

Advanced Placement Biology Facts

- **What is AP Biology?**

- AP Biology is a freshman level college course intended for biology majors.
- Applicable to the following fields of study:
 - Pre-professional (medical, dentistry, veterinary science)
 - Physical and Occupational Therapy
 - Physicians Assistant
 - Nursing
 - Bioengineering or Biomedical Engineering
 - Zoology, Botany, Ecology, Marine Biology, etc.
 - Biology Education

- **How does AP Biology benefits students?**

- Depending on the college attended and the score earned, could earn up to two semesters of college biology credit.
- Improved scientific reading, testing, and critical thinking skills.
- Improved laboratory skills and learn essential laboratory techniques for college biological science classes.
- Will gain an excellent background for college biology courses.

- **How do you gain entrance to AP Biology?**

- All advanced placement courses at LPHS are open enrollment, but to be successful, the student should meet or exceed the following prerequisites/recommendations in order to take AP Biology
 - Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry; successful completion or concurrent enrollment in Physics and Algebra 2.
 - The most successful students are those who have been completed Honors Biology, Honors Chemistry, Honors Physics and Algebra 2.
 - Students earning an “B” or above in Biology (S), Chemistry (S), Physics (S) and Algebra 2 are successful if willing to work to improve their study skills and test taking skills.
 - Students who were enrolled in Biology (G) and moved to Chemistry (S) and Physics (S), as well as Algebra 2 can be successful if they possess an exceptional work ethic and are willing to get tutoring.

- **What is the track record for those taking the AP Biology Exam?**

- Students earning an “A” in the Test/Quiz Category in AP Biology generally get a 5 on the AP Biology Exam, those earning a “B” in the Test/Quiz Category in AP Biology generally get a 4 on the AP Biology exam, etc.

- **What type of academic rigor is associated with the AP Biology course?**

- Grading: 45% Tests & Quizzes; 20% Lab Activities; 10% Homework; 25% Final Exam
 - A portion of the 10% Homework score comes from Homework Quizzes.
- The College Board requires students to spend 25% of their time conducting laboratory activities.
 - Students must participate in extended lab activities.
 - Students must give up one-half of their lunch period on extended lab days.
 - Students and parents need to check with their assigned counselor to make sure the student has a lunch period scheduled either before or after their AP Biology class.
- Rapid pace (cover around 50 chapters in a college level textbook by April).
- The average AP Biology student will have around 5 to 10 hours of homework per week.