



DEERSTREAM

## High School Biology at Deerstream

This course is a two semester (1 credit) introductory course to general biology for high school students. Students learn about living organisms and their essential processes. Topics covered include biochemistry, structure and function of the cell, cellular reproduction, genetics, evolution, ecology, botany, classification of living organisms, and human anatomy and physiology.

**Curriculum:** Prentice Hall's *Biology*

**Schedule:** Biology will meet on Wednesday mornings from 9:15 AM-12:15 PM at the Chapel Hill Bible Church from September 14-May 10 (minus scheduled breaks) for lecture, discussion, group projects, and labs.

**Attendance and Pacing:** Each class will cover a large amount of material, so attendance is crucial for student success. Barring exceptional circumstances, students who miss 5 or more sessions over the course of the year will not be assigned a final grade. Students who miss class are expected to make up missed work.

**Student Expectations:** Biology is a high school level class, and students must be able to function with maturity in their academics as well as in organization, class participation, and work completion. In class, they will be expected to attend carefully to instruction, participate actively, and take notes as needed. Students are expected to complete 4-5 hours of work at home throughout the week. They will be responsible to come to class prepared with background knowledge and completed work as assigned.

**Honors Option:** Students have the option to take this course as an honors course. This will involve additional and/or different assignments that require students to delve deeper into the material.

**Parent Expectations:** Parents agree to provide supervision as needed throughout the course. Some students will require more assistance than others. If needed, parents should be prepared to begin the year with a high level of involvement that may decrease as the year progresses.

**Prerequisites and Placement:** Students must be 14 by August 31, 2022 to take this course. Biology students should be reading and writing at a 9<sup>th</sup> grade level or higher or parents must be able and willing to arrange for appropriate accommodations. Students should be able to maintain an organized notebook and keep track of assignments.

**Grades and High School Credit:** Biology is a one credit high school level class, so formal assessments will be conducted and students will receive grades that take into account homework, classwork, projects, quizzes, and tests.

**Instructor:** *Amanda Briscoe has a B.S. in Exercise Science and Biology with Honors from WV Wesleyan College where she worked as a teaching assistant for the Human Anatomy classes and labs. She went on to get her Master's in Public Health from West Virginia University. While working on her MAT, she discovered a love of teaching science and pivoted to getting her Master's of Arts in Teaching at Marshall University. She worked as a teacher and epidemiologist in Charleston, WV until 2012 when she and her husband, Josh, moved to Durham for his medical residency. Amanda taught Theatre at Trinity School for a year and then taught all levels of Biology and Human Anatomy at Riverside High School before making the choice to stay home with their (now) four kids and homeschool. She's taught both Biology and Anatomy for Great Endeavors Co-op and loves marveling at God's creation with her students and the new energy, perspectives and fun they bring to studying it.*