

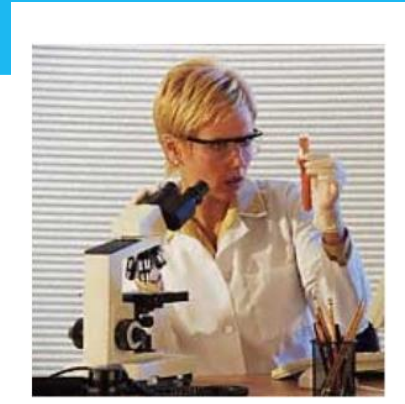
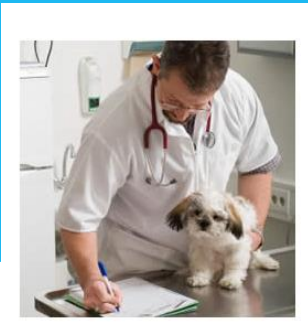


A-Level Biology

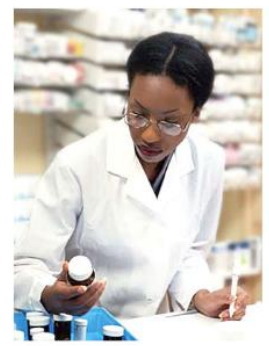
In this presentation.....

Why study Biology?
Course structure and content
Entry requirements

Why study Biology?



- Because it leads to a whole host of amazing careers...



Course structure

The A-level course is a 2 year course with all topics taught over the 2 years being examined at the end of Year 13.

Required practicals -15% of marks in papers will be assessing practical knowledge and if you are successful in your practical work you will get an endorsement which is important for studying any Science based courses at University.

10% of exam marks will assess mathematical skills.

What you will be examined on...

- **Assessment objective 1 (AO1)**
Knowledge and **understanding** of science and
of How Science Works
- **Assessment objective 2 (AO2)**
Application of knowledge and understanding of
science
- **Assessment Objective 3 (AO3)**
How Science Works

Exam Structure

- There are three terminal papers which you will sit at the end of year 13
- Paper 1 – year 1 topics
- Paper 2 – year 2 topics
- Paper 3 – synoptic paper with 25mark essay

Biological molecules (monomers & polymers, carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, nucleic acids, ATP, water)

Cells (structure of prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells; viruses; methods of studying cells; the cell cycle and cell division, transport across membranes, cell recognition and the immune system)

Exchange (surface area to volume ratio, gas exchange, digestion and absorption, mass transport)

Genetics (DNA, genes & chromosomes, DNA & protein synthesis, genetic diversity, taxonomy, biodiversity)

- **Energy transfers between organisms** (photosynthesis, respiration, energy and ecosystems, nutrient cycles)
- **Responses to environment** (survival and response; receptors; control of heart rate; the nervous system; muscle structure and function, homeostasis)
- **Population genetics & evolution** (inheritance; populations; speciation; ecosystems)
- **Control of gene expression** (mutation; totipotency; transcription & translation; cancer genetics; genome research)

2019 results

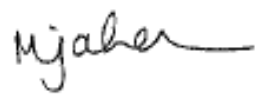
Result	Candidates	Cumulative (%)
A*(a*)	2	6.5
A(a)	3	16.1
B(b)	14	61.3
C(c)	7	83.9
D(d)	5	100.0
Total	31	

Biology 3 →
TOP 25
Nationally

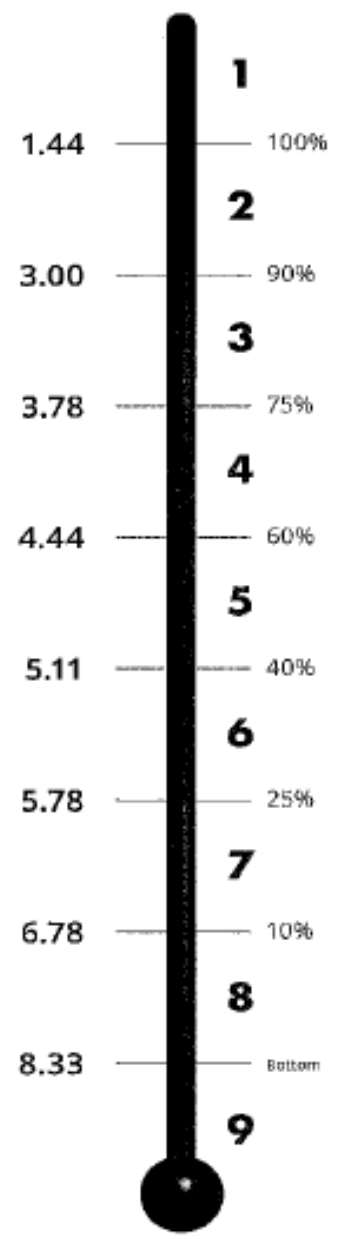
3 Year
T Score = 3.67

Well done!

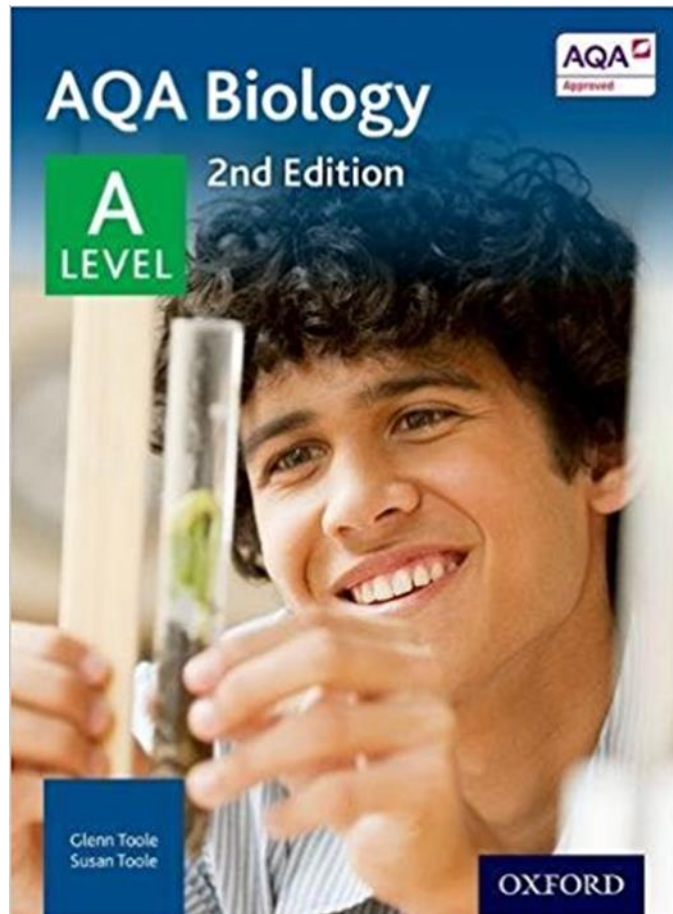
Mary Ahern
Chief Executive



*National position compared to the A level outcomes
of 2,817 schools and colleges in the UK*



Text book



You will need a text book for your course.

You can purchase these from the department at a discounted price (currently £32)

However, you are welcome to try to purchase a second-hand one if you prefer

- **Year 13 Biology Field Trip**
- Science Department seminars
- Occasional trips/lectures
- Summer schools/taster days
- Expeditions abroad



Field trip (compulsory)

- Residential
- October of Year 13
- 4 days/3 nights
- Cost is between £280 and £300 (depending on transport costs)
- £70 deposit due in June of Year 12
- Balance due mid-September



Course requirements

- At least a grade 5 in GCSE Biology
- At least a grade 5 in GCSE Maths

Combined science candidates (5/5):

- Be aware that there is a proportion of the GCSE course that you will not have studied compared with those doing separate award which means there will be extra transition work you will need to complete

To succeed at A Level....

- You must be **interested** and **enthusiastic**
- You must **read around** the subject and keep up with current advances
- You must be **organised**, **methodical** and **extremely** hard-working
- You must **love** the subject

- A word of caution – getting the minimum entry requirements is no guarantee of success at A level. You should be aiming to get the highest grade that you can at GCSE.