

## Amit's Biolympiad Training Sessions

**Orientation Day** July 15, 2023



#### A Little Bit About Me...

- Rising Junior at WHS (Go Trojans!)
- 2023 USABO Semifinalist
- 2023 International Biology Battle Silver Medalist







### The purpose of this class is to...

- Build foundations in biology
  - Future coursework and careers
- Begin preparing for USABO
- Have fun!



#### What is USABO?

- Multi-stage biology competition
- Material spans the field
  - Biochemistry to ecology
- Structure
  - Open Exam
  - Semifinals (top 10%)
  - Nationals (top 20)
  - International Biology Olympiad (IBO)
    - Team USA: top 4 people from Nationals!
- Advanced high school level

#### **School Science Pathway**



#### Content

- Organ systems
- Hormones
- Immune system
- Organelles (6th grade cell modeling!)
- Transport of materials
- Protein structure
- How are traits passed through generations?
- How does the benefit/harm of traits impact their prevalence over time?
- Plant structure and classification
- Populations and ecosystems
- Impact of environmental changes
- Animal behaviors (e.g. instincts)
- Modeling evolutionary relationships between species



Animal Anatomy and Physiology: 25%



Cell Biology: 20%



**Genetics and Evolution: 20%** 

Plant Anatomy and Physiology: 15%



Ecology: 10%

Ethology: 5%

**Biosystematics: 5%** 

#### **USABO-AP Bio Mapping**

Unit 1: Chemistry of Life You'll learn about water's role as the basis of life and the functions of macromolecules like lipids and proteins.

Unit 2: Cell Structure and Function You'll study the makeup of cells and the fundamentals of evolution.

Unit 3: Cellular Energetics You'll explore how cells interact with their environment and how fundamental biological processes work at the cellular level.

Unit 4: Cell Communication and Cell Cycle You'll learn how cells grow and reproduce, as well as how cells communicate.

Unit 5: Heredity You'll learn how traits are passed down from one generation to the next.

Unit 6: Gene Expression and Regulation You'll study how hereditary information passes from parent to offspring and how those traits are expressed.

Unit 7: Natural Selection You'll learn about Darwin's theory, the concept of natural selection, and evolution.

Unit 8: Ecology You'll explore biological concepts at a broader organism level and analyze how populations interact within ecosystems. Animal Anatomy and Physiology: 25% Cell Biology: 20% Genetics and Evolution: 20%



Plant Anatomy and Physiology: 15%

Ecology: 10%



Ethology: 5%

**Biosystematics: 5%** 

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#### **USABO-MCAT** Mapping

	Unit 10: Foundation 6: Processing	O Unit 10: Foundation 6: Processing the environment		Ser.		
	Sensory perception	Drug dependence		/**	Animal Anatomy and Physiology: 25%	
	Sight (vision)	Attention				
	Sound (Audition)	Memory				
	Somatosensation	Cognition				
•	Taste (gustation) and smell (olfaction)	Language			Call Dialague 200/	
Unit 7: Foundation 3: Organ sy	stems Sleep and consciousness	Emotion			Cell Blology: 20%	
Biological basis of behavior: The nervous s	ystem	Stress		/		
Neural cells	Respiratory system			and the second s		
Neuron membrane potentials	Lymphatic system					
Neuronal synapses	Immune system				Genetics and Evolution: 20%	
Muscular system	Renal system			100 000	Genetics and Evolution. 2070	
Skeletal system	Renal regulation of blood pressure					
Endocrine system and hormonal regulation	Gastrointestinal system	· / /		15		
Hormonal regulation of metabolism	Integumentary system		/			
Circulatory system	Reproductive system				Plant Anatomy and Physiology: 15%	
					, , ,	
(8) Unit 5: Foundation 1: Biomolecules			<b>3</b> 4			
Amino acids and proteins	Chromosomal inheritance		/		Ecolomy 400/	
Enzyme structure and function	Evolution and population dynamics		/	24 14	Ecology: 10%	
Enzyme kinetics	Principles of bioenergetics	/				
DNA	Overview of metabolism	/				
Gene control						
Genetic mutations	🕜 Unit 6: Foundation 2: Cells	/		- Sant	Etheleguu 50/	
Mendelian genetics		/_			Ethology: 5%	
DNA technology	Cell membrane overview	Prokaryotes/bacteria				
	Transport across a cell membrane	Viruses		S. 6-		
	Cell-cell interactions	Cellular division		5 1		
	Eukaryotic cells	Embryology		12	Discustemations 50/	
	Cytoskeleton	Cellular development		NON T	DIOSYSTEINATICS: 5%	

#### **Our Curriculum**

- July 15: Introduction and *Meet the Organelles!*
- July 22: Intro to Genetics and Inheritance
- August 5: Gene Expression and Regulation
- August 12: BioMath: Evolution and Ecology
- August 19: Chemistry of Life

### Lesson 1: Meet the Organelles!

What do you remember about organelles?

#### **Quick Review...**

- Cells: the tiny building blocks of life
- Eukaryotic cells have smaller components
  - Each have their own function in sustaining life
    - Energy production, storing genetic information, etc.
- These components are called **organelles**



# Let's take a tour!

#### **Meet the Nucleus!**



- Control center
- Contains genetic information (DNA)
  - chromatin -> chromosomes
    when dividing
- Nucleolus produces ribosomes

#### **Meet the Ribosomes!**



#### Meet the Rough ER!

- Studded with millions of ribosomes
- Protein powerhouse
  - Some production
  - Folding
  - "Quality control"



#### Meet the Smooth ER!

- Lipid synthesis
  - Produces molecules that make up the membrane
  - Production of steroids in endocrine cells
  - Detoxification in liver cells



### Meet the Golgi Body!

- Receives proteins from rough ER
- Repackages proteins and lipids into vesicles
- Transports vesicles to destination
- Like a post office!





#### Meet the Lysosomes!

- Digest biomolecules with hydrolytic enzymes
- Recycling of materials
- Destruction of pathogens



#### **Meet the Mitochondria!**

- Involved in generating energy (ATP) from nutrients
- Krebs Cycle
- Electron Transport Chain
- Endosymbiotic theory





#### **Meet the Chloroplasts!**

- Uses light to generate sugar for plant cells
- "Reverses" cellular respiration
- Chlorophyll -> green!







#### Meet the Plasma Membrane!

- In all cells!
- Separates interior from exterior
- Selectively permeable
- Phospholipids
- Cholesterol controls rigidity
  - High temp: maintains structure
  - Low temp: increases fluidity





#### Meet the Cell Wall!

- In prokaryotes, fungi, and plant cells
- Protective layer outside the cell membrane
- Supports cell structure
- Penicillin inhibits production of bacterial cell wall



#### Meet the Vacuole!

- In animals
  - Small and sequester waste products
- In plants
  - Quite large, maintains water balance
- Contractile vacuoles (protozoans)
  - Expel excess water to prevent lysis









#### Let's Practice! USABO Open #12

- 12. The Death Star experiences a power outage. Darth Guha, being the hipster he is, really doesn't want his kale to die. He uses his red lightsaber as an emergency light source for his beloved kale. Anticipating this scenario, Darth Guha engineered his kale to overexpress beta-carotene. What is the engineered kale's photosynthetic rate, compared to wild-type kale, under the red lightsaber?
  - A. The engineered kale has a significantly higher photosynthetic rate compared to wild-type kale because beta-carotene absorbs red light better than chlorophyll.
  - B. The engineered kale has a significantly lower photosynthetic rate compared to wild-type kale because beta-carotene interferes with the absorption of red light.
  - C. The engineered kale has a significantly lower photosynthetic rate compared to wild-type kale because beta-carotene does not significantly absorb red light.
  - D. The engineered kale has approximately the same photosynthetic rate compared to wild-type kale because beta-carotene does not significantly absorb red light.
  - E. The engineered kale has approximately the same photosynthetic rate compared to wild-type kale because beta-carotene is not an accessory pigment to chlorophyll a or chlorophyll b.

#### What's next?

- July 22: Intro to Genetics and Inheritance
  - What are genes?
  - How are they passed on?
  - How can we make predictions about inheritance?
  - Mendelian Genetics vs. Non Mendelian Genetics

Unit 5: Classical genetics		0/500 Mastery points		
Introduction to heredity	Pedigrees			
Non-Mendelian inheritance				
Sex linkage				



## **Thank you!** See you next week

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