



# Biology



## Overview

The aims of these specifications are to encourage candidates to:

- develop their interest in and enthusiasm for biology, including developing an interest in further study and careers in biology;
- appreciate how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society;
- develop and demonstrate a deeper appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of How Science Works;
- develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of biology and how they relate to each other.

### A level Course Content:

- Module 1 - Practical skills development
- Module 2 - Cells, chemicals for life, transport and gas exchange
- Module 3 - Cell division, development and disease control
- Module 4 - Biodiversity, evolution and disease
- Module 5 - Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

## Assessment

<b>A Level – two year course</b>	
<b>10% of exam marks assess mathematical skills</b>	
<b>Paper 1: Biological Processes</b> multiple choice, structured and extended response questions (100 marks)	2hr 15m 37% of A level
<b>Paper 2: Biological Diversity</b> multiple choice, structured and extended response questions (100 marks)	2hr 15m 37% of A level
<b>Paper 3: Unified Biology</b> structured and extended response questions (70 marks)	1hr 30m 26% of A level
<b>Non-Exam assessment of practical skills</b> reported separately	Pass / Fail

Exam Board



Specification

A level: H420

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/171736-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-biology-a-h420.pdf>

### Subject Specific Entry Requirements

The A level specification has been written to provide progression from GCSE Science and GCSE Additional Science, or from GCSE Biology; achievement at a minimum grade 6 on the Higher Tier paper in these qualifications should be seen as the normal requisite for entry to A level Biology, along with a minimum Grade 6 in Maths at GCSE.

## Progression and Career Opportunities

Biology gives access to many careers, often via university degree. The list of potential careers is large and includes medicine, physiology, speech therapy, veterinary science, marine biology, ecology, conservation and teaching.