

6/25/2009

Dear Future AP Bio student,

I am glad that you have chosen to take AP Biology and am looking forward to having you in my class. Because this is a college-level science class, the workload will be heavier than a Regents science class. Labs will continue to be an integral part of the class. In college, you would have a three-hour lab class each week. We will have a double period lab class (80 minutes) twice a week. I require that all lab reports be typed. If you are interested in seeing what assignments this past year's students were required to complete as well as test essays, visit my web site <http://www.mrswright.net> and look at the AP course outline/timeline.

You will have a major project each quarter (as well as a couple of minor projects), culminating with our now famous (infamous) forensics project. Our first project will be a book report. This summer you will need to read a novel (**fiction**) which describes some scientific procedure or process. You will need to compare the description of the process in the book with how it is done or if it even can be done in reality. **I will expect that you will have selected and read a book when you return to school in September. In addition, you will have to take notes on each chapter of the book and write a summary of each chapter. This will be due BY September 15th. I will only allow one person to read each book, so let me know as soon as you have selected a book. I will let you know if it is already taken.** (I will keep an updated list of titles which are taken on my web page). The complete project will be due 10/27/09. *I have attached the project directions, grading rubric, and a list of book titles for you to select from.* You must select a book that is on my list, since I know that they will work for this project. I have several books I would be happy to loan out if you need one. Please don't hesitate to e-mail or call me if you have any questions.

An additional assignment this summer is to create flash cards for vocabulary rootwords, prefixes and suffixes. You must include the prefix/suffix on one side of the card and the definition on the back. In addition, on 25 of the cards, you must include a word from the novel you read which uses that root word, prefix or suffix. *I have attached directions for this assignment as well as a rubric also.* There will be a unit test on this vocab and flash cards are due on September 15, 2009.

You will have the opportunity to receive college credit in one of two ways. I will be following the Advanced Placement curriculum, so you may take the AP exam in May. The cost of this exam is around \$80. Based on your grade on the exam, you may earn up to 4 credits this way. In addition, Honeoye will be participating in the Gemini program through Finger Lakes Community College. The curriculum has been approved as corresponding to Bio 121 and Bio 122. You may earn 8 credits hours through FLCC by successfully completing both semesters (This year the cost for this was \$360. You will pay \$180 in September and \$180 in January). Gemini credit is transferable to all SUNY Colleges. If you have already chosen a college (or colleges), you should check with the

admissions office to determine which of the above options would be the best. **You must choose to register for Gemini AND / OR for the AP exam.** You may find that doing both is your best bet.

There will be a review book available for about \$15. Past students have said that the review book was very helpful to them in studying for exams. I will be asking for orders for review books the first week of school and registration for Finger Lakes will be early, so be prepared financially (you don't pay for the AP exam until April). There are also a couple of field trips we take. The one to the Genetic Update conference in the fall costs \$15, but there are scholarships available.

Have a really great summer!!! If this hasn't scared you off, I will see you in class. Please feel free to e-mail me with questions, and gossip- nkwright@rochester.rr.com , just no chain letters please... Please sign up for a fiction book by returning the attached form ASAP, so that you can reserve your selection. I will post a list on my web site so you can see which books have been selected.

Mrs. Wright
229-2157 (home phone)

Summer Assignment check list

- _____ **Select a book to read (ASAP)**
- _____ **Turn in personal information form(this includes your book selection) (attached)(ASAP)**
- _____ **Get approval on your book from Mrs. Wright (ASAP)**
- _____ **Read the book. Remember to take notes on each chapter. (These must be done in a notebook). You will also need to summarize each chapter. You may choose to buy a copy of the book so that you can highlight in it. You may need to read it more than once. Also look for vocab. from flash cards. (due 9/15/09)**
- _____ **Make flash cards(Due 9/15/09)**

Failure to complete the summer assignments results in loss of credit from the projects.

Name _____

Grade (2009/10) _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

e-mail _____

Book I selected _____

Career plans (Why are you taking AP Biology?)

The most interesting thing I should know about you is...