

Dear future students,

Welcome to AP Bio. It is likely one of the most challenging classes you will face this year. So you should prepare to go at this class with a proper plan. You should remember as you go on to study as much as possible. Even if you regularly procrastinate, you should probably space out all your reading and studying along a strict schedule. If you do not it will be easy to become overwhelmed because there is a lot of work and reading, and you have to read thoroughly if you want to be even close to an A. However, if you do study thoroughly, watch all the videos, read all the lecture outlines (your best friend for summarizing but not useful just on its own), and try to go over some practice questions it should not be hard for you to succeed.

AP Bio, in my opinion, was also one of the most interesting classes I've taken. You should try to understand the significance of what you're learning, and get excited about it. You will be covering a lot of molecular genetics, and though it isn't a big science, it is fascinating because what you are covering makes up your entire world, and actually affects your everyday life. Science is amazing because there is always something new to discover, and for us all to continue discovering. Get excited! Learning is always easier with enthusiasm. Because of this class, I've determined I definitely want to go into a scientific field when I move on to college. Maybe you will experience something similar.

The most important thing is to keep on track, especially with reading, and make sure you understand the materials. Just try hard and you'll get to the end eventually. It may seem difficult, it definitely is, but it is worth the pay off.

Additionally, your AP exam at the end of the year will be something you should study for at least two weeks in advance. You should go over all materials, especially ones you do not cover in class. In our exam it seemed easy, but as I've taken a few AP classes I can say you have no guarantee of being so lucky. So study everything you may've missed during the year. If you want to work for an

outstanding 5 on your exam, start a month ahead of time, and read through any skipped chapters in the book as well.

Remember, this is probably the most important thing if you value your sleep and sanity, **study spaced over time, not all at once. If not, you will be overwhelmed.** Do not leave anything to the last minute. There's so much to do, you will not manage it, and then you will fail the test. That is the best way to bring down your grade, by putting it off. To my dear procrastinators; suck it up. Ask your parents to help keep you on schedule if you have to. Otherwise, bad things happen. Your grade should be priority, not catching the next episode of that TV show you like, or going to the mall with friends. It's not hard if you schedule yourself to the best of your abilities and productivity to leave room for both. I'm repeating myself for your own good. Do **not** slack in this class.

Also, don't worry. If you study hard and get your work done, especially if its a week in advance, its not that hard. You'll do fine. The class is easiest when you try your best. And then you can enjoy all the fantastic new science it has to offer. Look forward to the year with a sense of determination. You will do great.