

Undergraduate Programme Specification

Programme Name Biomedical Science

This specification provides a summary of the main features of the programme and learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate where full advantage is taken of all learning opportunities offered. Further details on the learning, teaching and assessment approach for the programme and modules can be accessed on the University website and Virtual Learning Environment, GCU Learn. All programmes of the University are subject to the University's [Quality Assurance](#) processes.

GENERAL INFORMATION			
Programme Title	BSc (Hons) Biomedical Science/Applied Biomedical Science		
Final Award	Bachelor of Science in Applied Biomedical Science with Honours/ Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science with Honours		
Awarding Body	Glasgow Caledonian University		
School	Health & Life Sciences		
Department	Biological & Biomedical Sciences		
Mode of Study	Full-time Part-time		
Location of Delivery	Glasgow Campus		
UCAS Code	B940		
Accreditations (PSRB)	Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS) Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC – ABMS only)		
Period of Approval	From:	September 2020	To: August 2025

EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF PROGRAMME

Provide a brief introduction, which describes the overview and overall aims of the programme.

- (i) provide an understanding of the scientific investigation of human health and disease;
- (ii) produce graduates who have developed the skills, knowledge and competence to practice in Biomedical Science;
- (iii) develop laboratory skills to allow students to make valid scientific measurements;
- (iv) produce graduates who are able to integrate theory and practice and who are critical, reflective thinkers;
- (v) Encourage the development of creative and innovative thinking through a range of approaches
- (vi) foster an ethos of career-long, self-directed learning through continuous professional development;
- (vii) provide students with a supportive learning environment;
- (viii) be inclusive of all sectors of society and be responsive to the needs of individuals, employers and stakeholders.

In addition, honours students undertaking the project will:

- (i) Conduct a literature survey to support an investigative project;
- (ii) Propose reasoned lines of further investigation;
- (iii) Design and prepare a project under supervision

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND AVAILABLE AND FINAL EXIT AWARDS¹

The following modules are delivered as part of this programme:

Module Code	Module Title	Core or Optional	SCQF Level	Credit Size	Coursework %	Examination %	Practical %
M1C726395	Biological Chemistry	Core	7	40	30	70	0
M1B126370	Human Physiology	Core	7	40	30	70	0
M1C724205	Core Skills in Biosciences 1	Core	7	40	60	40	0
M2C526397	Introduction to Microbiology	Core	8	20	50	50	0
M2C723491	Mechanisms of Cellular Regulation	Core	8	20	50	50	0
M2C726361	Core Skills in Biosciences 2	Core	8	20	70	30	0
M2C926891	Blood Sciences	Core	8	40	50	50	0
M2B126349	Biomedical Science Clinical Skills	Core	8	20	100	0	0
M3C723501	Molecular Diagnostics	Core	9	20	50	50	0
M3B126380	Systematic & Cellular Pathology	Core	9	20	40	60	0
M3C523465	Clinical Microbiology	Core	9	20	40	60	0
M3B926366	Practice Placement	Optional	9	60	100	0	0
M3C926378	Bioscience Placement	Optional	9	60	100	0	0
M3C426396	Genomics & Bioinformatics	Optional	9	20	60	40	0
M3B226388	Pharmacology of Chemical Mediators	Optional	9	20	40	60	0
M3C126332	Cell Signalling & Trafficking Therapies	Optional	9	20	30	70	0
M3C926373	Experimental Design & Analysis	Core	9	20	100	0	0
MHC926731	Projects & Workshop	Core	10	40	100	0	0
MHC726389	Biology of Disease	Core	10	20	30	70	0
MHC526406	Advanced Blood Science	Core	10	20	30	70	0

¹ Periodically, programmes and modules may be subject to change or cancellation. Further information on this can be found on the GCU website here:

www.gcu.ac.uk/currentstudents/essentials/policiesandprocedures/changesandcancellationtoprogrammes

MHB226379	Translational Medicine	Core	10	20	40	60	0
MHC526359	Concepts in Infectious Disease ²	Optional/ Core	10	20	30	70	0
MHC526368	Molecular Mechanisms of Microbial Pathogenicity ²	Optional/ N/A	10	20	40	60	0

Students undertaking the programme on a full-time basis commencing in September of each year will undertake the modules in the order presented above. This may be subject to variation for students commencing the programme at other times of year (e.g. January) and/or undertaking the programme on a part-time or distance learning mode of delivery.

The following final and early Exit Awards are available from this programme³:

Certificate of Higher Education in Biological Sciences- *achieved upon successful completion of 120 credits*

Diploma of Higher Education in Biological Sciences- *achieved upon successful completion of 240 credits*

Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences- *achieved upon successful completion of 360 credits*

Bachelor of Science with Honours in Biomedical Science- *achieved upon successful completion of 480 credits*

Bachelor of Science with Honours in Applied Biomedical Science - *achieved upon successful completion of 480 credits*

ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

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

www.gcu.ac.uk/aboutgcu/supportservices/qualityassuranceandenhancement/regulationsandpolicies

² Students on BSc (Hons) Biomedical Science have a choice of Concepts in Infectious disease or Molecular Mechanism of Microbial Pathogenicity. Concepts in Infectious Disease is core for BSc (Hons) Applied Biomedical Science students. Molecular Mechanism of Microbial Pathogenicity is not an option for Applied Biomedical Science students.

³Please refer to the [GCU Qualifications Framework](#) for the minimum credits required for each level of award and the Programme Handbook for requirements on any specified or prohibited module combinations for each award.

In addition to the GCU Assessment Regulations noted above, this programme is subject to Programme Specific Regulations in line with the following approved Exceptions:

Case No: 20

Details:

(i) Attendance Requirements

Students will be required to attend a minimum of 80% of all formal classes. Any student who has less than this attendance rate, without due documented reason, will not be allowed to undertake module assessments and may be required to retake the module with attendance prior to progressing to subsequent levels of the Programme. Unauthorised absence from a module may result in the student being required to withdraw from the Programme. The justification for this requirement is to ensure that all students have satisfied all learning outcomes of the modules, especially in relation to Standards of Proficiency as set out in section 4.11 of the HCPC Standards of Education and Training and to instil an ethos of professionalism in the students. All students will be made fully aware of this requirement in all Programme and Module handbooks and other documentation, as well as at induction sessions.

(ii) International Student's English Language requirements

International applicants and those whose first language is not English, have to demonstrate, and provide evidence of, a proficiency in English to at least level 7 of IELTS (or equivalent), with no element below 6.5, as per HCPC requirements.

(iii) Compensation

Compensation for failure in a single module when students have passed all other modules at any one level will not normally apply to clinical subject modules. This applies to all modules in Trimester B in year 2 and all modules in Trimester A of year 3. This is to ensure all students have met the required Standards of Proficiency in clinical subject areas. In addition, students on the Applied Biomedical Science Programme cannot be compensated for failure in the Practice Placement module.

(iv) 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 Biomedical Science and the Applied Biomedical Science Programmes will not normally permit this to occur. The rationale for this is that it must be ensured that necessary Standards of Proficiency which underpin subsequent higher level modules have been attained by students before progressing to the next level of the Programme.

(v) HCPC Registration

Students who are awarded a BSc (Hons) in Applied Biomedical Science, will be eligible to apply for registration with HCPC and licentiate membership of the Institute of Biomedical Science.

(vi) Honours classification – ABMS only

The classification of the award of the Degree with Honours will be based upon the average marks obtained in Level Three (contributing 30%) and Level Four (contributing 70%). The classification will be based upon the year mean obtained by combining the weighted results of all modules studied in

Levels Three and Four with the final classification being arrived at as stated i.e. 30% weighting of Year 3 and 70% weighting of Year 4. The Honours project must be included (40 credits).

(vii) Aegrotat awards

Due to the requirements of HCPC (Assessment Standards 6.7.3), an aegrotat award will not enable a graduate to be eligible for admission to the HCPC Register. In the case of an aegrotat award, a graduate will be awarded a degree in Biological Sciences.

VERSION CONTROL (to be completed in line with AQPP processes)

Any changes to the PSP must be recorded below by the programme team to ensure accuracy of the programme of study being offered.

<i>Version Number</i>	<i>Changes/Updates</i>	<i>Date Changes/Updates made</i>	<i>Date Effective From</i>
1.0			