ECTS Handbook

Incoming Students

Academic year 2023/2024

Department of Biosciences

Content

A: THE DEPARTMENT

The Department has teaching interests in a broad spectrum of the biosciences covering global ecosystems, plant and animal biology, molecular biology, and human health and disease. There are strong interdisciplinary links with the physical and social sciences with excellent research led teaching facilities. Most students follow a 3 year degree programme although there is a 4 year degree option which includes a placement or the Masters degree in Biosciences (MBiol). The first year is common for all students with progressive specialization in one of several themed routes within Biological Sciences. By third year, there is a strong emphasis on research, with taught content directly linked to research being carried out in the Department.

A1: Exchange/ERASMUS Departmental Coordinator

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B: DEGREE PROGRAMMES OFFERED

There are two degree programmes; a three year undergraduate Biological Science (BSc) course and a four year programme leading to a Masters Degree in Biosciences (MBiol), each with considerable choice of modules.

B1: Degree Structure

Students take six modules in a year and the teaching is spread across three terms from October to June. Usually the majority of teaching takes place in terms 1 and 2 (Michaelmas and Epiphany Terms). Only full year study abroad places are offered.

Modules at level/year 2 involve continuous assessment throughout the academic year, while modules at level/year 3 are assessed by exams in term 3 (Easter Term). Exams are assessed in English and no alternative assessments are offered.

Exchange students can take the same course/module choices as home students as long as there are no timetable clashes and they have the required prerequisite knowledge from similar topics that they have studied at their home institution. **The best way to avoid timetable clashes is to choose a set of courses/modules from the same year level.** Details of the degree structure are available at:
https://www.dur.ac.uk/biosciences/undergraduate/bsc/ /

C: REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

This section contains important information for setting up your academic programme at Durham University. Please read through this section carefully before considering your modules and filling in the Learning Agreement

C1 Choice of Modules

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR STUDENTS: PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING THE LEARNING AGREEMENT

At Durham University, the Learning Agreements are signed by the exchange coordinators from individual university departments. Students choose modules (courses) offered by the Durham University department with which an exchange agreement has been signed by their home university. Students are advised to check with the Exchange Coordinator in their home university before applying.

Please clearly indicate the study modules you wish to take on your Learning Agreement (included in your application package) for approval by the respective department(s). Each Durham module is equivalent to 10 ECTS credits. It is recommended for students to select modules from the same year level to avoid timetable clashes between modules. The departmental coordinator in Biosciences should be contacted to check on module choices and to discuss if students have the prerequisites to study the modules especially if you want to select a combination of level/year 2 and level/year 3 modules. For further information on Research Projects, students or their home university coordinators should contact the department coordinator to discuss internships. It is important that a properly completed Learning Agreement is submitted as part of the application form. Only complete applications can be processed.

The Biosciences modules that are available for visiting Exchange students are listed in the subsequent tables. You can find out more about module content by visiting the link:
https://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/faculty.handbook/degrees/frameworks/c103.pdf
Click on the module codes on this page to go to more information about that module. Please note that module selections can only be confirmed when you register within the Department upon arrival at Durham.

Biosciences Level 1

Module name	**Module code**	**ECTS credits**	**Available for one or two term students**
Molecules and Cells	BIOL1281	10	No
Genetics	BIOL1171	10	No
Introduction to Physiology	BIOL1151	10	No
Organisms and Environment	BIOL1161	10	No

Biosciences Level 2

Module name	**Module code**	**ECTS credits**	**Available for one or two term students**
Behaviour	BIOL2511	10	No
Evolution	BIOL2451	10	No
Ecology	BIOL2461	10	No
Plant and Algal Physiology	BIOL2571	10	No
Cell Signalling	BIOL2501	10	No
Development	BIOL2471	10	No

Cell Biology	BIOL2481	10	No
Molecular Biology	BIOL2441	10	No
Biochemistry	BIOL2491	10	No
Integrated Physiological Systems	BIOL2521	10	No
Microbiology	BIOL2431	10	No
Immune Systems	BIOL2421	10	No
Research Skills for Biosciences	BIOL2581	10	No

Biosciences Level 3

Module name	**Module code**	**ECTS credits**	**Available for one or two term students**
Literature Review	BIOL3451	10	No
Advanced Topics in Ecology and Behaviour	BIOL3561	10	No
Conservation Biology	BIOL3551	10	No
Ecology in the Anthropocene	BIOL3541	10	No
Advanced Topics in Development	BIOL3521	10	No
Stress and Responses to the Environment	BIOL3491	10	No
Crops for the Future	BIOL3611	10	No
Biochemistry and Biotechnology	BIOL3601	10	No

Stem cells and Tissue Engineering	BIOL3531	10	No
Ageing	BIOL3591	10	No
Advanced Cell Biology	BIOL3481	10	No
Genomics	BIOL3651	10	No
Biology of Disease	BIOL3621	10	No
Research Project	BIOL3571	10	No
Contemporary Issues in the Biosciences	BIOL3641	10	No