



Course Specification

(Bachelor)

Course Title: **General Biology**

Course Code: **BIOL 101**

Program: **Bachelor of Science (B.Sc)**

Department: **Biology**

College: **College of Science**

Institution: **Majmaah University**

Version: **Third**

Last Revision Date: **12/12/2023**



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A. General information about the course:

1. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: 3 hours

Equivalent to **ECTS credits 4.5**

2. Course type

A. University College Department Track Others

B. Required Elective

3. Level/year at which this course is offered: (Level 1 / First)

4. Course General Description:

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the fundamental principles of biology. It explores the classification of living organisms, the structure and function of essential biomolecules, and the core components of cell biology in both plants and animals. Students will delve into key topics including cellular metabolism, division, Mendelian genetics, and animal tissue organization. The curriculum concludes with an examination of the body's defense mechanisms, covering both non-specialized and specialized immunity.

5. Pre-requirements for this course (if any):

Nil

6. Co-requisites for this course (if any):

Nil

7. Course Main Objective(s):

The main objective of a General Biology course is to provide a foundational understanding of core biological principles, such as cell theory, genetics, and evolution. It also aims to develop the scientific skills necessary to analyze living systems and their interactions.

2. Teaching mode (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	45	100%
2	E-learning	--	--
3	Hybrid <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional classroom • E-learning 	--	--
4	Distance learning	--	--





3. Contact Hours (based on the academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1.	Lectures	45
2.	Laboratory/Studio	--
3.	Field	--
4.	Tutorial	--
5.	Others (specify)	--
Total		45

Workload (based on the academic semester)

No	Activity	Work Load /Hours
1.	Contact hours	45
2.	Self-study (Assignments, quizzes, reports, Discussions, Library, research)	45
Total Workload		90
Equivalent to ECTS credit points		4.5

B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and understanding			
1.1	Recognize basic knowledge of cells, tissues, divisions and organ system	K1	Lectures, and group discussion	Quizzes, Midterm and final exams Electronic exam
2.0	Skills			
2.1	Illustrate different types of tissues and their functions in humans, evaluate the genetic experiment doing 'Punnet square' calculations	S1	Lectures, and group discussion Brain storming	Quizzes, Midterm and final exams Electronic exam
3.0	Values, autonomy, and responsibility			



Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
3.1	Communicate and work effectively in groups as well as individually for biological experiments	V1	Team work Reports	Assignment submission, Oral presentation

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1.	Unit 1 – Introduction to Biology: Principles, branches of biology, definitions	3
2.	Unit 2 – Chemistry of Life- Biological macromolecules: Introduction, Types of macromolecules – Carbohydrates, lipids, proteins and nucleic acids	6
3.	Unit 3 – Cell biology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition, types of cells – Prokaryotic cells, Eukaryotic cells (plant and animal cells, cell structure, Major cell organelles and functions, • Outline of Cell membrane structure and Transport Brief details of cell cycle and reproduction (mitosis and meiosis); Definitions – Tissue, organ and organ system	6
4.	Unit 4 – Structure and functions of plant tissues: Outline of plant classification, Type of plant tissues, Plant organ system (Leaf, stem, root) modifications and functions.	6
5.	Unit 5 – Structure and functions of animal tissues Outline of animal classification (invertebrates and vertebrates);Types of animal tissues, Structure and functions of animal tissues, outline of major organs and organ systems (Gastrointestinal tract, nervous system ,muscular system , excretory system, immune system, circulatory system and reproductive system).	6
6.	Unit 6 – Genetics Brief understanding of Genetics – Mendels Law of Genetics – Human Genetics (outline) – Genetic disorders	6
7.	Unit – 7 Biodiversity Definition, System of classification, Binominal nomenclature, Brief details of 6 kingdoms, Plant and animal communities in different biomes	6
8.	Unit 8- Ecology Levels of ecological study, ecosystem, feeding relationship, symbiotic relationship and types, Energy flow through ecosystems – food chain, food web, biogeochemical cycles (Carbon, Nitrogen, water).	6
Total		45





D. Students Assessment Activities

No	Assessment Activities *	Assessment timing (in week no)	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1.	Mid-term exam	6 th week	15%
2.	E-exam (online)	8 th week	10%
3.	Mid-term exam	11 th week	15%
4.	Quiz, Assignment, Oral test and Home works	Every two weeks	20%
5.	Final exam	16 th week	40%

*Assessment Activities (i.e., Written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.).

E. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. References and Learning Resources

Essential References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology 11th Edition, Peter Raven , George Johnson , Kenneth Mason , Jonathan Losos and Susan Singer ,McGraw-Hill Education; 2016, ISBN:978-1259188138 Biology. Ville C. and Martin D. W. Brookscole, 2007 Kaplan AP Biology 2016 (Kaplan Test Prep) Pap/Psc Edition Linda Brooke Stabler , Mark Metz, and Allison Wilkes M.D. ISBN: 978-1625231468
Supportive References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology Laboratory Manual 11th Edition, 2016; Darrell Vodopich, and Randy Moore. ISBN: 978-1259544873 Question Bank (BIOL101) – General Biology : Dr. Vijayakumar _Issue Jan.2019
Electronic Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Science Digital Library (NSDL) Pathway for biological sciences education Kimballs biology pages http://users.rcn.com/jkimball.ma.ultranet/BiologyPages/ https://www.cellsalive.com/ DNA from the beginning: http://www.dnaftb.org/
Other Learning Materials	Electronic materials of Lecture notes and PowerPoints available in 'Black board' database

2. Required Facilities and equipment

Items	Resources
facilities (Classrooms, laboratories, exhibition rooms, simulation rooms, etc.)	Classroom and fully equipped laboratory facilities are available
Technology equipment (projector, smart board, software)	E-podium and smart board facilities are available





Items	Resources
Other equipment (depending on the nature of the specialty)	Nil

F. Assessment of Course Quality

Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
Effectiveness of teaching	Self-evaluation Peer Reviewer	Indirect Direct
Effectiveness of Students assessment	Self-evaluation	Direct
Quality of learning resources	Program Leaders	Direct
The extent to which CLOs have been achieved	Departmental course committee	Direct
Other		

Assessors (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewers, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

G. Specification Approval

COUNCIL /COMMITTEE	BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT COUNCIL
REFERENCE NO.	7
DATE	4/4/1446 [07/10/2024]

