

Programme Information		
Programme Title	Programme Code	HECoS Code
Biological Sciences with French for Science Biological Sciences with German for Science Biological Sciences with Spanish for Science	C1R1 C1R2 C1R4	For Registry Use Only

Award	Length of Study	Mode of Study	Entry Point(s)	Total Credits	
				ECTS	CATS
BSc	4 Years	Full-time	October	260	520
Dip He	2 Years	Full-time	n/a	120	240
Cert HE	1 Year	Full-time	n/a	60	120

The Cert. HE / Dip. HE are intermediate awards and are not available for entry. All students must apply to and join the BSc

Ownership			
Awarding Institution	Imperial College London	Faculty	Natural Sciences
Teaching Institution	Imperial College London	Department	Life Sciences
Associateship	Associateship of the Royal College of Science (ARCS)	Main Location(s) of Study	South Kensington

External Reference	
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external reference points	Biosciences
FHEQ Level	Level 6
EHEA Level	1 st cycle

External Accreditor(s) (if applicable) Not applicable			
External Accreditor:	None		
Accreditation received:	N/A	Accreditation renewal:	N/A

Collaborative Provision Not applicable			
Collaborative partner	Collaboration type	Agreement effective date	Agreement expiry date
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Specification Details	
Programme Lead	Prof Huw Williams
Student cohorts covered by specification	2021-22 entry
Date of introduction of programme	October 2019
Date of specification review	August 2021

Programme Overview
<p>The four-year BSc Biological Sciences with French/German/Spanish for Science programmes include training in the chosen language using language labs in the first and second year. Students spend the third year attending taught courses and conducting a research project at an approved educational institute in another European country. Students will then specialise in the final year, making their choice from a wide range of options and research projects.</p> <p>Studying the Biological Sciences BSci programme you will be actively engaged in a curriculum that will be enriched from year 1 onwards by the Department of Life Sciences' research environment. The curriculum addresses the broad fundamental knowledge required to understanding the living organisms from their basic biochemistry, genetics and information flow in cells to detailed knowledge of the relationships, evolution, and key features of certain groups of organisms. You will gain understanding of the processes by which the diversity of life on earth has arisen, interacts with its environment.</p> <p>All students on Biological Sciences programmes follow the same core modules in the first year of study, where the programme will range from biological chemistry to ecology and biodiversity. This will be complemented by a Life Science Skills programme that will provide training in quantitative skills, programming, statistics and scientific writing and presentation. You will develop a synoptic understanding of Biological Sciences before starting to specialise in year 2 by taking elective modules. By selecting modules from different areas a broad biological sciences training is possible or you can make selections leading to specialisation in a range of areas including Ecology, Environmental Science, Biodiversity, Microbiology, Immunology, Molecular Biology, Stem Cells, Neuroscience, Developmental Biology and Bioinformatics. Our final year specialised modules are based around our wide-ranging, world class research expertise and you will be brought to the edge of knowledge in your chosen specialised modules, taught by experts.</p> <p>Through laboratory, computational and field work you will learn the skills you need to design, carry out and analyse the data from biological experiments</p> <p>You will have the opportunity to contribute to the department's research by undertaking a 10 week, full time research project.</p> <p>You will learn from the full range of academic staff in the department, including world leaders, as well as postgraduate students, your peers and visiting scientists to the department. You will develop into effective, independent Life Scientists; life-long learners with high self-efficacy; and rational and evidence-based decision makers.</p> <p>A high proportion of Graduates in Biological Sciences go onto further study including PhD study or enter a range of employments including, research and development in pharma, biotech, ecological consultancy, science policy, research and technical consultancy, business and finance.</p>

Learning Outcomes
<p>Please refer to the Teaching Toolkit for advice on the role and purpose of Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO): www.imperial.ac.uk/staff/educational-development/teaching-toolkit/intended-learning-outcomes</p>

On completion of this programme, graduates will be able to:

On achieving the Cert HE:

1. Interpret and apply core terminology and key concepts used in life sciences;
2. Integrate fundamental biological and/or biochemical principles to explore biological complexity;
3. Integrate concepts from a range of disciplines, including physics, chemistry and maths, to solve problems in life sciences;
4. Demonstrate effective verbal, written communication and presentation skills;

On achieving the Dip HE, the ILOs (1-4) above and

5. Explore ethical and social issues in life sciences, and consider the potential impact of novel technologies;
6. Formulate hypotheses, design experiments, and apply lab and/or field skills to collect and critically evaluate relevant data;
7. Conduct statistical analyses using programming skills, adhering to publication standards;
8. Collaborate successfully in diverse, multicultural and international teams;

On achieving the BSc, all the ILOs (1-8) above and

9. Demonstrate excellent verbal, written communication and presentation skills across a range of academic and disciplinary activities, including research, assessment, dissemination and communication with diverse audiences;
10. Solve complex real-world problems within their degree specialisation, using a range of appropriate laboratory, computational or field skills;
11. Create independent, enquiry-based, extended and novel work that demonstrates critical analysis and evaluation.
12. Demonstrate an awareness of the outstanding research problems of their chosen Life Science specialities through exploring topics in the final year, research-led modules and be able to evaluate and understand how they are being or can be tackled.
13. Display a strong sense of personal and professional identity as a life scientist, and feel confident to apply the scientific method to real-world life science problems;
14. Ability to communicate in and comprehend both written and spoken forms of the chosen language in a variety of contexts using a range of registers and styles with special emphasis on the language of science and technology; creativity and originality; translation
15. Knowledge of the structure and vocabulary of the chosen language, understanding of the culture(s), history, scientific history and literature of the chosen language, knowledge of the history and nature of the francophone/Spanish speaking/German speaking world, capacity for textual analysis and comparative analysis, ability to construct a coherent argument or debate; capacity for close analysis of visual material and comparative analysis
16. Ability to create a hypothesis, and evaluate hypotheses, theories, and evidence within their proper contexts; the ability to reason from the particular to the general; academic integrity; deductive reasoning; independence of thought; critical appraisal of a range of genres in the target language; engagement with both primary and secondary material and an appreciation of the differences between them
17. Ability to cope with cultural differences and adapt to unknown environments; clarity of expression; planning and strategy; taking responsibility; adaptability in response to feedback; self- motivation and independence; self-reflection; note taking; listening; oral presentations with/without electronic aids; rapport building; and negotiation skills; preparing written material; team working; initiative; leadership; curiosity and an enquiring mind; IT; logical processing of information; referencing

The Imperial Graduate Attributes are a set of core competencies which we expect students to achieve through completion of any Imperial College degree programme. The Graduate Attributes are available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/students/academic-support/graduate-attributes

Entry Requirements

Academic Requirement	<p><u>A level</u></p> <p>AAA overall, to include: A in Biology A in Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics A in another subject</p> <p>General Studies and Critical Thinking are not accepted.</p> <p><u>International Baccalaureate (IB)</u></p> <p>Minimum 38 overall 6 in Biology at higher level 6 in Chemistry, Physics or Mathematics at higher level</p>
Non-academic Requirements	None
English Language Requirement	<p><u>Higher requirement</u></p> <p>Please check for other Accepted English Qualifications</p>
Admissions Test/Interview	There is no admissions test associated with entry to this programme and applicants will not normally be interviewed.

The programme's competency standards documents can be found at: **TBA**

Learning & Teaching Approach

Learning and Teaching Delivery Methods

Lectures and large group-teaching incorporating a range of active learning approaches, laboratory practicals working as individuals, in pairs or small groups, field work, computational work, seminars, tutorials and problem classes, interactive online learning material, online concepts and skills videos and interactive group work, student presentations as individuals and small groups, team-based learning, dissertation and individual research projects.

Overall Workload

Your overall workload consists of face-to-face sessions and independent learning. While your actual contact hours may vary according to the optional modules you choose to study, the following gives an indication of how much time you will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the programme. At Imperial, each [ECTS credit](#) taken equates to an expected total study time of 25 hours. Therefore, the expected total study time is 1500 hours per year.

Typically in the first two years you will spend in the order of 30% of your time on lectures, laboratory work and small group teaching and seminars and similar (around 400 hours) and in the order of 70% of your time on independent study.

Assessment Strategy

Assessment Methods

Formative assessment.
Performance in problem classes, quizzes in lectures, digital resources for self-assessment including online quizzes and problems, by discussions in tutorials as well as written and or verbal feedback on a range of non-examined tasks, including the types of summatively assessed tasks listed below.

Summative Assessment

Written Examinations
Laboratory write-ups
Essays
Reports
Dissertations
Presentations
Individual research project report
Viva voce examination
Peer assessment
Poster presentations

Assessment Mode	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Examination	60	48	0	47
Coursework	40	52	0	53

Academic Feedback Policy

Coursework submission is managed by our education office and in most cases coursework is submitted electronically via BlackBoard and feedback is provided electronically or by a feedback form attached to items of coursework. Feedback is also provided via Blackboard on formative quizzes. You will receive feedback normally within 10 working days, but this might be longer for some very substantial pieces of work, such as a dissertation. Personal tutors hold timetabled tutorials to give feedback on examination performance and can be approached by their tutees at any point in the year for further guidance. The education office manages the timely return of coursework feedback and the Director of Undergraduate Studies routinely monitors the quality and quantity of feedback provided. In some instances, generic class feedback is returned to all students via email or a Blackboard announcement once coursework is marked

Re-sit Policy

The College's Policy on Re-sits is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/student-records-and-data/for-current-students/undergraduate-and-taught-postgraduate/exams-assessments-and-regulations/

Mitigating Circumstances Policy

The College's Policy on Mitigating Circumstances is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/student-records-and-data/for-current-students/undergraduate-and-taught-postgraduate/exams-assessments-and-regulations/

Additional Programme Costs

This section should outline any additional costs relevant to this programme which are not included in students' tuition fees.

Description	Mandatory/Optional	Approximate cost
Field Trips	Optional	£1500

Programme Structure					
Year 1 – FHEQ Level 4					
Students study all core modules.					
Code	Module Title	Core/ Elective	Group*	Term	Credits
LIFE40005	Biological Chemistry and Microbiology	Core		1-3	15
LIFE40008	Evolution and Diversity	Core		1-3	15
LIFE40006	Cell Biology and Genetics	Core		2-3	15
LIFE40007	Ecology and Evolution	Core		2-3	15
LIFE40034	French/German/Spanish Level 4 (Language for Science) History and Politics	Core		1-2	10
Credit Total					70
Year 2 - FHEQ Level 5					
Students study all core modules. Students select three electives for study, one from each of Groups A, B and C.					
Code	Module Title	Core/ Elective	Group	Term	Credits
LIFE50001	Applied Molecular Biology	Core		1	7.5
LIFE50011	Genetics	Core		1	7.5
LIFE50025	Bioinformatics, Statistics and Programming (BS)	Core		1-2	5
LIFE50003	Tutored Dissertation	Core		3	7.5
LIFE50005	Cell and Developmental Biology	Elective	A	2	10
LIFE50017	Molecular Microbiology	Elective	A	2	10
LIFE50009	Essentials of Ecology: Theory and Practice	Elective	A	2	10
LIFE50006	Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience	Elective	B	2	10
LIFE50012	Immunology	Elective	B	2	10
LIFE50002	Behavioural Ecology	Elective	B	2	10
LIFE50024	Vertebrate Form and Evolution	Elective	C	3	7.5
LIFE50008	Ecological Field Skills	Elective	C	3	7.5
LIFE50014	Molecular and Cell Biology Skills	Elective	C	3	7.5
LIFE50018	Computational 'Omics	Elective	C	3	7.5
LIFE50030 LIFE50031 LIFE50032	French/German/Spanish Level 4 (Language for Science) History of Science	Core		1-2	10

					Credit Total	65
Year 3 - FHEQ Level 6						
Students study all core modules.						
Code	Module Title	Core/ Elective	Group	Term	Credits	
LIFE60035	Year Abroad (Language for Science)	Core		1-3	60	
					Credit Total	60
Year 4 - FHEQ Level 6						
All year 4 modules are electives and students will select three electives for study, one from each of Groups A, B and C and a research project option from Group D. Elective modules in Groups A, B and C are capped normally at 40-45 students/module and students choose their top three choices from each group with final allocations being made by an algorithm that maximises the allocation of highest number of top choices across the cohort.						
Code	Module Title	Core/ Elective	Group	Term	Credits	
LIFE60028	Stem Cells, Regeneration and Ageing	Elective	A	1	12.5	
LIFE60021	Metabolic and Network Engineering	Elective	A	1	12.5	
LIFE60020	Medical Microbiology	Elective	A	1	12.5	
LIFE60024	Plant Biotechnology and Development	Elective	A	1	12.5	
LIFE60026	Principles of Development	Elective	A	1	12.5	
LIFE60005	African Biology Field Course	Elective	A	1	12.5	
LIFE60017	Integrative Systems Biology	Elective	B	1	12.5	
LIFE60004	Advanced Topics in Parasitology and Vector Biology	Elective	B	1	12.5	
LIFE60030	Symbiosis, Plant Immunity and Disease	Elective	B	1	12.5	
LIFE60003	Advanced Topics in Immunity and Infection	Elective	B	1	12.5	
LIFE60033	The Microbiome	Elective	C	2	12.5	
LIFE60014	Evolutionary Applications	Elective	A	1	12.5	
LIFE60006	Biodiversity and Conservation Biology	Elective	B	1	12.5	
LIFE60022	Molecular Basis of Bacterial Infection	Elective	C	2	12.5	
LIFE60008	Bioinformatics	Elective	C	2	12.5	
LIFE60031	Synthetic Biology	Elective	C	2	12.5	
LIFE60032	Systems Neuroscience: Exploring the Brain in Health and Disease	Elective	C	2	12.5	
LIFE60007	Biodiversity Genomics	Elective	C	2	12.5	
LIFE60002	Advanced Immunology	Elective	C	2	12.5	

LIFE60016	Global Change Biology	Elective	C	2	12.5
LIFE60012	Disease Ecology and Epidemiology	Elective	B	1	12.5
TBC	Science Communications plus Dissertation	Elective	D	2-3	22.5
LIFE60009	Research Project (Lab, Data, Field)	Elective	D	2-3	22.5
TBC	French/German/Spanish Scientific and Technical Translation with the use of Translation Technology	Core		1-2	5
Credit Total					65

* 'Group' refers to module grouping (e.g. a group of electives from which one/two module(s) must be chosen).

Progression and Classification

Progression

In order to progress to the next level of study, you must have passed all modules (equivalent to 60 ECTS) in the current level of study at first attempt, at resit or by a compensated pass.

The overall weighted average for each year must be 40%, including where a module(s) has been compensated, in order for you to progress to the next year of the programme.

Classification

The marks from modules in each year contribute towards the final degree classification.

In order to be considered for an award, you must have achieved the minimum number of credits at the required levels prescribed for that award and met any programme specific requirements as set out in the Programme Specification.

Your classification will be determined through:

- i) Aggregate Module marks for all modules
- ii) Year Weightings

For this award, Year One is weighted at 7.5%, Year Two at 35% and Year Three at 0% and Year 4 at 57.5%.

The College sets the class of undergraduate degree that may be awarded as follows:

- i) First 70% or above for the average weighted module results
- ii) Upper Second 60% or above for the average weighted module results
- iii) Lower Second 50% or above for the average weighted module results
- iv) Third 40% or above for the average weighted module results

Programme Specific Regulations

N/A

Supporting Information

The Programme Handbook is available at: **TBA**

The Module Handbook is available at: **TBA**

The College's entry requirements for postgraduate programmes can be found at:
www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements

The College's Quality & Enhancement Framework is available at:
www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance

The College's Academic and Examination Regulations can be found at:
www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/regulations

Imperial College is an independent corporation whose legal status derives from a Royal Charter granted under Letters Patent in 1907. In 2007 a Supplemental Charter and Statutes was granted by HM Queen Elizabeth II. This Supplemental Charter, which came into force on the date of the College's Centenary, 8th July 2007, established the College as a University with the name and style of "The Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine".
www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/secretariat/college-governance/charters/

Imperial College London is regulated by the Office for Students (OfS)
www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/

This document provides a definitive record of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student may reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. This programme specification is primarily intended as a reference point for prospective and current students, academic and support staff involved in delivering the programme and enabling student development and achievement, for its assessment by internal and external examiners, and in subsequent monitoring and review.

Modifications

Description	Approved	Date	Paper Reference
e.g. Nature of modification	e.g. Programmes Committee	dd/mm/yy	e.g. PC.2016.120