



**URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL
& WIMBLEDON COLLEGE
SIXTH FORM**

BIOLOGY

at Ursuline High School

LEVEL: A-level

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

SPECIFICATION NUMBERS: 7402

September 2021

URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL
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A-level Biology

Biology A-level will give you the skills to make connections and associations with all living things around you. Biology literally means the study of life and if that's not important, what is? Being such a broad topic, you're bound to find a specific area of interest, plus it opens the door to a fantastic range of interesting careers.

degree courses taken by students who have an

A-level in Biology are:

- Biology
- Psychology
- Sport and exercise science
- Medicine
- Anatomy
- Physiology and Pathology
Pharmacology
- Toxicology and Pharmacy Chemistry.

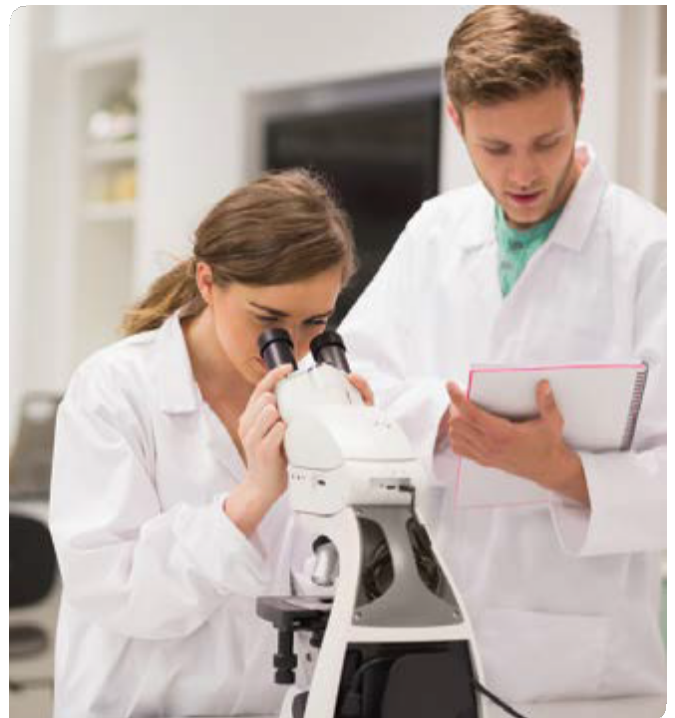
Possible degree options

According to bestcourse4me.com, the top seven

Possible career options

Studying A-level Biology at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including:

- Doctor
- Clinical molecular geneticist
- Nature conservation officer
- Pharmacologist
- Research scientist
- Vet
- Secondary school teacher
- Marine biologist
- Dentist.



Topics covered

A-level Biology lasts two years, with exams at the end of the second year. The table below shows the topics you will study in each year.

AS and first year of	Second year of A-level
1. Biological molecules	5. Energy transfers in and between organisms
2. Cells	6. Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
3. Organisms exchange substances with their environment	7. Genetics, populations,
4. Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms	

- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Practical's

Biology, like all sciences, is a practical subject. Throughout the course you will carry out practical activities including:

- using microscopes to see cell division
- dissection of animal or plant systems
- aseptic technique to study microbial growth
- investigating activity within cells
- investigating animal behaviours
- investigating distributions of species in the environment.

These practical's will give you the skills and confidence needed to investigate the way living things behave and work. It will also ensure that if you choose to study a Biology-based subject at university, you'll have the practical skills needed to carry out successful experiments in your degree.

Exams

Paper			ig
1	<p>There is no coursework on this course. However, your performance during practical's will be assessed to form the practical endorsement of the course.</p> <p>There are three exams at the end of the two years for A-level, all of which are two hours long. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Biology are based on what you learned in your practical's.</p>		
2			
3	Any content from topics 1-8, including relevant practical skills.	<p>38 marks: structured questions, including practical techniques.</p> <p>15 marks: critical analysis of experimental data.</p> <p>25 marks: one essay from a choice of 2 titles.</p>	30%

Other subject's biology goes well with:
Chemistry, Math's,
Psychology, Geography, PE
and Physics

“Science is beautiful when it makes simple explanations of phenomena or connections between different observations. Examples include the double helix in biology and the fundamental equations of physics.”
Stephen Hawking

Useful links: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/biology-guide>

Recommended Reading: The New Scientist, BBC wildlife, National Geographic and Nature

ENTRY CRITERIA

Please refer to the Entry Criteria Insert to understand the Pathway requirements.

The entry criteria for this subject is: Grade 6 in Biology OR Grade 7 in Combined Science, AND Grade 6 in Maths