



# BIOLOGY

**QUALIFICATION**      AS Level Biology  
A Level Biology

**Examination Board**      OCR A

**What do I need to know or be able to do before taking this course?**

**You will have either:**

- Studied GCSE Trilogy Science and achieved grade 6-6.
- Studied GCSE Biology and achieved grade 6.

**You will also need grade 6 maths and English.**

**What will I learn on this AS/ A Level course?**

The specification is divided into topics, each covering different key concepts of biology. Teaching of practical skills is integrated with the theoretical topics and they're assessed through the written papers. For A Level only, the Practical Endorsement will also support the development of practical skills.

**What kind of student is this course suitable for?**

Biology is the scientific study of all facets of the natural world. As one of the 'big three' scientific disciplines, you will almost certainly have encountered biology at school and have some idea of what sort of subjects you will be covering. You will also be aware that, like all sciences, it favours a methodical and logical approach to learning about the natural world that would best suit those with a similar temperament and approach to their own work. If this sounds like you, Biology could be a rewarding and fascinating subject, unpicking, as it does, the beauty and poetry of the natural world and explaining how it is all put together. If you have always been fascinated by all forms of life, from those at the top of the food chain to the tiniest bacteria, then Biology is definitely a subject that you should consider.

**What is covered on the AS and A level course?**

Biology is split into six modules:

Modules 1 to 4 constitute the stand-alone AS Level qualification

Modules 1 to 6, combined with the Practical Endorsement, constitute the full A Level.

**Module 1** Development of practical skills

**Module 2** Foundations in biology

**Module 3** Exchange and transport

**Module 4** Biodiversity, evolution and disease

**Module 5** Communications, homeostasis and energy

**Module 6** Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

**What could I go on to do at the end of my course?**

There are a number of career options available to scientists.

There are a number of excellent webpages which give further details about career paths and applying to university.

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/advice/planning/jobfamily/Pages/scienceandresearch.aspx>