University of Suffolk

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	**BSc (Hons) Bioscience [with Foundation Year]**
Awarding Body	**University of Suffolk**
Level of Award[1]	**FHEQ Level 6**
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	**None**
Credit Structure[2]	**480 Credits** **Level 3: 120 Credits** **Level 4: 120 Credits** **Level 5: 120 Credits** **Level 6: 120 Credits**
Mode of Attendance	**Full-time and part-time**
Standard Length of Course[3]	**4 years full-time**
Intended Award	**BSc (Hons) Bioscience**
Named Exit Awards	**DipHE Bioscience** **CertHE Bioscience**
Entry Requirements[4]	**Typical Offer: A minimum of 80 UCAS tariff points, or equivalent. General Studies A Level will not be considered.** **Five GCSEs at grade C or above (or equivalent) to include English, Mathematics and Science**
Delivering Institution(s)	**University of Suffolk**
UCAS Code	**C761**

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BSc (Hons) Bioscience course [with Foundation Year]. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2019-20 academic year.[5]

Course Summary

The BSc (Hons) Bioscience degree course aims for students to develop an understanding of the complexity and diversity of life processes through the study of a range of modules including Molecular Biotechnology, Immunology, Cell Biology and Introduction to the Genome. It explores cutting edge developments including stem cell research, regenerative medicine and cell based therapeutics. Modules, such as Research Methods and Scientific Communication, emphasises the need for graduates to be able to communicate science to the wider community and along with Professional Development for Life Sciences module, we are promoting graduates with key employability skills required for rapidly changing biotechnology industry.

[1] For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2014)
[2] All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the Higher education credit framework for England.
[3] Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards.
[4] Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the Admissions Policy
[5] The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the Admissions Policy.

The course also provides an excellent background for further study, and will be particularly suited to those who are interested in an interdisciplinary approach to bioscience.

The Foundation Year provides a route for those who lack the required qualifications for the three year programme. The aim of the Foundation Year is to provide students with the subject knowledge, study skills and personal confidence to succeed at degree level in a bioscience subject. This year provides a supportive route to degree level study for students from a wide variety of education and working backgrounds.

Finally, the philosophy of the programmes enables a developmental approach to study so that as students progress through levels four to six, they are further challenged to develop higher level subject knowledge, cognitive skills and practical skills. The course philosophy thus firmly underpins the aims and learning outcomes of the programme.

Course Aims

- Enable students to develop a detailed knowledge of the complexity and diversity of the processes of life
- Enable students to relate their knowledge to applied bioscience
- Provide students with the knowledge and skills required for employment, specifically within Biosciences, and more generally, graduate level employment
- Develop the skills necessary for the coherent communication of scientific data and information
- Develop students' ability to undertake, and critically evaluate the validity and reliability of a range of methodologies
- Provide students with the skills required to critically evaluate current scientific research literature
- Engage students with contemporary developments and research activity in bioscience
- Make a contribution to widening participation in science higher education in the region and raise the local and regional expertise in graduates within bioscience discipline
- Enable students to become independent learners

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BSc (Hons) Bioscience [with Foundation Year] course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).[6]

1. Demonstrate critical knowledge of contemporary research advances in bioscience
2. Use an interdisciplinary approach to apply the underlying principles of the biosciences

[6] As set out in the QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2014)

3. Critically analyse the validity and reliability of a range of scientific techniques

4. Evaluate the significance of testing results with respect to scientific normative data

5. Obtain and integrate science based evidence to formulate and test current hypotheses relevant to bioscience

6. Design, plan, and conduct a research dissertation and critically evaluate the significance of the outcomes

7. Demonstrate the acquisition of problem solving techniques including the ability to critically collate and analyse original research data and draw conclusions

8. Demonstrate the acquisition of a range of basic and specialist practical skills relevant to the bioscience

9. Demonstrate Graduate Key Skills in the skill areas of Improving Own Learning, Communication, IT, Problem Solving, Numeracy, Working with Others

10. Exercise initiative and personal responsibility in undertaking a task e.g. dissertation, project

Course Design
The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmark:

- Bioscience (2007)

Course Structure
The BSc (Hons) Bioscience [with Foundation Year] comprises modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules are included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type[7]
Level 3			
	Fundamentals of Biochemistry and Biophysics	20	M
	Principles of Biology	20	M
	Scientific Study Skills	20	M
	Investigative Project	20	M
	Foundations of Anatomy and Physiology	20	M
	Mathematics for Science	20	M
Level 4			
	Cell Biology	20	M
	Biochemistry	20	M

[7] Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards

	Introduction to the Genome	20	M
	Human Physiology	20	M
	Scientific Skills	20	M
	Diversity of Life	20	R
	Human Physiological Measurements *	20	O
Level 5			
	Data Analysis and Statistics	20	M
	Research Methods and Scientific Communication	20	M
	Molecular Biotechnology	20	M
	Microbial Organisms	20	M
	Immunology	20	M
	Biology of Disease	20	O
	Work-based Experience*	20	O
	Environmental Science**	20	O
Level 6			
	Dissertation	40	M
	Developmental Biology	20	M
	Professional Development for the Life Sciences	20	M
	Regenerative Medicine	20	M
	Pharmacology and Toxicology	20	O
	Clinical Nutrition	20	O

*Modules Human Physiological Measurements and Work-based Experience are only available as alternatives in case of failing the Diversity of Life module.

**While the provision of the Environmental Science module is planned, at this stage we cannot guarantee this.

Awards
On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BSc (Hons) Bioscience. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a DipHE Bioscience on successful completion of 240 credits including all mandatory modules at levels 4 and 5, or a CertHE Bioscience on successful completion of all modules at level 4.

Course Delivery
The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying full-time on the BSc (Hons) Bioscience [with Foundation Year] course are likely to have approximately 288 contact hours per year. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures, seminars, practical activities, revision quizzes, tutorials, guided VLE and Reading Week activities. Students will normally be expected to undertake 36 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be approximately 50% coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals and research projects) and 50% written and practical examinations.

Course Team

The BSc (Hons) Bioscience [with Foundation Year] course is offered within the School of Science, Technology and Engineering. Profiles of the academic staff who deliver the course are available: http://www.ucs.ac.uk/About/Structure/UCSStaffProfiles/Department-of-Science-and-Technology/Staff-Sci-and-Tech.aspx.

Course Costs

Students undertaking BSc (Hons) Bioscience [with Foundation Year] will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£1,454 per 20 credit module
Full-time International	£13,330 per year
Part-time International	£2,220 per 20 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the University Tuition Fee Policy.

Students will be required to pay additional costs for course material printing, such as: lecture notes, assessed posters, recommended readings, amounting to a maximum of £150 per year payable as required.

Students are likely to incur other costs for optional field trips amounting to approximately maximum £700 per duration of study programme.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the website.