

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

AQA GCSE Biology (4411)

This course leads to a GCSE Science single award in Biology.

The course will run for 30 weeks, with taught class sessions on

Thursday Evenings 6pm – 9pm

You will also need to study (about 2-4 hrs a week) outside class sessions.

Summary of Subject Content

Biology 1

Biology 1a

- How do human bodies respond to changes inside them and to their environment?
- What can we do to keep our bodies healthy?
- How do we use/abuse medical and recreational drugs?
- What causes infectious diseases and how can our bodies defend themselves against them?

Biology 1b

- What determines where particular species live and how many of them there are?
- Why are individuals of the same species different from each other? What new methods do we have for producing plants and animals with the characteristics we prefer?
- Why have some species of plants and animals died out? How do new species of plants and animals develop?
- How do humans affect the environment?

Biology 2

- What are animals and plants built from?
- How do dissolved substances get into and out of cells?
- How do plants obtain the food they need to live and grow?
- What happens to energy and biomass at each stage in a food chain?
- What happens to the waste material produced by plants and animals?
- What are enzymes and what are some of their functions?
- How do our bodies keep internal conditions constant?
- Which human characteristics show a simple pattern of inheritance?

Biology 3.

- How do dissolved substances get into and out of plants and animals?
- How are dissolved materials transported around the body?
- How does exercise affect the exchanges taking place within the body?
- How do exchanges in the kidney help us to maintain the internal environment in mammals and how has biology helped us to treat kidney disease?
- How are micro-organisms used to make food and drink?
- What other useful substances can we make using microorganisms?
- How can we be sure we are using microorganisms safely?

Assessment

There are two tiers of assessment: Foundation (G–C) and Higher (D–A*).
The centre-assessed unit is not tiered.

Biology 1 Written paper. 25%, 45 minutes, 45 marks **or**

Biology 1a Matching/multiple choice questions. Objective test, 12.5%, 30 minutes, 36 marks

Biology 1b Matching/multiple choice questions. Objective test, 12.5%, 30 minutes, 36 marks

Biology 2 Written paper. 25%, 45 minutes, 45 marks

Biology 3 Written paper. 25%, 45 minutes, 45 marks

Biology Centre-Assessed Unit (B1, B2 or B3) based on normal class practical work. 25%, 40 marks, consisting of:

- Investigative Skills Assignment (an externally set, internally assessed test taking 45 minutes) plus
- Practical Skills Assessment (a holistic skills assessment)

Recommended books

There are a number of books written specifically for this qualification, but the following is approved by AQA:

Fullick, A., (2006). AQA Science GCSE Biology. Nelson Thornes. ISBN: 074879641X

Also useful, the following resources produced by CGP (<http://www.cgpbbooks.co.uk/>):

GCSE Biology AQA Revision Guide

GCSE Biology AQA Separate Science Workbook

GCSE Biology AQA Separate Science Answer Book

GCSE Biology AQA Practice Papers Higher

How much does the course cost?

Tuition fee: TBA

Examination fee: TBA

What should I do now?

If you wish to be interviewed for a place on this course please complete an application form and return it to **Reception or The Advice Centre** which is open between 10am and 4 pm Monday to Friday. You are not making any commitments at this stage, but will be able to find out much more about the course in this way.

Further information is available from the course tutor, Lesley Leuty, on (01502) 525117 or by email on l.leuty@lowestoft.ac.uk

It is the policy of this College that everyone is entitled to equality of opportunity in education and training.

Please note that all the details on this factsheet were correct at the time of printing and may be subject to change.

If you would like this factsheet in larger print or alternative format, eg Braille or audio tape, please contact Study Skills Support on 01502 525191

