu** **ASAP** with your name and e-mail address so you can be added to the AP class list for updates throughout the summer and next year.
2. Expect 3 assignments e-mailed to you this summer.
 - a. The first will be a 45 question multiple choice AP Biology Pre-Test (you will get this right as school ends). Some questions will be hard, some will cover material you have not seen before, but they are all representative questions of what the AP questions are like.
 - b. The second is a comprehensive review of MATH SKILLS! It is a lengthy assignment that will have you reviewing Unit Conversions, Exponents, Significant Figures, Making Molar Solutions, pH and Buffers, and analyzing Rates of Reaction. (You will get this around the 4th of July.)
 - c. The final will be a review of using Excel (or any other spreadsheet program) to properly make data tables, graphs, and charts. Also, it will piggyback with the math assignment in using regression analysis (best fit curves) to analyze data. We don't have time to review computer skills once class starts! (You will get this around Aug. 1st.)
3. Pick up a 3" (or bigger) binder for your Lab Manual and Question Sets. Bigger is better—lecture notes can be added if you feel like printing them out. Stop by G-82 before classes finish if you want to see what you should get. You are required to bring this to class, and use it, every day—seriously!
4. Get a good old-fashioned composition notebook that will serve as your lab book for pre-labs and all data collected throughout the year's lab activities.
5. Check out www.goldiesroom.org: The AP section is of primary concern to you, but you should refresh yourself with all of the Regents notes and links and such.
6. Ask some of the current students in AP Biology (or the teachers Mr. DeMarco/ Mr. Goldberg) what to expect. It is not for lightweights... You will find that this class might not be what you think it is!



T. DeMarco
J. Goldberg

Be prepared to release your INNER-NERD...which is a *good* thing!