

**HAYWOOD COUNTY SCHOOLS  
HAYWOOD DIFFERENTIATED EDUCATION PLAN  
ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE**

NAME OF COURSE:        Advanced Placement Biology

GRADE(S) OFFERED:    11 & 12                      SCHOOL:    Tuscola

PREREQUISITES:        Biology & Chemistry

**CRITERIA FOR ENROLLMENT:**

1. A or B average in previous science courses
2. Successful performance on biology end-of-course test (level III or IV)
3. Application essay (see attached page for details)
4. Recommendation from biology OR chemistry teacher (see attached form)
5. Parent approval
6. Commitment to take the AP Biology exam at the end of the year (\$80 fee)
7. Commitment to complete summer reading assignment prior to enrollment

**WAYS IN WHICH CONTENT AND INSTRUCTION ARE MODIFIED FOR HIGH-ACHIEVING AND GIFTED STUDENTS:**

1. All materials are and workload is college level, including text
2. Independent study is required
3. Required reading over the summer prior to class
4. Research projects that require independent work outside of class

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

Students will be required to spend extra time in class (before or after school) for projects and labs.

PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

## Essay for AP Biology Enrollment

**Please write a one page essay which explains your interest in AP Biology.**

- What topics do you think are most interesting?  
Here's a link to my website for some ideas.  
<http://teacher.haywood.k12.nc.us/bio4fun/category/ap-biology-resources/>
- How is biology related to your career goals?
- What do you hope to learn in this class?

## SUMMER READING AGREEMENT FOR AP BIOLOGY

### **Your Inner Fish: A Journey into the 3.5-Billion-Year History of the Human Body**

240 pages ; Publisher: Pantheon (June, 2008); ISBN: 0375424474

#### **A Note from Author Neil Shubin**

This book grew out of an extraordinary circumstance in my life. On account of faculty departures, I ended up directing the human anatomy course at the University of Chicago medical school. Anatomy is the course during which nervous first-year medical students dissect human cadavers while learning the names and organization of most of the organs, holes, nerves, and vessels in the body. This is their grand entrance to the world of medicine, a formative experience on their path to becoming physicians. At first glance, you couldn't have imagined a worse candidate for the job of training the next generation of doctors: I'm a fish paleontologist.

It turns out that being a paleontologist is a huge advantage in teaching human anatomy. Why? The best roadmaps to human bodies lie in the bodies of other animals. The simplest way to teach students the nerves in the human head is to show them the state of affairs in sharks. The easiest roadmap to their limbs lies in fish. Reptiles are a real help with the structure of the brain. The reason is that the bodies of these creatures are simpler versions of ours.

During the summer of my second year leading the course, working in the Arctic, my colleagues and I discovered fossil fish that gave us powerful new insights into the invasion of land by fish over 375 million years ago. That discovery and my foray into teaching human anatomy led me to a profound connection. That connection became this book.

### **STUDENT AGREEMENT**

*I agree to read the book described above and complete reading analysis as requested during the summer before enrollment in AP Biology at Tuscola HS.*

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Student signature

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Date

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Parent signature

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Date

## RECOMMENDATION FOR AP BIOLOGY

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Please rate the student on the following criteria:

	Excellent	Average	Needs Improvement
Homework Completion			
Interest in Science			
Biology Concept Comprehension			
Chemistry Concept Comprehension			
Classroom Behavior			
Lab Skills			

Please describe the strengths and/or weaknesses of this student's performance in your class.