Programme Specification[1]

1. Programme Title(s) and Code(s):

Programme Title	*UCAS Code*	*GU Code*
BSc Honours in Human Biology	C1W3	B150-2105

2. Academic Session:

2016-17

3. SCQF Level (see Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Levels):

10

4. Credits:

480

5. Entrance Requirements:

Please refer to the current undergraduate prospectus at: http://www.gla.ac.uk/undergraduate/

6. ATAS Certificate Requirement (see Academic Technology Approval Scheme):

ATAS Certificate not required

7. Attendance Type:

Full Time

8. Programme Aims:

Human Biology aims to be an exciting, dynamic programme examining the way in which the body works in health, during normal healthy aging and disease. The Honours programme provides a broadly balanced treatment of the principles and problems of human physiology and anatomy combined with an advanced treatment of particular aspects from the molecular and cellular to the whole body level of investigation.

[1] This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if full advantage is taken of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each course can be found in course handbooks and other programme documentation and online at www.gla.ac.uk

The accuracy of the information in this document is reviewed periodically by the University and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

The principal aims are:

- To equip students with a fundamental understanding of human biology, and a competence in relevant scientific methods;
- To stimulate and foster a sense of enthusiasm about contemporary approaches to understanding growth and aging in human populations;
- To provide advanced knowledge, understanding, scholarship and critical judgement appropriate for future professional employment or further study in this or a related discipline;
- To develop those advanced transferable, intellectual, interpersonal and practical skills which may be of advantage in a wide range of employment and further study;
- To develop in students the flexibility to adapt to change throughout their working lives;
- To provide experience of carrying out and reporting on scientific research in a relevant area.

9. Intended Learning Outcomes of Programme:

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

Knowledge and Understanding

By the end of this programme, students will be able to:

1. critically assess and present knowledge and understanding of current research in advanced specialist topics within the area of human biology;
2. appraise the use of advanced knowledge, methods and concepts to the analysis of subject-relevant problems and challenges, particularly in areas of human health and disease;
3. select, utilise and evaluate appropriate investigative methods in the execution of research within the area of human biology.

Skills and Other Attributes

By the end of this programme, students will be able to:

Subject-specific/practical skills

1. carry out research relevant to human biology under supervision;
2. analyse, interpret and evaluate data;
3. form valid conclusions from the outcome of experiments and justify those conclusions;
4. work safely in a biological laboratory.

Intellectual skills

1. solve advanced problems of a numerical or logical nature;
2. choose and apply appropriate statistical tests to analyse and interpret biological data;
3. critically analyse and evaluate research papers;
4. synthesise critical reviews of the current state of knowledge in relevant topics.

Transferable/key skills

1. use both general and specialised IT skills to prepare reports, retrieve and analyse data and disseminate findings;
2. construct written and oral arguments to defend an opinion on an advanced topic;
3. report the results of research undertaken in a written format, demonstrating critical appraisal and self evaluation.

10. Typical Learning and Teaching Approaches:

A range of teaching methods are used during the programme; typically these include:

- Lectures
- Laboratories
- Workshops
- Tutorials
- Poster presentations
- Problem based learning
- Seminars
- Dissertation
- Honours research project

11. Typical Assessment Methods:

A number of different methods are used to assess the courses which make up the programme; typically these include:

- Written degree examinations (essays, objective testing, short answers and problem-solving)
- Class examinations
- Laboratory reports
- Essays
- Posters
- Peer review of group work
- Dissertation
- Honours project report
- Oral presentations

12. Programme Structure and Features:

The BSc Honours programme normally lasts 4 years, includes both compulsory and optional courses, and comprises 480 credits (120 credits each year).

Structure:

Course Title	Course Code	Credits	Core	Optional	Semester(s) taught
Year 1:					
Biology-1A	BIOL1001	20	✓		Sem 1
Biology-1B	BIOL1002	20	✓		Sem 2
EITHER Chemistry-1	CHEM1001	40	✓		Sem 1–2
OR Science Fundamentals-1X & -1Y	CHEM1002 CHEM1003	2 x 20			Sem 1–2
other Level-1 course(s)		40		✓	
Year 2:					
Human Form and Function 2	BIOL2013	10	✓		Sem 1
Drugs and Disease 2	BIOL2005	10	✓		Sem 2
Physiology & Neuroscience 2	BIOL2035	20	✓		Sem 1–2
other Level-2 Life Sciences course(s)		20		✓	
other Level-1 or -2 course(s)		60		✓	
Year 3:					
Human Biology 3A	BIOL4228	60	✓		Sem 1–2

Human Biology 3B	BIOL4229	60	✓		Sem 1–2
Year 4:					
Human Biology Advanced Studies 4	BIOL4227	20	✓		Sem 1–2
One of these project courses: Life Sciences Investigative Honours Project Life Sciences Dissertation Honours Project Life Sciences Outreach Honours Project Life Sciences Internship Honours Project	 BIOL4246P BIOL4247P BIOL4248P BIOL4249P	20	✓		Sem 1-2
4 x Life Sciences Honours options		80		✓	Sem 1–2

Features:

Students may apply to study abroad during either Year 2 or Year 3; this is subject to approval by the School of Life Sciences.

Years 1 and 2 may be available for part-time study. Years 3 and 4 are normally only available on a full-time basis.

There are limitations to which final-year Life Sciences option courses may be chosen: the programme will prescribe a mixture of compulsory, recommended and/or optional courses. In addition, the list of available Honours option courses is liable to change each session. The options available in the current session can be found via the University's Course Catalogue (www.gla.ac.uk/coursecatalogue/).

Progress:

To progress to Year 2, students must achieve at least Grade D in all the core Year 1 courses.

To progress to Year 3, students must achieve the minimum specified grades in all the core Year 2 courses, normally at the first attempt.

To progress to Year 4, students must achieve at least Grade D in both the core Year 3 courses, normally at the first attempt.

Students may graduate at the end of Year 3 with a BSc in Human Biology, subject to the relevant University regulations — see below.

Assessment:

The final Honours classification is based on performance in the compulsory and optional courses taken in Year 4.

Regulations:

This programme will be governed by the relevant regulations published in the University Calendar. These regulations include the requirements in relation to:

(a) Award of the degree

(b) Progress

(c) Early exit awards

(d) (For undergraduate programmes, where appropriate) Entry to Honours

www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar/

13. Programme Accredited By:

Not applicable

14. Location(s):

Glasgow

15. College:

College of Medical Veterinary and Life Sciences

16. Lead School/Institute:

Life Sciences [REG20100000]

17. Is this programme collaborative with another institution:

No

18. Awarding Institution(s):

University of Glasgow

19. Teaching Institution(s):

University of Glasgow

20. Language of Instruction:

English

21. Language of Assessment:

English

22. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (see Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education) and Other External or Internal Reference Points:

See QAA Benchmark Statement for Biosciences: http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/honours/biosciences.asp

23. Additional Relevant Information (if applicable):

Support for students is provided by the Postgraduate/Undergraduate Adviser(s) of Studies supported by University resources such as the Student Learning Service (www.gla.ac.uk/services/sls/), Counselling & Psychological Services (www.gla.ac.uk/services/counselling/), the Disability Service (www.gla.ac.uk/services/studentdisability/) and the Careers Service (www.gla.ac.uk/services/careers/).
Particular strengths of the programme are: a) wide experience of laboratory work; b) the opportunity to undertake a research project under the supervision of an active researcher and c) detailed and advanced treatments prepared by active scholars and researchers of (i) the nervous system, (ii) cardiorespiratory physiology, (iii) physiological assessment, (iv) neuroendocrinology and (v) human nutrition.

24. Date of approval:	