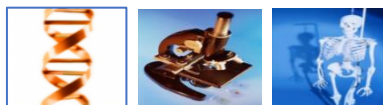




# Biology

Laura Bonass



## Course Aims

A-level Biology is a challenging, rewarding course that helps students develop skills and knowledge necessary for a successful career. Biology is one of the most popular A-level subjects in the country, attracting students studying a wide range of other subjects. Many of these students enjoy the subject so much they eventually choose a biology related degree course. Others go on to careers in law, computing, accounting or teaching. So, whatever field you will eventually work in, you will find biology a very rewarding and challenging course which will develop many of the skills essential for a successful career.

Students will develop a critical awareness of current social and environmental issues and an understanding and respect for living things; analytical, evaluative and synoptic writing skills; and practical competence, including the ability to plan and manipulate data.

## Qualifications and Qualities Needed

An APS of 6+ and 6s in GCSE Science (including a 6 in Biology/Biology components of Triple or Combined Science) and a grade 6 in Maths. Students must appreciate this is a hard course (definitely not the 'easy' Science). As such, they should be motivated, willing to get involved and have a fundamental interest in Biology. In some ways, Biology is like learning a new language there is a huge volume of material to remember.

## Course Structure

AQA Biology (7402)

Year 1	Year 2
Biological Molecules	Energy transfers in and between organisms
Cells	Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
Organisms exchange substances with their environment	The control of gene expression
Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms	Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environment

10% of questions on the final exam will be maths questions. 15% of questions on the final exam will be based on practical work completed during the 2 years. Students complete 12 required practicals during the 2 years; a separately reported result will appear alongside their qualification grade.

## Complementary Subjects

Include Chemistry, Physics, PE, Psychology, Geography and Maths.

## Recommended Textbook

AQA Biology: A-level Year 1 & AS, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Glenn Toole & Susan Toole. ISBN 978-0198351764

## Important!!

This course is interesting and fun but requires hard work in order to succeed. An A-level in Biology can lead on to degrees and careers in Biology, Marine Biology, Environmental Studies, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Nursing, Dentistry, Physiotherapy, Psychology, Pharmacology, Genetics, Forensics and loads more!