



BIOLOGY

Aim

This course is intended to encourage you to develop your knowledge and understanding of biological principles.

Course Content

You will take several units of study:

Unit 1: Cells, Tissues and Organs for Healthcare

This ungraded unit covers the structure and function of key cellular and sub-cellular structures, and explains how various human cell types are linked to their specialized function.

Unit 2: Musculoskeletal System

This three credit unit will introduce you to the classification of muscles, the functions of bone in the human skeleton and the structure and function of joints.

Unit 3: Blood, Circulation and Gaseous Exchange for Healthcare

You will learn about the cardiovascular system, the electrical conduction system of the heart and the physical and chemical processes that result in the exchange of gases in the lungs.

Unit 4: Digestion and the Liver for Healthcare

This three credit unit will enable you to understand the human digestive system, common health issues associated with the digestive system and the importance of the liver in human metabolism.

Unit 5: Homoeostasis for Healthcare

Covering the concept of homoeostasis in the human body, this three credit unit will also introduce you to the layout, roles and feedback mechanisms associated with the endocrine system.

Unit 6: Microbiology and Immunity

This unit will develop your understanding of the immune system, the lymphatic system and pathogens and defensive barriers.

Unit 7: Reproductive Biology for Healthcare

You will be enabled to understand the human reproductive system, and the various processes of embryo implantation, development and birth.

It would be useful to read about recent developments in biology and medical science, and watch documentaries or other programmes about biological issues. A GCSE biology textbook would give you a good understanding of appropriate topics and approaches.

Qualification Requirements in English and Maths

If you are aiming at progressing into higher education you will need to have English and Maths GCSEs at Levels 4 – 9 or Level 2 Functional Skills for university entrance. If you do not already have these you can take these as part of the Preparation for Access package of courses in the year preceding your enrolment on Access at no charge.

Hours:

The Access to HE Diploma course is available full-time over one year (approx. 10 hours per week over two days)

Examination Board

Laser Learning Awards

When to Apply

You can apply at any time. Interviews are held from October to June and the course begins in September. At Interview we check that the course will suit your needs.

Subjects

You can find out more about Access subject options by visiting our website at www.stvincent.ac.uk under 'Higher Education' and 'Access to University'.

Child Care

There is a nursery at St Vincent College for babies and young children up to four years old, run by YMCA Fairthorne Manor. This is free for those on benefits.

Financial Support

Some support for your studies (eg books, stationery, travel) is available for most students on benefits.

Advice and Guidance

You will be able to consult our Careers Team for impartial advice about university or careers.

For start dates and further information, contact:

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