GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY

Programme Specification Pro-forma (PSP) Biological Sciences

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.	**Programme Title:**	BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences
2.	**Final Award:**	BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences (P03290) BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences (GCU Pathways) (P03331)
3.	**Exit Awards:**	BSc Biological Sciences Certificate of Higher Education Biological Sciences Diploma of Higher Education Biological Sciences
4.	**Awarding Body:**	Glasgow Caledonian University
5.	**Approval date:**	January 2020
6.	**School:**	Health and Life Sciences
7.	**Host Department:**	Biological & Biomedical Sciences
8.	**UCAS Code:**	C100
9.	**PSB Involvement:**	Royal Society of Biology
10.	**Place of Delivery:**	Glasgow Caledonian University (Glasgow)
11.	**Subject Benchmark Statement:**	Biosciences 2015
12.	**Dates of PSP Preparation/Revision:**	November 2023

Please Note: The information provided in this document in respect of Levels One and Two of the programme, including exit awards, is not applicable for the GCU Pathways route as Levels One and Two i.e. the HNC/D are delivered at Glasgow Kelvin College. Further information on the Pathways Levels One and Two can be accessed from Glasgow Kelvin College

2. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

An introduction should be included here which describes the overall aim of the programme together with the educational aims of the programme at the exit points

The educational aim of the programme is the production of Honours graduates with specialist knowledge in biological sciences and with the appropriate knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding to pursue a productive and satisfying career. While the programme aims to give students a thorough grounding in all aspects of biological sciences, it also includes modules that ensure a broad based experience of human biology and an appropriate knowledge of other related sciences. This permits exit at Certificate of HE, Diploma of HE and B.Sc. in Biological Sciences.

The educational aims are to:

1. Provide a detailed understanding at a theoretical and practical level of current topics in biological sciences
2. Produce graduates who have developed the skills, knowledge and opportunity to pursue careers in biological sciences

3. Produce graduates who are able to integrate theory and practice and who are critical, reflective thinkers
4. Stimulate deeper learning, critical evaluation and encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning through using a range of student-centred approaches and develop an effective learning environment.
5. Foster an ethos of career-long self-directed learning through continuous professional development
6. Encourage the development of creative and innovative thinking through a range of approaches
7. Develop further the student's ability to critically analyse published material including supportive data
8. Develop the student's ability to analyse complex scientific research
9. Foster the ability of the student to deliver effective communication of scientific knowledge to fellow professionals
10. Develop the student's ability to design and conduct an investigative project under supervision and demonstrate a critical and rigorous analysis of the data in the production of a thesis

4. PROGRAMME STRUCTURES AND REQUIREMENTS, LEVELS, MODULES, CREDITS AND AWARDS

SCQF7 Level 1

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
M1C726395 AB	BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY	40
M1C724205 AB	CORE SKILLS IN BIOSCIENCES 1	40
M1B126370 AB	HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY	40

Exit Award – Certificate of Higher Education Biological Sciences

SCQF8 Level 2

M2C726361 A	CORE SKILLS IN BIOSCIENCE 2	20
M2C526397 A	INTRODUCTION TO MICROBIOLOGY	20
M2C723491 A	MECHANISMS OF CELLULAR REGULATION	20
M2C726393 B	PRACTICAL SKILLS IN BIOMOLECULAR SCIENCES	20
M2C126363 B	FUNDAMENTAL CELL BIOLOGY	20
M2B226357 B	PATHOPHYSIOLOGY: FROM HEALTH TO DISEASE	20

Exit Award – Diploma of Higher Education Biological Sciences

SCQF9 Level 3

M3C723501 A	MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS	20

PLUS two from

M3F120539 A	ANALYSIS OF FOOD	20
M3C526356 A	BIOTECHNOLOGY	20
M3C526364 A	CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY	20
M3B226354 A	FUNDAMENTALS OF DRUG ACTION	20
M3B126380 A	SYSTEMATIC & CELLULAR PATHOLOGY	20
	AND	
M3C926378 B-C	BIOSCIENCE PLACEMENT	60
	OR	
M3C926373 B	EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN & ANALYSIS	20
	PLUS two from	
M3C126332 B	CELL SIGNALLING & TRAFFICKING THERAPIES	20
M3D626382 B	FOOD SCIENCE	20
M3D626355 B	FOOD COMMODITIES & SUSTAINABILITY	20
M3C426396 B	GENOMICS & BIOINFORMATICS	20
M3B423290 B	NUTRITION & PUBLIC HEALTH	20
M3B226388 B	PHARMACOLOGY OF CHEMICAL MEDIATORS	20

Exit Award – BSc Biological Sciences

SCQF10 Level 4

MHC926371 AB	PROJECT & WORKSHOP	40
MHC726389 A	BIOLOGY OF DISEASE	20
MHB226379 A	TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE	20
	PLUS two from	
MHC526359 B	CONCEPTS IN INFECTIOUS DISEASE	20
MHB226383 B	FOOD TOXICOLOGY	20
MHC526368 B	MOLECULAR MECHANISMS OF MICROBIAL PATHOGENICITY	20
MHB223457 B	NEUROPHARMACOLOGY	20
MHC126369 B	TISSUE NETWORKS & DISEASE	20

Exit Award – BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences; BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences (Microbiology); BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences (Pharmacology); BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences (Cell & Molecular); BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences (Food Bioscience)

8. ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

Students should expect to complete their programme of study under the Regulations that were in place at the commencement of their studies on that programme, unless proposed changes to University Regulations are advantageous to students.

The Glasgow Caledonian University Assessment Regulations which apply to this programme, dependent on the year of entry and with the **following approved exceptions** can be found at :
GCU Assessment Regulations

i. Carrying of failed modules into subsequent levels

GCU assessment regulations allow for the carrying of up to two failed modules into subsequent levels of the Programme. The Biological Sciences programme will not normally permit this to occur. The rationale for this is that it must be ensured that necessary knowledge which underpin subsequent higher level modules have been attained by students before progressing to the next level of the programme.

ii. Compensation

Compensation of failed modules is applicable at level 2 for progression to level 3 using the standard GCU regulation. Compensation can be applied at level 3 for the award of a degree but not for progression to Honours, as all level 3 modules are 'core' modules underpinning level 4 study.

The following module specific exceptions have been approved:

The threshold pass of 40% for each element in module M3B423290 Nutrition and Public Health does not apply to this programme.