

Dear Future AP Biology Student,

As said in Mr. Tadlock's introduction to the class, you are about to take a challenging, yet rewarding course. This class relies on a high level of independence and responsibility, likely more than you have needed for the classes you have taken so far (this was the case for me, at least). A lot of the learning is done through the classwork and homework and Mr. Tadlock will give that he will review and clarify the next day. This worked well for me, but if it does not for you, he provides helpful materials for each unit and you can read the textbook for more direct instruction. What I find to be the most daunting task in this class is the learning objectives; questions about each chapter of the textbook studied in the unit and due on the day of that unit's test. My problem with these is that the test dates are nebulous until around two weeks before, so that is how much time I give myself to do them (and wind up only making significant progress the eve of the test). As anyone may guess, this is not conducive to getting them in on time, but conducive to resigning to simply read the book looking at the questions so you can be halfway prepared for the test in the first few hours marked ante meridian and get the learning objectives turned in many days later. This outcome is bad. You don't want to do this. And to not do this, you must do what I didn't do, if you have trouble with the unclear due dates -> make your own, if your issue lies in actually working when you sit down to do so -> break the assignments down so you can take it 5 questions at a time, because believe me, sifting through a textbook for hours on end gets tedious. Also, on some occasions, the answers to the question might be in other chapters, or a different terminology may be used in the textbook, if you cannot find a term even when you have scrutinized the chapter, its' recap, index, and glossary, the online textbook has a search feature that resembles CTRL + F, and don't be afraid to just look it up if you're really desperate. On another note, Mr Tadlock likes to make puns, when he does so, you MUST clap. If he stops speaking randomly and stands around like he is expecting something, he probably made a pun that just went over your head and is waiting on a response, so you should start applauding him then too.

Have fun

- Former AP Bio Student

P.S. If you don't clap he'll make you stick your hand in the tub of lipids.