

A Level Biology- OCR Biology A

Curriculum content:

	Year 12	Year 13
Autumn Term	<i>Module 1:</i> Development of practical skills in biology <i>Module 2:</i> Foundations in Biology	<i>Module 1:</i> Development of practical skills in biology <i>Module 5:</i> Communication, homeostasis and energy (units 5.1,5.2,5.4,5.6 and 5.7) <i>Module 6:</i> Genetics, evolution and ecosystems (unit 6.1 only)
Spring and Summer Terms	<i>Module 1:</i> Development of practical skills in biology <i>Module 3:</i> Exchange and transport <i>Module 4:</i> Biodiversity, evolution and Disease <i>Module 6:</i> Genetics, evolution and ecosystems (Units 6.5 and 6.6)	<i>Module 1:</i> Development of practical skills in biology <i>Module 5:</i> Communication, homeostasis and energy (units 5.3 and 5.5 only) <i>Module 6:</i> Genetics, evolution and ecosystems (units 6.2-6.4)

Skills:

- Scientific thinking
- Independent thinking
- Experimental skills and strategies
- Analysis and evaluation
- Scientific vocabulary, quantities, units, symbols and nomenclature
- Problem solving

- Research and referencing
- Mathematical Skills
- Application of science to the real world
- Safe working practices during experiments
- Proficient use of subject specific vocabulary

Assessment:

Assessment is all by external examination.

Paper	Paper 1: Biological Processes	Paper 2: Biological diversity	Paper 3: Unified biology
Topics covered	Modules 1,2,3 and 5	Modules 1,2,4 and 6	Modules 1-6
Length of exam	2hr15	2hr15	1hr30
Marks available	100	100	70

There is also a Practical Endorsement, which is a separate qualification and graded either pass or fail. This involves the completion of a minimum of 12 practical activities at an appropriate A level Standard throughout the course.

More information on the specification and assessments can be found on the OCR website at

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/biology-a-h020-h420-from-2015/>

