**Zoology Syllabus \***Rm 709 **luther.calhoun@elmoreco.com** ***calhounzoology.weebly.com***

**Welcome!** This Syllabus was created for you to serve as a guide to what the class is about, what type of work will be required of you, and how you will be assessed on it, and thus how you will receive credit for the class.

**Course Description** Zoology is the “Study of Animals”. As with any science, it is both a body of knowledge and a process to acquire new knowledge. The FOCUS of this class is to show how much animals impact our lives and thus our need to understand more about them. It should affect your politics and understanding of the economics of animals to society.

**Materials Needed** Something to write with is needed, **pen or pencil**. Something to write on is needed, preferably **loose-leaf paper** (many things will be turned in). A Folder is suggested because many items issued to you by the teacher will need to be kept, including this syllabus. A classroom set of **textbooks** exists but will not be used. If you feel you need a textbook issued to you, you may have your parents request one.

**Grading** To do well in my class you will need to do the following: Have the right attitude for learning, manage your time and study consistently, be present with “materials needed”, a memory good enough to not forget to turn something in when told to do so, and some decent organization skills.

For this class your graded assignments will be put into 1 of 2 categories in the gradebook: Tests or Classwork/Homework.

**Test = 60%** On average, Tests are give about every 9 days. I will not review on test day and the tests are timed. They are mostly multiple choice questions, but also include illustrations to label, and a few Short Answer/Discussion questions at the end.

**Classwork/Homework = 40%** Includes anything not listed as Test. This will include article readings with questions, “computer” presentations, quizzes, lab assignments, projects, etc. Quizzes are almost always 5 Short Answer/Discussion questions.

\*Note: Not all assignments require the same amount of work and thus not worth the same amount of points. Small point assignments do add up. Be careful and do your best on all work!

**Absences and Make-Up Work:** Make sure you understand the county/school policy about absences. You have 3 days to arrange with teacher as to how to make up work. Make-Up tests will only be given after school and will be mostly Short Answer/Discussion Questions.

**Your Grades and Papers** Your grades are in the gradebook. You can view it on iHome.. The papers you turn in are kept by me in a file folder. You can make an appointment to see them before school starts or after school.

**Communication with Me** I am available to talk to after school, I have an email (see above on this syllabus). I have a remind 101 account called Calhoun Zoo. It is mandatory that you and your parent/guardian sign up for this. To the number ***81010*** text the message ***@calhounz***

**Classroom Guidelines and Consequences**

First and foremost I expect good things from all my students. I show them respect, and expect it in return.

I respect who you are and whatever you wish to accomplish in life. What I want from you is a good attitude and respect for the “classroom”.

***NO CELL PHONES ALLOWED! Also, value your possessions…..or don’t. You will not leave to class to go get a pencil or cell phone, etc you forgot in the last class. You forgot it, you don’t value it enough.***

Official Rules:

1. Do not do anything that will inhibit anyone else’s learning or your own. You are here to learn.
2. Listen carefully to the teacher when they are talking. Usually it is something you need to hear.
3. Come to class on time, completely prepared, properly dressed, and with “ears more open than your mouth” and cell phones put away as they are not needed for class.
4. Be respectful to the classroom environment. No trash or careless handling of classroom materials.
5. Follow the teacher’s directions and all school/county rules as stated in handbooks.

Official Consequences:

1. A verbal warning
2. Entry on Behavior Management Form (possible parent contact)
3. Entry on Behavior Management Form (definite parent contact)
4. Discipline Referral Form

\*Some behaviors are so disruptive to the learning process that the above process may be bypassed. Don’t let it come to that……Also, be aware of cell phone policy.

**Some Things to Know…**

* Science Projects are mandatory. It will be due by the time we go home for Christmas.
* I have other special projects for my class: A STEM jobs poster, an Environmental Project, and an Insect/Arthropod Collection Project.
* I incorporate a lot of computer work in my class. I am generous with time to complete such projects but we cannot go to computer lab every day! I will come close to averaging 1 day in 7 a computer lab.
* We read and answer questions/write responses to a lot of articles in this class.
* We will do an intensive vocabulary word study in this class. Which will have their own vocab tests.
* We watch many video clips and video segments (parts of a larger video) in this class. Ex- many TED talks, Sci Show clips, short series like Silent Invaders and Dirty Jobs, documentary series such as Shape of Life and Inside Nature’s Giants, etc.

**Topics we cover in my class:**

Protozoans, Poriferans, Cubozoans and Scyphozoans, Anthozoans and Hydrozoans, Ctenophorans, Tapeworms, Flukes, and Planarians, Nematodes, Gastropods, Bivalves, Cephalopods, Annelids such as Polycheates, Oligocheates, and hirudines, Hexapods, chelicerates, Crustaceans, and Uniramains, Tartigrades, Echinoderms such as Asteroideans, Echinoideans, sea cucumbers, and Crinoids. Agnathans, Chrondrichtyes, Osteicthyes, Amphibians such as Anurans, caudatans, and gymnophiona, Reptiles such as Testudines, Crocodilians, and Squamatans. Birds and Mammals.

Also, water and water environments, Ecology- Biomes Adaptations and Relationships, Bioluminescence, Sensory Mechanisms, and Cryptozoology.