

These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's [core regulations for undergraduate programmes](#), and the [marking and classification conventions for undergraduate programmes](#).

BSc Biological Sciences (C103), BSc Biological Sciences with placement (C105), BSc Biological Sciences with year abroad (C108)

1. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.

Level 1 (Certificate)

2. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Molecules and Cells	BIOL1281	20
Genetics	BIOL1171	20
Introduction to Physiology	BIOL1151	20
Organisms and Environment	BIOL1161	20
Fundamentals of Bioscience Research	BIOL1321	20

3. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 20 credits from List A:

List A:	Credit value
Modules up to the value of 20 credits offered by another Board of Studies, including appropriate credit-bearing language modules offered by the University's Centre for Foreign Language Study.	20

Level 2 (Diploma)

4. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Research Skills for Biosciences	BIOL2581	20

5. Candidates shall study and be assessed in modules to the value of 100 credits from List B:

List B:		Credit value
Ecology	BIOL2461	20
Behaviour	BIOL2511	20
Evolution	BIOL2451	20
Plant and Algal Physiology	BIOL2571	20
Cell Signalling	BIOL2501	20
Development	BIOL2471	20
Cell Biology	BIOL2481	20
Molecular Biology	BIOL2441	20
Metabolism	BIOL2491	20
Integrated Physiological Systems	BIOL2521	20
Microbiology	BIOL2431	20
Immune Systems	BIOL2421	20
Biomolecules - Structure and Function	BIOL2591	20

Candidates who have taken a 20 credit language module at level 1 shall have the following alternative: candidates shall study and be assessed in modules to the value of 80 credits from List B (above) and shall take a level 2 language module (20 credits) which follows on from the level 1 language module already taken.

Year 3 - Placement

6. During the third year candidates shall undertake an approved placement for 40 weeks. Students who are considered to have made satisfactory progress by the Department of Biosciences Board of Examiners, judged by reference to each student's placement learning agreement, will continue to Level 3 of the BSc Biological Sciences with placement (C105) programme. Otherwise, they will transfer to the BSc Biological Sciences (C103) programme.

Year 3 - Year Abroad

7. During the third year candidates shall study and be assessed in a university abroad under an exchange programme. Students who are considered by the Department of Biosciences Board of Examiners to have made satisfactory progress, judged by reference to each student's learning agreement, will continue to Level 3 of the BSc Biological Sciences with year abroad (C108) programme. Otherwise, they will transfer to the BSc Biological Sciences (C103) programme.

Level 3 (Degree)

8. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		Credit value
Literature Review	BIOL3451	20

9. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 60 credits from List C:

List C:		Credit value
Advanced Topics in Ecology and Behaviour	BIOL3561	20
Conservation Biology	BIOL3551	20
Ecology in the Anthropocene	BIOL3541	20
Advanced Topics in Development	BIOL3521	20
Stress and Responses to the Environment	BIOL3491	20
Crops for the Future	BIOL3611	20
Biochemistry and Biotechnology	BIOL3601	20
Stem Cells and Tissue Engineering	BIOL3531	20
Ageing	BIOL3591	20
Advanced Cell Biology	BIOL3481	20
Genomics	BIOL3651	20
Biology of Disease	BIOL3621	20
Advanced Biochemistry Φ	BIOL3671	20

10. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 20 credits from List D:

List D:		Credit value
Field Course	BIOL3161	20
Workshop	BIOL3581	20

11. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 20 credits from List E:

List E:		Credit value
Research Project	BIOL3571	20
Biological Enterprise	BIOL3441	20
Biology into Schools	BIOL3431	20
Contemporary Issues in the Biosciences	BIOL3641	20

12. The module marked with the Φ symbol will not be available until the 2025/26 academic year.

Placement

13. Students admitted to the BSc Biological Sciences (C103) are able to apply to transfer to the BSc Biological Sciences with placement (C105). During the placement student progress will be monitored. At the conclusion of the placement, student progress will be assessed. This assessment does not contribute to the marks used to determine the award of the degree, but successful completion of the placement is required to proceed to Level 3 of the BSc Biological Sciences with placement (C105).

14. Candidates wishing to transfer to the BSc Biological Sciences with placement (C105) must:

- have successfully completed Level 1 of the BSc Biological Sciences (C103) and progressed to Level 2 of the programme; and
- secure a placement opportunity with an approved organisation or institution; and
- during the first term of Level 2 study, apply to the Placement Coordinator in the Department of Biosciences to be admitted to the BSc Biological Sciences with placement (C105) and have their application approved by the Chair of the Board of Studies in the Department of Biosciences; and

(d) successfully complete Level 2 of the BSc Biological Sciences (C103) so as to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the BSc Biological Sciences (C103) programme.

15. Students who the Board of Examiners for the Department of Biosciences deem to have made satisfactory progress on the placement year will continue to Level 3 of the BSc Biological Sciences with placement (C105). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the placement year will not be permitted to continue on the BSc Biological Sciences with placement (C105), but must instead proceed to Level 3 of the BSc Biological Sciences (C103) programme.

Year Abroad

16. Students admitted to the BSc Biological Sciences (C103) are able to apply to transfer to the BSc Biological Sciences with year abroad (C108). During the third year candidates must undertake full time study in an academic institution ("host") approved by the Board of Studies in the Department of Biosciences. During the year abroad student progress will be monitored through assessments and examinations set by the host institution. These assessments do not contribute to the marks used to determine the award of the degree but successful completion is required to qualify for the award of BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences with year abroad (C108)

17. Candidates wishing to transfer to the BSc Biological Sciences with year abroad (C108) must:

(a) have successfully completed Level 1 of the BSc Biological Sciences (C103) and progressed to Level 2 of the programme; and

(b) secure an exchange opportunity with an approved international partner institution of the University; and

(c) during the first term of Level 2 study, apply to the Exchanges Coordinator in the Department of Biosciences to be admitted to the BSc Biological Sciences with year abroad (C108) and have their application approved by the Chair of the Board of Studies in Biological and Biomedical Sciences; and

(d) successfully complete Level 2 of the BSc Biological Sciences (C103) so as to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the BSc Biological Sciences (C103) programme.

18. Students who the Board of Examiners for the Department of Biosciences deem to have made satisfactory progress on the placement year will continue to Level 3 of the BSc Biological Sciences with year abroad (C108). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the placement year will not be permitted to continue on the BSc Biological Sciences with year abroad (C108), but must instead proceed to Level 3 of the BSc Biological Sciences (C103) programme.