

Programme Specification

BSc Biomedicine

For students entering Part 1 in September 2022

UFBIOMEX
UFBIOMEXWY

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	
Length of Programme	3 years
Length of Programme with placement/year abroad	BSc Biomedicine with Professional Experience - 4 years (internal transfer only)
Accreditation	N/A

Programme information and content

The programme in BSc Biomedicine aims to provide you with the opportunity to study disease in humans by providing a fundamental background in molecular and cell Biology and Physiology, which is balanced with applied laboratory skills in Biochemistry, Microbiology, Physiology and Histology.

The overall aims of the degree course are to provide a broad understanding of the biological basis of disease and concentrates on the interface between normal and abnormal biology. Emphasis is placed on sound understanding of Chemistry as a basis for the appreciation of the biological processes involved. You will study the normal and pathological state at every level, from genes and enzymes through cells, tissues and whole animals. You will learn about the biology of pathogens and the interactions of these and other disease agents with the host.

During your studies, you will be exposed to a variety of information sources and techniques and be trained in various skills including those used in reasoning, argument and communication. Several transferable skills will be acquired, including the ability to design and execute experiments in the laboratory (including working in a team), access information, interpret data using statistics and computing, write essays, scientific papers and reports, and give oral and poster presentations.

Part 1:	<p>Part 1 of our programme will teach you physiology, cell biology, biochemistry and microbiology. We will introduce you to the major diseases affecting mankind.</p> <p>You will gain practical experience in working in a laboratory, including experience of histology. There will be small group teaching of transferable and subject-specific skills, such as study skills, writing skills, mathematical skills, including statistics, computer literacy, and critical analysis of research and career</p>
---------	---

	management. If you do not have AS or A level Chemistry or an equivalent qualification, we will bring you up to AS level Chemistry.
Part 2:	<p>In Part 2 you will study Immunology, Molecular Genetics, Pharmacology, Toxicology and more cell biology. You will cover important infectious diseases.</p> <p>The diagnostic work of hospital pathology laboratories in terms of haematology, cytology and clinical biochemistry will be explored. You will gain further experience of study, writing, mathematical, statistical, computer literacy, career skills and critical analysis. Additionally, you will gain skills and understanding relevant to Biomedicine, including practical skills, understanding of the social context of the subject and skills relevant to enhancing employability.</p>
Part 3:	Part 3 will concentrate on the major causes of death in this country and worldwide, namely cardiovascular disease and cancer. You will also study medical genetics and neurobiology. You will carry out a research project, which will be experimental, computer-based, a systematic review or a hypothesis- driven literature review. In addition, you will be able to explore in-depth, specific areas of interest, through optional module selection.

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
BI1AP12	Anatomy & Physiology	20	4
BI1BAC2	Bacteriology and Virology	10	4
BI1BEC1	Building Blocks of Life	20	4
BI1BF1	Laboratory and Study Skills for Biomedicine	10	4
BI1BM12	Key Skills in Biomedicine	10	4
BI1BP2	Pathology	20	4
BI1S1	Introductory Microbiology	10	4

Students must also take one option of the following:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
BI1BAB2	Metabolic and Practical Biochemistry	20	4
OR			
BI1MB2	Metabolic Biochemistry	10	4

Also, students without AS Chemistry or an equivalent (*such as International Foundation Chemistry A from the University of Reading*) must take:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
CH1FC1	Fundamental Concepts in Chemistry1	10	4

Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from selected modules from the School of Biological Sciences and across the University.

Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
BI2BC45	Cells and Immunity	20	5
BI2BCB5	Clinical Biomedicine	20	5
BI2BE4	Pharmacology and Toxicology	10	5
BI2BI45	Infectious Diseases	20	5
BI2BM45	Key Skills in Biomedicine 2	10	5
BI2BMG4	Molecular Genetics	20	5

Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from selected modules from the School of Biological Sciences and across the University

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
BI3BA7	Medical Genetics	10	6
BI3BE8	Cardiovascular Disease	10	6
BI3BT78	Cancer and Cell Communication	20	6
BI3RP3	Research Project	40	6

Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from selected modules in the list provided by the School of Biological Sciences.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your programme can be found online in the Course Catalogue. Details of optional modules for each part, including any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as

completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Additional costs of the programme

You require a laboratory coat which you can bring with you or purchase from the University when you arrive (£12).

If you undertake a Placement Year, associated costs will vary according to the nature and location of the placement and/or the study abroad host institution, and individual travel and subsistence arrangements.

Costs are indicative, but will vary according to module choice and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2021.

Placement opportunities

Placements:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of your Programme. This will form all or part of an optional module. You will be required to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University

Study Abroad:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a Study Abroad placement during your Programme. This is subject to you meeting academic conditions detailed in the Programme Handbook, including obtaining the relevant permissions from your School, and the availability of a suitable Study Abroad placement. If you undertake a Study Abroad placement, further arrangements will be discussed and agreed with you

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will be taught through lectures, seminars/tutorials, laboratory practicals and supervised project work.

The scheduled teaching and learning activity hours and amount of technology enhanced learning activity for your programme will depend upon your module combination. In addition, you will undertake some self-scheduled teaching and learning activities, designed by and/or involving staff, which give some flexibility for you to choose when to complete them. You will also be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module study hours including contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

N/A

Assessment

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations and coursework, assessed via a range of methods.

Progression

To gain a threshold performance at Part 1 and qualify for the CertHE, a student shall normally be required to achieve an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 1, where all the credits are at 4 level or above, and achieve a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits. In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student shall normally be required to achieve a threshold performance at Part 1.

Part 2

To achieve a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:

- (i) Obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2; and
- (ii) Obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits taken in Part 2; and
- (iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits, except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, a student must achieve a threshold performance.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Professional/placement year

“Students are required to pass the professional placement year in order to progress on the programme which incorporates the professional placement year. Students who fail the professional placement year transfer to the non-placement year version of the programme.”

Classification

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark	Interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

Three year programmes:

Part 2: one-third

Part 3: two-thirds

Four year programmes, including placement year

Part 2: one-third

Placement Year: not included in the classification

Part 3: two-thirds

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

BSc Biomedicine for students entering Part 1 in session 2022/23

19 September 2024

© The University of Reading 2024