

**Programme Specification Pro-forma (PSP)**

**1. GENERAL INFORMATION**

<b>1. Programme Title:</b>	BSc (Hons) Cell & Molecular Biology BSc (Hons) Cell & Molecular Biology (GCU Pathways)
<b>2. Final Award:</b>	BSc (Hons) Cell & Molecular Biology
<b>3. Exit Awards:</b>	BSc (Hons) Cell & Molecular Biology: BSc Biological Sciences Certificate of Higher Education Biological Sciences Diploma of Higher Education Biological Sciences
<b>4. Awarding Body:</b>	Glasgow Caledonian University
<b>5. Approval Date:</b>	April 2015
<b>6. School:</b>	Health and Life Sciences
<b>7. Host Department:</b>	Life Sciences
<b>8. UCAS Code:</b>	C760 C761 (GCU Pathways)
<b>9. PSB Involvement:</b>	n/a
<b>10. Place of Delivery:</b>	Glasgow Caledonian University
<b>11. Subject Benchmark Statement:</b>	Biosciences 2010
<b>12. Dates of PSP Preparation/Revision:</b>	April 2015 (revised Nov 15)

**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**

The fundamental aim of the programme is the production of Honours graduates with specialist knowledge in cell & molecular biology 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 cell & molecular biology, it also includes modules that ensure a broad based experience of human biology and an appropriate knowledge of other related sciences but avoids the problems of complex modular courses, where students may spend too little time on too many subjects. 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 cell & molecular biology
2. Produce graduates who have developed the skills, knowledge and opportunity to pursue careers in cell & molecular biology
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. Develop further the student's ability to critically analyse published material including supportive data
  7. Develop the student's ability to analyse complex scientific research
  8. Foster the ability of the student to deliver effective communication of scientific knowledge to fellow professionals
  9. 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
M1F121832	Chemistry	20
M1C723589	Core Skills in Biosciences 1	40
M1C723490	Cells & Biomolecules	20
M1B123343	Physiology 1	20
M1B123349	Physiology 2	20
<b>Exit Award – Certificate of Higher Education Biological Sciences</b>		<b>120</b>

##### SCQF8 Level 2

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
M2C723491	Mechanisms of Cellular Regulation	20
M2C520233	Introduction to Microbiology	20
M2C723590	Core Skills in Biosciences 2	20
M2C123469	Fundamental Cell Biology	10
M2C423691	Genomes & Bioinformatics	10
M2C523889	Immunology	10
M2C723615	Practical Skills in Biomolecular Sciences	30
<b>Exit Award – Diploma of Higher Education Biological Sciences</b>		<b>240</b>

##### SCQF9 Level 3

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
M3C723501	Molecular Diagnostics	20
M3C523575	Biotechnology	20
M3B223369	Fundamentals of Drug Action	20
M3C123347	Cellular Signalling & Trafficking	10
M3C123472	Novel Therapies & Cell Technologies	10
M3C923618	Experimental Design & Analysis	20
M3C523505	Microbial Genomes <b>or</b>	20
M3B223437	Pharmacology of Chemical Mediators	20
M3C923600	<b>OPTION</b> Bioscience Workplace Experience	20
<b>Exit Award – BSc Biological Sciences</b>		<b>360</b>

##### SCQF10 Level 4

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
MHC923440	Projects & Workshops	40
MHC723329	Biology of Disease	20
MHB223438	Pharmacology: Special Topics	20
MHC123470	Cell Interactions & Networks	20
MHB223457	Neuropharmacology <b>or</b>	20
MHC523506	Molecular Microbiology	20
<b>Exit Award – BSc (Hons) Cell &amp; Molecular Biology</b>		<b>480</b>

## 8. ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

The Glasgow Caledonian University Assessment Regulations

### Undergraduate Programmes

<http://www.gcu.ac.uk/media/gcalwebv2/theuniversity/gaq/gaqfiles/assessmentregulations/University%20Assessment%20%20Regulations%202015-16%20Undergraduate.pdf>

apply to this programme, **with the following approved exceptions:**

*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 Framework programmes 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 levels 1 and 2 for progression to levels 2 and 3 respectively 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 in each programme are 'core' modules underpinning level 4 study. This regulation already applies to the current programmes under the framework.

*iii. Non-honours awards*

Students who exit the Framework at Levels 1 and 2 will be eligible for the award title of Biological Sciences only. This is also true for all students except for Food Bioscience at Level 3. The justification for this is that students who have not completed the Level 4 modules in each of the other named programmes would not have accrued sufficient module material and knowledge in those specific areas to allow an award in that area to be conferred. This complies with the requirements for the core curriculum for these named awards laid down by the professional bodies/ learned societies for these disciplines.

The following have been applied for:

M1C723490 Cells & Biomolecules, M1B123343 Physiology 1, M1B123349 Physiology 2- all coursework elements to have 35% minimum mark

M1C723589 Core Skills in Biosciences 1, M2C723590 Core Skills in Biosciences 2,

M2C723615 Practical Skills in Biomolecular Sciences - compulsory pass on Pass/Fail portfolio element