

ST MARY'S COLLEGE



INTRODUCTION

This course offers a thematic approach. It covers principles related to contemporary issues which may affect people's health and how they interact and affect their own environment.

AS LEVEL

Content

- **UNIT 1 THE BODY AND ITS DISEASES**
Food, enzymes, cystic fibrosis, microorganisms, infectious diseases and diseases linked to lifestyle.
- **UNIT 2 HUMANS – THEIR ORIGINS AND ADAPTATIONS**
Cell division and how we fit into the world, adaptations to a way of life and our changing environment.
- **UNIT 3 – PRACTICAL SKILLS ASSESSMENT**

How is the course delivered?

A variety of methods are used to build up the student's skills and knowledge. These will include lectures, practical work, group work, research and problem solving. Each A level set has four 70 minute lessons with access to a further 2 hours support.



Entry requirements

To follow advanced level Human Biology successfully students should have gained a minimum of two grade C, at higher tier, in appropriate science subjects. It is expected that students will have studied Biology as a separate subject or will have followed the 'science and additional science' route.

Please note that the exact entry requirements for an AS programme depend upon the number and type of AS courses that you intend to take.

What skills and interests do I need?

You will have to be able to cope with the scientific nature of this course. This will involve a reasonable amount of underpinning chemistry and mathematics. As the course is assessed primarily by examination you will have to be committed to revising for tests after each taught topic and the module exams. In order to develop the knowledge and skills required you will have to complete regular homework tasks, participate in practical investigations and also do your own independent study.

How does it build upon studies in Key Stage 4?

AS modules study some topics covered at GCSE, but in much greater depth. Also the AS level is set in a real context. This course builds on concepts and skills developed in the new GCSE Science specifications. It encourages students to acquire essential knowledge and develop an understanding of the concepts in Human Biology and 'How Science works'

How is the course assessed?

AS level. There are 2 1 hour 30 minute exams for each module each worth 40% of AS marks and an assessment of practical skills worth 20% of total AS marks.

Special equipment

All equipment is supplied, except for basic calculators, which are essential.

A2 LEVEL

Content

➤ **UNIT 4 BODIES AND CELLS IN AND OUT OF CONTROL**

IVF, growing up and growing old, the management of cells, genes, drugs, muscles hormones and nerves and Diabetes and Hypothermia.

➤ **UNIT 5 THE AIR WE BREATHE, THE WATER WE DRINK, THE FOOD WE EAT**

Evolution, communities, health, damage to the eco-system, climate change and people and micro organisms.

➤ **UNIT 6 EXTENDED INVESTIGATION IN HUMAN BIOLOGY**

Designing a data collection strategy

Collecting and processing raw data

Analysis and evaluation



How is the course delivered?

The teaching methods used will be similar to those employed within the AS. However it will be expected that students have developed as independent learners and thus be able to take more responsibility for their own learning.

Entry requirements

A pass in AS human biology.

What skills and interests do I need?

The same as at AS

How is the course assessed?

Students' progress is assessed regularly, usually at the end of a topic.

At A2 level there are 2, 2 hours exams each worth 20% of total A level marks and a practical assessment worth 10%. Examination sessions are in January and June. The marks will be combined with the marks achieved for the AS and lead to a full A level qualification.

Progression routes

This is an ideal course for a wide range of careers including Medicine.

Further Information

Full specifications can be found at the AQA website.

For further information please contact Marjory Price

Full specifications can be found at www.ocr.org.uk



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