



BIOL40108 *Introductory Biology*

Term 1 - 2024

Profile information current as at 28/04/2024 10:47 am

All details in this unit profile for BIOL40108 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

This unit prepares students for university study in the environmental, biomedical or life sciences. Students will gain an introductory understanding of the main concepts in modern biology, particularly as they relate to humans. This unit covers a range of topics including cell theory, organ systems, genetics, taxonomy, ecology and environmental science.

Details

Career Level: *Non-award*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 8

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

There are no requisites for this unit.

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 1 - 2024

- Online

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes - in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Non-award unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 40%

2. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 40%

3. **Online Test**

Weighting: 20%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from Teaching Team

Feedback

Need to consider impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on assessment.

Recommendation

Review assessment requirements and design in light of the impact of recent developments in Artificial Intelligence and make changes as necessary.

Feedback from Unit Evaluations

Feedback

Assessment 2 is challenging for some students who have not completed LNGE40049 Essay Writing for University prior to this unit.

Recommendation

Continue to recommend LNGE40049 Essay Writing for University as a pre-requisite for this unit and provide individual academic writing support to students.

Feedback from Unit Evaluations

Feedback

Students have found the lectures and drop-in sessions a friendly and interactive experience that support understanding.

Recommendation

Continue to encourage students to participate in online activities such as lectures and drop-in sessions.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an introductory level understanding of the main concepts in modern biology, particularly as they relate to humans
2. Locate relevant research on a topic to then prepare an essay following academic writing conventions for scientific essays
3. Write short notes to demonstrate your understanding of the meaning of key terms, concepts and processes in biology

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 40%	•		•
2 - Written Assessment - 40%	•	•	
3 - Online Test - 20%	•		•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Self Management	—	—	—
2 - Communication	—	—	—
3 - Information Literacy		—	
4 - Information Technology Competence	—	—	
5 - Problem Solving			—
6 - Critical Thinking		—	—
7 - Cross-Cultural Competence			
8 - Ethical Practice			
9 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures			

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

BIOL40108

Prescribed

Introductory Biology

Edition: 6 (2024)

Authors: School of Access Education

CQUniversity Publishing Unit

Rockhampton , Queensland , Australia

Binding: Spiral

Additional Textbook Information

The study guide for Introductory Biology (BIOL40108) is available on the unit Moodle site as a single downloadable PDF file. It is made up of 12 weekly modules, which you can also find separately within the weekly tiles in the unit Moodle site. The study guide cannot be purchased from the CQUniversity Bookshop. If you choose to print the study guide, your Access Coordinator can provide you with advice on printing options.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)
- Access to a computer is recommended

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Kerry Bond Unit Coordinator

k.bond@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 04 Mar 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Module 1 Introduction: Living organisms & levels of organisation	1	

Week 2 - 11 Mar 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Module 2 Biological molecules	2	

Week 3 - 18 Mar 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Module 3 The cell: The building block of life	3	

Week 4 - 25 Mar 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Module 4 Homeostasis Your essay on human body temperature regulation	4	Quiz 1 Closes Monday, Week 4 (25/03/2024) 11:45pm AEST

Week 5 - 01 Apr 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Module 5 Cell membranes	5	

Vacation Week - 08 Apr 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 6 - 15 Apr 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Module 6 Genetics: DNA structure & function	6	

Week 7 - 22 Apr 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Module 7 The Cell Cycle - Cell division: Mitosis & meiosis Heredity	7	Quiz 2 Closes Monday, Week 7 (22/04/2024) 11:45pm AEST

Week 8 - 29 Apr 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Module 8 Cell differentiation & tissues	8	Written Assessment - Academic Essay Due: Week 8 Monday (29 Apr 2024) 11:45 pm AEST

Week 9 - 06 May 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Module 9 Organ systems & the skeletal system	9	

Week 10 - 13 May 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Module 10 Taxonomy, evolution, & diversity	10	Quiz 3 Closes Monday, Week 10 (13/05/2024) 11:45pm AEST

Week 11 - 20 May 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Module 11 Ecology	11	

Week 12 - 27 May 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Module 12 Environmental science & sustainability	12	Quiz 4 Closes Tuesday, Week 12 (28/05/2024) 11:45pm AEST

Review/Exam Week - 03 Jun 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		Assessment 3 Online Test Closes Tuesday, Review/Exam Week (04/06/2024) 11:45pm AEST

Exam Week - 10 Jun 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Term Specific Information

The Unit Coordinator for this term is:

Ms Kerry Bond, k.bond@cqu.edu.au, +61 7 4940 7511, Building 6/G25, Mackay Ooralea Campus.

If you have Apple iBooks, it is recommended that you download the free eBook 'E. O. Wilson's Life on Earth', but it is not necessary for successful completion of the unit.

Assessment Tasks

1 Online Quizzes

Assessment Type

Online Quiz(zes)

Task Description

There are four (4) online quizzes to be completed in Moodle.

These quizzes contain multiple choice, matching and short answer questions that cover the content from each weekly module/topic. Each quiz is time limited to 1 hour for completion. You should refer to the unit notes while completing the quiz, but you should not search the internet for answers.

Quizzes become unavailable after the due date unless an extension has been granted.

Number of Quizzes

4

Frequency of Quizzes

Other

Assessment Due Date

Quiz 1 by Week 4 (Monday, 25 March, 2024, 11:45pm AEST); Quiz 2 by Week 7 (Monday, 22 April 2024, 11:45pm AEST); Quiz 3 by Week 10 (Monday, 13 May, 2024, 11:45pm AEST); Quiz 4 by Week 12 (Tuesday, 28 May, 2024, 11:45pm AEST).

Return Date to Students

Interim results of quizzes are provided immediately after submission and checked manually within 2 weeks of the due date.

Weighting

40%

Assessment Criteria

Marks are given for correct answers.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Demonstrate an introductory level understanding of the main concepts in modern biology, particularly as they relate to humans
- Write short notes to demonstrate your understanding of the meaning of key terms, concepts and processes in biology

2 Written Assessment - Academic Essay

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

Write an academic essay of 1500-2000 words to explain the biological concept of homeostasis, using the example of **human thermoregulation (body temperature regulation)**. For details, read the *Essay Writing Handbook* for

BIOL40108 and see the additional resources available in Moodle.

Requirements for the essay:

- Use a variety of high-quality academic resources, including peer-reviewed journals, relevant to the topic. Note that non-academic sources are not considered acceptable for this assessment.
- Write in your own words; that is, paraphrase/summarise the information from the sources rather than relying excessively on quotes or copying words. Academic integrity will be scrutinised, including an evaluation of any use of Artificial Intelligence software, which is not permitted.
- Use Times New Roman font in size 11 or 12, with 1.5 line spacing.
- Include a title page containing your name, student number, unit name and code, lecturer name, due date and your word count (excluding the title page and reference list).
- Avoid using headings, dot points, numbered lists or images.
- Write in complete sentences, using structured paragraphs and clear, concise and correct English.

Assessment Due Date

Week 8 Monday (29 Apr 2024) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

This assessment is returned three weeks after the due date or three weeks after the submission date, whichever is later.

Weighting

40%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

The academic essay is assessed on your presentation of an appropriate introduction, body, conclusion (appropriate to the specific research topic), referencing, use of language, explanation of the specific research topic in detail and critical thinking. Full details of the assessment criteria and weighting are available in the marking matrix sheet (marking criteria) from the unit Moodle site.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Please submit in DOC/DOCX file format.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Demonstrate an introductory level understanding of the main concepts in modern biology, particularly as they relate to humans
- Locate relevant research on a topic to then prepare an essay following academic writing conventions for scientific essays

3 Online Test

Assessment Type

Online Test

Task Description

This online assessment covers concepts from all modules of the unit and will be made available in Week 12. Once you begin the test, you will be given a twenty-four hour (24h) window in which to complete the assessment online. Questions will be a combination of types, and may include those such as multiple-choice, diagram labelling, short answer, and matching terms. This is an open-book test during which you should refer to your unit materials, but you should not search the internet for answers.

Assessment Due Date

Review/Exam week, Tuesday (4 June, 2024) 11:45 pm AEST.

Return Date to Students

Interim results are provided online after the due date and checked manually within 2 weeks.

Weighting

20%

Assessment Criteria

Marks are given for correct answers.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Once the test is started, it must be completed and submitted online within 24 hours. Ensure enough time is allowed for completion before the deadline. If your quiz is open at the time of the deadline, it will automatically be submitted at that time.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Demonstrate an introductory level understanding of the main concepts in modern biology, particularly as they relate to humans
- Write short notes to demonstrate your understanding of the meaning of key terms, concepts and processes in biology

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem