



BIOLOGY

BSc (Hons)



ARE YOU STIRLING?



REASONS TO CHOOSE THIS COURSE

1. FLEXIBILITY

Flexibility to study any aspect of life.

2. HIGH-VALUE

A degree course highly valued by employers with an award-winning student experience.

3. RESEARCH-LED TEACHING

Passionate staff who can bring research to life in the classroom.

WHY STUDY BIOLOGY?

Are you interested in any of the following?

- The biological molecules that underpin respiration and development
- Genetic engineering of crops
- The evolution of animal behaviour
- The responses of plants and animals to climate change
- The fossil record

If the answer is yes, you'll have the opportunity to find out about them and more as a biologist. Study Biology and you choose to study life. In our biology degree you will study organisms from bacteria to blue whales, investigating systems ranging from enzymes to ecosystems. Of all the biological sciences degrees, Biology is the most flexible, and module choice increases as students progress through their degree.

THE BIOLOGY PROGRAMME AT STIRLING IS RANKED SIXTH IN SCOTLAND AND 44TH IN THE UK

2018 Guardian league table.

COURSE DETAILS

Training is provided in laboratory and field skills across the entire scope of biology, from cell biology through physiology to ecology. As well as the University of Stirling's beautiful campus, we have a wide range of superb landscapes and habitats on our doorstep, and make the most of these throughout the degree. In year 4, our range of specialist half-modules allows students to specialise in an area of biology that particularly interests them.

FIELDWORK

The programme includes a compulsory field class in Scotland in year 2, and optional international field courses in year 4. (Students must pay most of the costs of their travel, accommodation, and subsistence for field courses.) On them, students learn techniques of data collection, identification, experimental design, data analysis and presentation. One 10-day field course in ecology and animal biology takes place in the Cévennes, France, a rugged mountain landscape of exceptional natural beauty and tremendous biodiversity. Another takes place in Gabon where the University of Stirling has a long history in the study and practice of tropical conservation biology and management.

HONOURS PROJECTS

Final-year projects are a challenging yet valuable part of our degrees. Some have been so good they were published. These are supervised by our staff, but may also be carried out in conjunction with an external organisation. Examples of recent titles include:

- The role of the blood-brain barrier in HIV infections
- The effect of seed size on vital rates of herbaceous plants and grasses
- Competition between clonal fragments and seedlings in *Mimulus guttatus*
- Ultraviolet light, skin collagen and ageing
- Mechanisms of sperm storage and its use in seaweed flies

“Studying Biology at Stirling has been one of the best decisions I have made; the courses are interesting and well thought out, the staff are very approachable, and I feel fully prepared for graduate employment. The teaching staff are fantastic and go out of their way to help you, for example there are opportunities for work placements during the summer months.

The course itself provides a great balance between the different areas of biology, with plenty of practical classes both in the lab and field. There are also great study abroad opportunities. One of the highlights of my degree was spending a year at Flinders University in Adelaide, Australia.

I cannot recommend studying at Stirling enough, my time here has been amazing!!”

Catriona Henderson,
BSc (Hons) Biology graduate.



BIOLOGY
stir.ac.uk/3u

C100

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

YEAR 1 ENTRY – FOUR-YEAR HONOURS

SQA Highers:

AABB – one sitting

AAAB – two sittings

GCE A-levels:

BBB

IB Diploma:

32

BTEC (Level 3):

DDM

Essential subjects:

To include one of Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics.

YEAR 2 ENTRY – THREE-YEAR HONOURS

SQA Adv Highers:

ABB

GCE A-levels:

ABB

IB Diploma:

35

Essential subjects:

To include Biology and one of Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geography, Geology or Physics.

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

Scottish HNC/HND:

Minimum entry: Bs in graded units.

Advanced entry:

Please visit <http://stir.ac.uk/ay> Access courses and other UK/EU and international qualifications are also welcomed.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

General entry requirements apply. Please visit: <http://stir.ac.uk/av>

**PART TIME, ADVANCED ENTRY
AND STUDY ABROAD
OPTIONS AVAILABLE**

TYPICAL TIMETABLE

YEAR	SEMESTER	MODULE 1	MODULE 2	MODULE 3
1	1	Ecology	Laboratory Skills	Option Subject
	2	Physiology	Field Skills	Option Subject
2	3	Evolution & Genetics	Introduction to Ecology	Biology Field Course
	4	Biodiversity	Statistical Techniques	Option Subject
3	5	3 options from: Animal Physiology; Population and Community Ecology; Enzymes and their Applications; Microbiology; Habitat Management and Restoration; Statistics using R		
	6	Plant Ecology	2 modules from: Animal Cell Biology, Applied Immunology; Behavioural Ecology	
4	7	Honours Research Project (3 modules)		Choice of four to six full and half modules from a range of options (see below)
	8			

OPTIONS FOR SEMESTER 7&8:

Conservation Biology; Molecular Evolution and Phylogenetics; France Field Course; Gabon Field Course; Omics and Systems Biology; The Evolution of Sex; Molecular Techniques; Population & Community Ecology; Habitat Management and Restoration; Sustainable Water Management; Statistics using R; Immunology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases; Tropical Rainforest Ecology; Conservation Management

CONTACT

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ARE YOU STIRLING?