

# Canyon Crest Academy: Biology

Level of Difficulty	Estimated Homework	Prerequisites
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45 minutes per day\*

## Department

Completion or co-enrollment of Integrated Math 1

- Moderate
- Difficult
- Very Difficult

\*This is a general guideline for planning and scheduling purposes. A student's ability level may affect actual preparation time needed.

## Course Description

In this NGSS aligned course sequence, the sequence follows a macro- to micro- to macro- design, allowing students to move between big picture concepts and more detailed and mechanistic understandings. This arrangement of topics is designed to develop student understanding in a rigorous and accessible way that builds upon prior knowledge from middle school and the previous units in this course. Beginning with the observable world provides students with the conceptual foundation to investigate and build understanding of the invisible world. This approach aims to establish *why* concepts are important to better engage students with the microscopic ideas that are fundamental to understanding them.

Launching and concluding the year with ecology allows students to deepen their understanding of driving questions, make connections, and see relationships between macro and micro scales. Beginning with ecology, students first learn about the environment's influence on organisms and end with how organisms, mainly humans, can influence their environment. Ending the year with human impact creates opportunities for rigorous and relevant culminating projects that tie together the learning from the entire year.

## Grading

The grading system is based on weighted percentages. Each assignment will have a point value and be weighed according to the category it falls under. Individual teachers may make modifications on the weighted percentages, please reference the teachers syllabus.

Category	Weight
Homework/Class work	15%
Laboratories/Projects	30%
Quizzes/Exams	55%

## Links

CCA Science Homepage <http://teachers.sduhsd.net/ccscience>

Next Generation Science Standards <http://www.nextgenscience.org/>

## Supplemental Information

10 credits

Meets UC/CSU subject area "d" requirement

Fulfills graduation requirement in life science

