



## BIOLOGY A-LEVEL

Course Mode	Part-time
Location	Milnthorpe Road Campus (MRC)
Duration	2 Years
Level	3



## Course Overview

Studying Biology at A-Level will give you the skills and knowledge to tackle the major issues facing our world; preserving our natural environments, finding cures for fatal diseases, tackling the problem of antibiotic resistance, addressing the obesity epidemic and developing alternative forms of fuel.

The staff teaching the course have an array of experiences, both within education and in their own fields of expertise. Collectively, they have over twenty years' experience in both teaching and assessing A-Level Biology, and in supporting and encouraging students in their future career plans. Together they are able to give students an insight into the skills and knowledge required by both laboratory based and field based scientists, having previously had successful careers in these fields.

In your first year your studies will allow you to build on your knowledge and understanding from GCSE including the study of; cells, cell transport, molecules and of the circulatory, respiratory and digestive systems. You will also study the details of cell division, the genetic code and causes of variation between organisms. During your second year you will study the biochemistry of respiration and photosynthesis, DNA technology and genetic inheritance, Ecology, and nervous and hormonal coordination of responses. With each topic we will explore links to current research such as the effects of various medicinal drugs on the nervous system and the exciting developing fields of gene editing and epigenetics.

Most taught sessions occur within the fully equipped Science Lab, with access to computers and all practical equipment and resources necessary. There is no coursework but you will complete practical investigations to develop your observational skills and analytical techniques. You will need to be curious, driven and organised to succeed. Maths makes up a small but significant part of the course; lessons will focus on ratios, percentages and statistical testing. You tutors will assess your progress regularly through tests and homework activities designed to help you develop your

exam technique.

There are various opportunities for field work over two year period including field trips into the Lake District National Park to conduct sampling and visits to the laboratories at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary.

## Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, which must include English Language and Maths  
GCSE Biology at Grade 6. Combined Science at 7.5 may be considered

## After your course

Studying Biology will provide you with an excellent opportunity to develop skills that will transfer to a wide range of careers or further study:

Biochemistry, Biomedical Science, Biology, Botany, Conservation, Dentistry, Ecology, Environmental Science, Genetics, Marine Biology, Medicine, Microbiology, Neuroscience, Nursing, Optometry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology, Psychology, Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Radiology, Sports Science, Toxicology, Veterinary Science and Zoology.

## Fees

£811.00

*Course fees are per year for full-time & degree-level courses, and per course for part-time courses.*

The current full-time & degree-level fee information is related to the 2020/21 academic year and is subject to change before the start of the course. Fees for 2021/22 will be updated in the Spring Term 2021. There may also be additional costs associated with the course.

**You may qualify for financial support to cover the cost of a government-funded qualification up to and including Level 2, if you:**

- Receive an eligible means-tested benefit e.g. JSA, ESA or Universal Credit
- Have an annual salary of less than £17,004
- Are aged 16-18 on 31/08/20 and are not studying at another school/college
- Are aged 19-23 on 31/08/20 and do not already have a Level 1 or 2 qualification
- Have a household income under £25,000 and are in financial hardship

### Student Finance

Whether you qualify for student finance depends on specific criteria. The main student finance package for full-time students includes a tuition fee loan and maintenance loan for living costs. Part-time students can access a tuition fee loan to pay for your course.

Generally, you will only get student finance if you're doing your first degree-level qualification. This is true even if your previous course was self-funded.

For further information please see [www.gov.uk/student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance).

### Access to Learning Fund

The Access to Learning Fund is a non-repayable discretionary fund that gives students facing hardship extra financial support to access and remain in higher education. This can be accessed via the college. Please speak to [Student Services](#) for more information.



**Milnthorpe Road Campus**  
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**Arts & Media Campus**  
Beezon Road, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 6EL

For more course information

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