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Option II, Honors Biology Summer Course Syllabus

This course is designed to introduce students to important concepts in modern Biology, and is an excellent background for those intending a career in science, engineering, or medicine. The curriculum and rigor match typical high school honors Biology classes.

The pace and scope of this course are designed for the above average student. It is a challenging course designed to help the student to learn through problem solving, qualitative and quantitative reasoning, and experimental investigation. They will practice open-ended questions that will test reasoning and analytic skills. The course will provide a foundation for the types of questions that are on the College Board and ACT subject level tests.

The topics covered will include: The Chemical Basis of Life, Structure and Function of Cells, Photosynthesis and Cellular Respiration, Mitosis and Meiosis, DNA Structure and Function, Evolution, as well as other important topics. The material for the course is taken from <u>Biology:</u> <u>Concepts and Applications</u> by Cecie Starr. There will also be appropriate handouts in class.

The course meets lab-science requirements as 20-25% of class time is dedicated to inquiry lab activities. Students will have frequent assessments of their progress in their homework and classwork; they will also have periodic formative and summative assessments, and finally a cumulative exam.