

A person wearing a white lab coat and purple nitrile gloves is using a blue pipette to transfer a red liquid into a clear Erlenmeyer flask. The person is also wearing safety glasses. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

Life as a first year student at university

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Introduction

Using Biological Sciences as an example:

- The academic year
 - University of Edinburgh calendar 2017/18
- Pathway to your degree
- The standard first year programme
- A typical first year timetable
- How you will be taught
- Assessment
- Support



The academic year

Semester 1:

- Teaching Blocks: 1,2 11 weeks
- Revision Week 1 week
- Exams 2 weeks
- Vacation 3 weeks

Semester 2:

- Teaching Blocks: 3,4 12 weeks
- Vacation 2 weeks
- Revision Week 1 week
- Exams 4 weeks

RESIT EXAMS: AUGUST 2018



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Pathway to your degree

Our Degrees:

BSc in Biological Sciences

Or

BSc in Biological Sciences with Management

Specialised in

One of our 12 Honours programmes:

Biochemistry; Biotechnology; Cell Biology; Development, Regeneration and Stem Cells; Ecology; Evolutionary Biology; Genetics; Immunology; Molecular Biology; Molecular Genetics; Plant Science; and Zoology



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Pathway to your degree

Each year:

- **Students take 120 credits**
- **Compulsory courses and elective courses**

Years 1 - 3: Normally 6 x 20-credit courses

Year 1 - Provides most flexibility in your learning

Year 2 - Progressively more specialised

Year 3 - Junior Honours

Year 4:

- Senior Honours (50% courses + 50% project = 120 credits)



Our standard 1st year programme

Semester 1:

- **Origin and Diversity of Life 1***
- Quantification in the Life Sciences 1
- Biological Chemistry 1A

Semester 2:

- **Molecules, Genes and Cells 1***
- Biology, Ecology and the Environment 1
- Biological Chemistry 1B

All above courses are at Level 8

*** Compulsory Course**



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A typical first year timetable

Monday	L	P	P	P	L		T	
Tuesday	L		L			L		T
Wednesday		L						
Thursday	L		L			P	P	P
Friday	P	P	P			L	T	

Most courses contain **lectures**, **practicals (or workshops)** and **tutorials**.

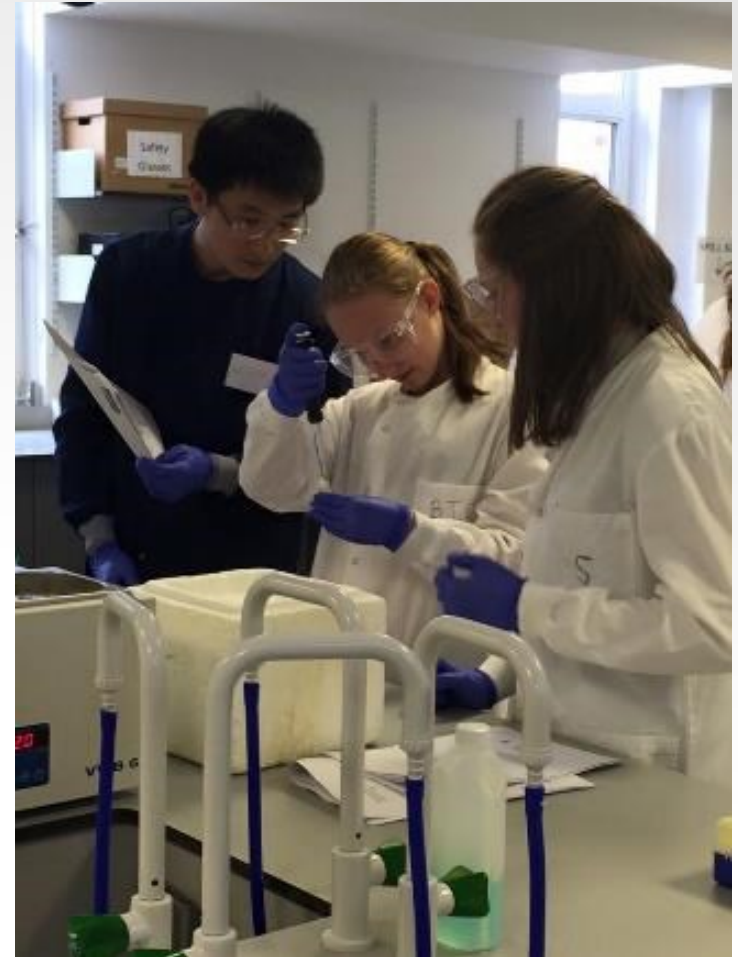
Generally: 9 **lectures** and 3 **practicals** per week, 3 **tutorials** (alternate weeks)
plus 15-20 hours of assigned work or independent study.



Teaching through lectures



Teaching through practicals



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Teaching through tutorials



Field work and projects



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Assessment

In course assessment and degree exam

In course assessment:

- Often essay writing, practical reports, tutorial presentations and problem solving

Exam:

- Often multiple choice questions, essays, short answer questions and problem solving questions



Main sources of support

Your subjects Teaching Organisation (Biology, for example)

Personal Tutor

Course teaching staff

Fellow students



Other sources of support

- EUSA Advice Place
- University Health Centre
 - Disability Service
- Counselling Services
- University Chaplaincy
 - Careers Service



Graduation



The University of Edinburgh

SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES



GRADUATION DAY 2016



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