

A-Level Biology

COURSE OUTLINE

Life! What makes us tick?

From cells to organisms to ecosystems, if this gets your attention then A-Level Biology is the course for you! During the course we cover a variety of topics including the human brain, how muscles work, and genetics.

This course allows you to develop a range of skills including writing skills, practical skills and numeracy skills. There are several trips involved, including a trip to the field centre to look at ecosystems and a trip to the Oxford University Museum to conduct your own genetics practical. A-Level Biology sets you up well for many careers including Nursing, Pharmacy, Sports Studies, Forensics, Physiotherapy, Marine Biology and many more.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students who wish to study Biology at A-Level are required to have a Grade 5 in GCSE English and a GCSE Grade 6 in Biology or Combined Science.

COURSE CONTENT & ASSESSMENT

There are 3 exams in this course and all of the exams are taken at the end of Year 13.

Paper 1

What's assessed? Biological Molecules; Cells; Organism Sex Change Substances with Their Environment; Genetic Information, Variation and Relationships Between Organisms

How is it Assessed? Written exam: 2 hours, 91 marks, 35% of A-Level

Questions: 76 marks, short and long answer questions; 15 marks, extended response question

Paper 2

What's assessed? Energy Transfers In and Between Organisms; Organisms Respond to Changes in Their Internal and External Environments; Genetics, Populations, Evolution and Ecosystems; The Control of Gene Expression

How is it Assessed? Written exam: 2 hours, 91 marks, 35% of A-Level

Questions: 76 marks, short and long answer questions; 15 marks, extended response question

Paper 3

What's assessed? Any content from papers 1 & 2; Any practical skills

How is it Assessed? Written exam: 2 hours, 78 marks, 30% of A-Level

Questions: 38 marks, structured questions including practical techniques; 15 marks, critical analysis of given experimental data; 25 marks, one essay from a choice of two titles.

PROGRESSION

Students who would be interested in studying Biology or a related course at university would enjoy this course and with time it could lead to a career in many different aspects of the medical profession.