

AP BIOLOGY APPLICATION 2019-2020 — Due Friday, March 1st

AP Biology Candidate,

To apply for entrance into Advanced Placement Biology for next year, students must complete three parts of the following application. Please make sure that you follow directions and complete all parts before submitting your application (no partial applications will be considered).

Take time to fully consider the commitment necessary to part of an AP science course. Success in previous science classes, or other AP courses, does not guarantee success in AP Biology. This course can be very challenging, but also very rewarding if you are willing to put forth the effort.

*For more information on AP Courses: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/exploreap>
For more information on AP Bio: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-biology>*

Contact Mr. Wasemann if you have any questions.

Thank you for your interest in AP Biology.

*Mr. Wasemann
AP Biology*

Part 1- Application Form: Complete the application form accurately and honestly. Note: If you are tempted to misrepresent yourself on your application that may be an indication that you are not prepared for the rigor of AP Biology.

Part 2 - Teacher Recommendation: Please print off the page titled “AP Biology Teacher Recommendation” and politely ask your current science teacher to fill it out for you (*well before the March 1st deadline*). Your teacher will place this form in my box in the front office.

Part 3 - Entrance Essay: The final part of the application is the entrance essay prompt. All pertinent information for the essay is provided on the last page. Make sure you follow formatting guidelines and answer the prompt fully and to the best of your ability. The essay is to assess your ability to understand technical writing in science and adequately express your understanding of the information in writing as necessary on the AP Biology Exam.

AP Biology Application

Student: Complete all components of this application and submit to Mr. Wasemann before the end of the day on **Friday, March 2nd. This application process does not guarantee your position in this course. Mr. Wasemann, who will take into account all factors including any summer coursework, makes all final decisions.*

Name (Print): _____

Email Address: _____

Carefully read and *initial* the following items to acknowledge the rigorous requirements for success in an AP Biology class.

_____ I understand AP Biology is not simply a continuation of Biology I, but is instead a more rigorous, college-level course.

_____ I understand AP classes are very demanding and may necessitate 1-2 hours of homework and study **daily** to be successful.

_____ I understand attendance is critical to success in an AP class and that excessive absences are not acceptable. This includes absences for school-sponsored activities, such as sports, field trips and Senior activities.

_____ I understand that part of being successful in a college-level course is affective management of academics and extra-curricular activities. Extra-curricular activities should not be prioritized over academics.

_____ I understand that access to a computer or tablet with reliable internet connection is a necessity for completing AP Biology assignments.

_____ I understand by taking this AP course you are required to sit for the AP Biology exam at the end of the school year, and that my intention is to achieve the highest score possible.

Indicate the science courses you will have completed by the end of this school year:

- ❖ Earth/Space
- ❖ Biology I
- ❖ Chemistry I
- ❖ Physics I
- ❖ Anatomy/Physiology
- ❖ Genetics
- ❖ Marine Science

❖ Why do you wish to be considered for AP Biology?

AP BIOLOGY TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

Teachers: please complete this form honestly and return it to Mr. Wasemann's box in the office. The student will NOT see this form or be advised as to what you have recommended. Also be aware that the final decision is made by Mr. Wasemann, who takes all recommendations into consideration.

Student's Name _____

Student's Current Science Class(es): _____

Student's Current Grade: _____ Overall Grade: _____ Student's Total # of Absences: _____

Please consider the following characteristics of the candidate in making your recommendation:

- Commitment to intellectual pursuits
- Ability to deal with abstract concepts
- Self-expression in writing and speech
- Capacity for independent study
- Ability to accept and apply constructive criticism
- Exemplary attendance
- Overall dedication and commitment to academics
- Always exceeding expectations

Recommendation:

_____ Highly recommended
_____ Recommended
_____ Recommended with reservation (please comment below)
_____ Not recommended

Comments:

Science Teacher's Signature _____

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AP Biology Teacher Verdict:

\_\_\_\_\_ Accepted  
\_\_\_\_\_ Accepted with reservation  
\_\_\_\_\_ Not accepted

## **Entrance Essay Prompts - Due Friday, March 1st**

\*To complete the essay you will need to read the following article and listen to the following podcast:

**Article URL:** <http://nautil.us/issue/10/mergers--acquisitions/the-unique-merger-that-made-you-and-ewe-and-yew>

**Podcast URL:** <http://www.maximumfun.org/adam-ruins-everything/adam-ruins-everything-episode-38-professor-brian-nosek-sciences-reproducibilit>

(Podcast is also available on iTunes, Spotify, and Stitcher: Search “Adam Ruins Everything Episode 38)

\*After finishing the article and podcast, respond to the four-part essay prompt to serve as an example of your writing and reasoning skills. The essay must be typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font. Essay should be stapled to your application when submitted.

\*Your answer should be written in paragraph form using correct grammar and complete sentences. Each part should be answered as separate paragraphs. Be sure that you answer all parts of the question using terminology and examples from the sources in your response.

### **Essay Prompt**

**Part 1A:** Explain, in your own words, the “sudden-origin” hypothesis of eukaryotic cells as explained in the article. What evidence supports this idea? How does it alter our understanding of the evolution and classification of life?

**Part 1B:** Explain the “joke” that is in the title of this article, and explain the scientific significance behind this play on words.

**Part 2A:** According to the podcast, describe the standard protocol for scientific discovery and publication. What is the “Reproducibility Problem” and why does it impact our acceptance of scientific facts?

**Part 2B:** How can the scientific community avoid the “Reproducibility Crisis”, and what will this do to the scientific method as we know it.