

# Welcome to Mrs. Courtemanche's AP Biology Class!

This summer you will dive into the world of biology like you never thought before. The purpose of the summer assignment is:

- To keep your mind sharp for the upcoming school year
- To expand your vocabulary with words we will be using in class
- To introduce you to concepts from our first unit
- To introduce you to non-traditional classroom type of learning
- To decrease the amount of new material you will need to learn
- To understand what is required of an AP class

1. Your main hub for learning is [Google Classroom](#). I've set up a class already for you to join.

Join code: s22ajct

\*\*\*This document is posted in Google classroom so you can access the links.

2. Join [Remind.com](#) to receive and send messages to me. Parents can join too. Your phone number will not be listed; I only see your name. You can't see my number either, but you can send me messages. Use your complete name, no nicknames.

3. Access your summer assignment through [www.CK12.org](#). Make an account with your school email and password (so you won't forget). Use your complete name, no nicknames. You can add the app to your phone, free, to access content and practice questions.

Class code: ad07I

Complete the assignments, starting with "the characteristics of life", by going from the bottom of the list to the top. Most of the assignments consist of reading material, watching videos, and completing the practice questions. Make sure to read before attempting the practice questions (green button located at the bottom right of the text).

You must answer 10 questions correctly in order to be considered complete. If you refresh your screen you should see it marked as completed. The other type of assignment is a PLIX, an interactive. When completing these, do the interactive part and do the challenge questions. I suggest you do the practice questions on a desktop or laptop to make sure there aren't any interruptions in service. Be sure to "turn it in" in CK12 at the top.

You should take notes on the reading since you will be responsible for the content. I do suggest you work on this steadily during the summer and not wait until the end. Procrastination is your enemy!

4. Go to Google classroom and respond to the first assignment - introductions. Directions are given in the post.

5. AP supplies -

- A. Purchase [1 graphing composition notebooks](#) - one for the lab, the other for notes. The link is an example but you can find them in local stores (Staples, ...).
- B. I highly recommend getting a study guide book. Here are a few options but there are many others. Get something written within the last 5 years.

[The Princeton Review](#)

[5 Steps to a 5](#)

[AP Biology Test Prep](#)

(there are other editions that will work - all of them are amazing)

5. Qualities of an AP student:

- **Intelligence** - It's not about being "smart", it is being smart enough to identify what you do not know or understand and then actively seeking sources for help

- **Self-Motivation** - your attitude. Your desire to learn should be your chief motivation, not your GPA or class ranking. I will not beg, plead, or cajole you to do your work. You are responsible for your assignments. Not all assignments are graded, but you are responsible to learn all of the content.
- **Integrity** - it's about doing the right thing. If you have integrity, you will not cheat, you do your own work, you do not help others to cheat meaning posting photos of questions and/or answers, giving someone your work to see, or plagiarism.
- **Work ethic** - You are turning in your best work, complete and organized.
- **Industriousness** - You start your work with time to finish, not just finishing the minute before the assignment is due.
- **Inquisitiveness** - You need to ask questions. Reading and participating in class activities is not enough. You need to reflect on the material and ask questions during class, after class, through messages, or after school. Going through the motions from your past class experiences will not work. That "easy A" won't happen here.
- **Time management** - Being involved in extracurricular activities are fun and will help with your college resume BUT there are times when you might have to say no. Your time is precious and is needed for your studies. Plan for this first before you add in those activities. If you are involved in Madrigals, band, the play, school sports, travel sports, camp, or something else, you will have a tough time managing your studies. Again, sometimes you have to say no.

Lastly, if you have any questions, contact me through Remind.com, classroom, or email.

Mrs. Courtemanche

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