

IB Biology HL



Qualification Aims and Objectives

Biology is the study of life. The vast diversity of species makes Biology both an endless source of fascination and a considerable challenge. Biologists attempt to understand the living world at all levels from the micro to the macro using many different approaches and techniques.

The aims of this course are:

- To develop a student's interest in and enthusiasm for biology, including developing an interest in further study and careers in the subject.
- To appreciate how society makes decisions about biology-related issues and how biology contributes to the success of the economy and society.
- To develop and demonstrate a deeper appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works and to develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of biology and how they relate to each other.

Course Outline

Topics covered:

- Cell biology
- Molecular biology
- Genetics
- Ecology
- Evolution and Biodiversity
- Human physiology
- Nucleic acids
- Metabolism, cell respiration and photosynthesis
- Plant biology
- Genetics and evolution
- Animal physiology

External assessment:

- Paper 1: 40 multiple choice questions (1hr, 20%)
- Paper 2: Data-based, short answer and extended response questions (2.25 hrs, 36%)
- Paper 3: Data-based, short answer and extended response questions (1.25 hrs, 24%)

Internal assessment:

- Individual Investigation: Personal research, investigation and write up (20%)



Entry Requirements

Minimum of 5 9-5 grades in GCSE examinations including English and Maths. 6-6 in Combined Science or 6 in Biology.

Future courses & possible careers

- Physiotherapy
- Veterinary
- Nursing
- Environmental Sciences
- Teaching
- Medicine

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