Overview

The three-year Life Sciences degree has been designed for students who seek a 'generalist' degree in which there is a large element of choice but with an emphasis on the life and health sciences. A student will select a major area of study and can combine courses from two or more Science disciplines, or take courses from outside the Science disciplines. There is also the option to continue into an Honours year by enrolling in a further year of study (program 4500). The basic rules for this degree are set out below.

This program has been designed to:

1. Develop and sustain an interest in and knowledge of Science with an emphasis on the life and health sciences;
2. Develop a working knowledge of scientific methods of investigation;
3. Encourage curiosity and creative imagination and an appreciation of the role of speculation in the selection and solution of problems, the construction of hypotheses, and the design of experiments;
4. Develop an appreciation of scientific criteria and a concern for objectivity and precision;
5. Develop confidence and skill in formulating problems and in treating both qualitative and quantitative data;
6. Develop the ability and disposition to think logically, to communicate clearly by written and oral means, and to read critically and with understanding;
7. Develop the habit of seeking and recognising relationships between phenomena, principles, theories, conceptual frameworks and problems;
8. Promote understanding of the significance of science, technology, economics and social factors in modern society, and of the contributions they can make in improving material conditions;
9. Provide opportunities for the development of students' motivations and social maturity, and an awareness of their capabilities in relation to a choice of
career which will be fruitful to themselves and to society;
10. Provide opportunity to study science in combination with other disciplines.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Faculty</strong></th>
<th>Faculty of Science</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Campus</strong></td>
<td>Kensington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Study Level</strong></td>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Typical duration</strong></td>
<td>3 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Delivery Mode</strong></td>
<td>Face-to-face</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intake Period</strong></td>
<td>Term 1, Term 2, Term 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academic Calendar</strong></td>
<td>3+ Calendar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum Units of Credit</strong></td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Award type</strong></td>
<td>Bachelors Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Award(s)</strong></td>
<td>Bachelor of Life Sciences - BLS</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UAC Code</strong></td>
<td>429050</td>
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<td><strong>CRICOS Code</strong></td>
<td>085129B</td>
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Learning Outcomes

1. display research, inquiry and analytical thinking abilities. Technical competence and discipline specific knowledge. Ability to construct new concepts or create new understanding through the process of enquiry, critical analysis, problem solving, research and inquiry.

2. be capable and motivated for intellectual development. Capacity for creativity, critical evaluation and entrepreneurship. Ability to take responsibility for and demonstrate commitment to their own learning, motivated by curiosity and an appreciation of the value of learning.

3. understand Ethical, Social and Professional concepts. Ability to critically reflect upon broad ethical principles and codes of conduct in order to behave consistently with a personal respect and commitment to ethical practice and social responsibility. Understanding of responsibility to contribute to the community. Respect and value social, multicultural, cultural and personal diversity.

4. display excellent Communication skills. Effective and appropriate communication in both professional (intra and inter disciplinary) and social (local and international) contexts.

5. demonstrate Teamwork, collaborative and management skills. Ability to recognise opportunities and contribute positively to collaborative scientific research, and to perceive the potential value of ideas towards practical applications. Demonstrate a capacity for self management, teamwork, leadership and decision making based on open-mindedness, objectivity and reasoned analysis in order to achieve common goals and further the learning of themselves and others.

6. demonstrate Information literacy. Ability to make appropriate and effective use of information and information technology relevant to their discipline.

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Graduate Capabilities:

For more information on Graduate Capabilities, please click on this link.
Program Structure

Students must complete 144 UOC as a standalone program.

Students in the Bachelor of Life Sciences are expected to complete 144 UOC of courses.

96 UOC of Science courses
- At least one approved Bachelor of Life Sciences major
- Science elective courses. Science courses are defined in 'Table 1' in the Additional Information section.

36 UOC of Free Electives. These courses can be taken from any Faculty of the University at any stage of your program.

12 UOC of General Education courses. Please see the rules regarding General Education below. These courses can be taken at any stage in your program.

Please click the Sample Programs link below to view a typical enrolment pattern for this program.

Science Majors

Students must complete at least one and no more than 2 of the specialisations below.

MAJOR:

ANATA1 | 72 UOC
Anatomy

BIOCC1 | 90 UOC
Genetics

BIOCM1 | 84 UOC
Molecular and Cell Biology

BIOSG1 | 78 UOC
Ecology

BIOSJ1 | 78 UOC
Biology

BIOTA1 | 84 UOC
Biotechnology

CHEMJ1 | 72 UOC
Biological Chemistry

MICRB1 | 84 UOC
Microbiology

MSCIM1 | 78 UOC
Marine and Coastal Science

PATHA1 | 66 UOC
Pathology

PHARA1 | 66 UOC
Pharmacology

PHSLA1 | 66 UOC
Physiology

PSYCA1 | 78 UOC
Psychology

**Free Electives**

Students may take up to a maximum of 36 UOC of the following courses.

any course

**General Education**

Students must take 12 UOC of the following courses.

Any course defined as a Science course cannot be taken as General Education (GE).
All other courses can be used to fulfil the GE requirement of this program, including GEN# coded courses. Any exceptions to these rules must be approved by the Associate Dean (Academic Programs) or nominee.

*any General Education course*

### Course Information Rule

GEN# courses cannot count towards the free elective component, or towards science core courses or science electives in the program. Any exceptions to these rules must be approved by the Associate Dean (Academic Programs) or nominee.

### Excluded General Education Courses

Students may not undertake any of the following excluded courses.

*any Computer Science course*

*any Food Technology course*

*any course offered by School of Medical Sciences*

*any course offered by Faculty of Science*

*any General Education - Faculty of Science course*

### Minimum and Maximum Level 1 UOC

Students must complete at least 24 UOC of Level 1 Science courses. Not more than 72 UOC in Level 1 courses (including 12 UOC GE) will be counted towards the degree.

*any level 1 course offered by Faculty of Science*

### Minimum Biological Science UOC

Students must complete a minimum of 6 UOC of the following courses.

*any Biological Science course*
Minimum Biotechnology & Biomolecular Sci UOC

Students must complete a minimum of 6 UOC of the following courses.

any Biotechnology & Biomolecular Sciences course

Minimum Science UOC

Students must complete a minimum of 96 UOC of the following courses.

any Anatomy course

any Biochemistry course

any Biological Science course

any Biotechnology course

any Chemistry course

any Microbiology course

any Marine Science course

any Pathology course

any Pharmacology course

any Physiology course

any Psychology course

Level 2 Maturity Requirements

No student may commence Level 2 courses until 30 UOC of Level I courses have been successfully completed.
**Level 3 Maturity Requirements**

Students may commence Level 3 courses upon successful completion of 72 units of credit.

**Major Declaration Requirement**

Students must complete at least one approved Bachelor of Life Sciences major, which must be declared before enrolling in Level II courses.

**Sample Programs**

To access sample program(s), please visit:

*Sample Science Programs*

**Enrolment Disclaimer**

Unless advised otherwise by your program authority, you should follow the rules for the handbook for the year you commenced your program. You are also responsible for ensuring you enrol in courses according to your program requirements. myUNSW enrolment checks that you have met enrolment requirements such as pre-requisites for individual courses but not that a course will count towards your program requirements.
Related Programs

Bachelor of Advanced Science (Honours) - \textbf{BAdvSci(Hons)}

\textit{3962 Advanced Science (Honours)}

Faculty: Faculty of Science
Campus: Kensington
Units of Credit: 192
Typical Duration: 4 Years

Read More

Bachelor of Environmental Management - \textbf{BEnvMgmt}

\textit{3965 Environmental Management}

Faculty: Faculty of Science
Campus: Kensington
Units of Credit: 144
Typical Duration: 3 Years

Read More

Bachelor of Science - \textbf{BSc}

\textit{3970 Science}

Faculty: Faculty of Science
Campus: Kensington
Units of Credit: 144
Typical Duration: 3 Years

Read More
Program Requirements

Recognition of Prior Learning

UNSW Students may be granted Recognition for Prior Learning (RPL) which may or may not reduce the amount of learning required to achieve a degree at UNSW. Generally, RPL is only granted based on the completion of tertiary-level studies, but in exceptional circumstances may also include non-formal or informal learning such as professional experience. RPL will not be granted based on partly completed tertiary courses. All applications for RPL at UNSW are subject to UNSW Recognition of Prior Learning (Coursework Programs) Policy and Procedures. Students seeking credit for courses completed at another university are required to submit documentary evidence (course outlines, academic transcripts) to support their application, and to nominate the course(s) for which they seek credit. In addition, the following conditions apply for all UNSW Science programs (including the Science component of dual award programs): Specified course credit, i.e. credit granted for an exact or near exact equivalence to a course at UNSW, will not be granted when more than 7 years has elapsed from the successful completion of the course (or other learning) and the student’s commencement in the Science program. Where this time period is shorter it will be stipulated in the individual rules for the relevant program. Unspecified course credit (e.g. General Education or free electives) will not be granted when more than 10 years has elapsed from the successful completion of the course (or other learning) and the student’s commencement in the Science program. Students may only receive credit of up to a maximum of 50% of the coursework component of their Science program, excluding Honours. For most undergraduate programs this will be 72 UOC. For dual award programs that include a Science component, it will be a maximum of 50% of the Science component of the dual degree, excluding Honours. Credit for the other program will be assessed by the Faculty that administers that program. Applications for RPL will only be assessed for students who have accepted a place to study in a UNSW Science program. Students must formally apply for RPL unless they become a UNSW student as part of a formal Articulation Agreement. Applications for RPL should be made as early as possible in the student’s program. Students who are readmitted into a Science program after a period of unapproved absence or deferment, or after exclusion, will not necessarily retain credit for all units completed at UNSW prior to the absence if the date of completion of the units of study is greater than the 7 and 10-year rules outlined in points 1 and 2 above. In these cases, the credit retained will be decided by the Associate Dean (Academic Programs) in consultation (when necessary) with the Program and/or Course Authority.
Progression Requirements

Progression rules are in accordance with university policy.

For more information on university policy on progression requirements please visit Academic Progression.
Pathways

Honours Programs

Bachelor of Science (Honours) - BSc(Hons)
4500 Science (Honours)

Faculty: Faculty of Science
Campus: Kensington
Units of Credit: 48
Typical Duration: 1 Years

Read More
Professional Outcomes

Career Opportunities

Pharmaceutical and medical research, work health and safety, environmental research and industry, wildlife management, patent law, cognitive science, oceanography; food manufacturing, processing and research; science journalism, meteorology, optics, the application of mathematics and statistics in the finance industry.
Recognition of Achievement

University Medal

The University Medal is awarded to recognise outstanding academic performance by a bachelor degree student in line with the University Medal Policy and University Medal Procedure.

Award of Pass with Distinction

The Award of Pass with Distinction is awarded when a weighted average mark (WAM) of at least 75% has been achieved and at least 50% of the requirements of the award completed at UNSW. All eligible programs will award Pass with Distinction except in special circumstances where approval of Academic Board has been given for a program to opt out.

For more information, please visit:

Current Students Pass With Distinction
Additional Information

Definition of 'Science' courses

Table 1

Science Handbook Rules and Editions

Students must follow the program rules and requirements in the UNSW Handbook published in the year they commence their studies with the Faculty of Science.

Students who transfer from another UNSW Faculty into Science (for example, from a Bachelor of Arts into a Bachelor of Science) must follow the program rules and requirements in the UNSW Handbook published in the year of their transfer.

Students, who are readmitted to UNSW after a period of unapproved absence or deferment, or after exclusion, must satisfy the program rules in the Handbook published in the year of their readmission. In addition, these students may be subject to restrictions on which courses taken at UNSW may be counted on their return. In some cases, students returning from an unapproved absence may be required to repeat courses. See the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Advanced Standing section below for more details. Students who take approved leave or deferment will follow the Handbook for the year of their original commencement unless otherwise approved by the Associate Dean (Academic Programs).

Faculty of Science Rules

The Faculty of Science has some rules that relate to all students enrolled in programs offered by the Faculty in relation to recognition for prior learning, general education, course exclusions, study load, and cross-institutional study. All students should read the information contained on the Faculty General Rules and Requirements page.
Program Fees

At UNSW fees are generally charged at course level and therefore dependent upon individual enrolment and other factors such as student's residency status. For generic information on fees and additional expenses of UNSW programs, click on one of the following:

- Domestic Students
- Commonwealth Supported Students
- International Students
Pre-2019 Handbook Editions

Access past handbook editions (2018 and prior)

Pre-2019 Handbook Editions
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Authorised by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
CRICOS Provider Code 00098G
ABN: 57 195 873 179