

## Programme Specification for Undergraduate Programme Leading to: BSc Biological Sciences

Applicable for all undergraduate students starting in September 2021

| Version No. | Date   | Notes – QA USE ONLY  | QA |
|-------------|--------|--|----|
| 1           | May 21 | 2021/22 version of programme spec created with no changes' | BT |

| Undergraduate Taught Programme   |  |
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| 1. Awarding institution  | Brunel University London   |
| 2. Teaching institution(s)   | Brunel University London   |
| 3. Home College/Department/Division  | College of Health, Medicine & Life Sciences/ Life Sciences/Biosciences   |
| 4. Contributing College/Department/Division/ Associated Institution  | None   |
| 5. Programme accredited by   | N/A  |
| 6. Final award(s) and FHEQ Level of Award  | BSc Biological Sciences<br>FHEQ level 6  |
| 7. Programme title   | Biological Sciences for intercalated students  |
| 8. Programme type (single honours/joint)   | N/A  |
| 9. Normal length of programme (in months) for each mode of study   | 12 months full time  |
| 10. Maximum period of registration for each mode of study  | Normal length plus one year  |
| 11. Variation(s) to September start  | N/A  |
| 12. Modes of study   | Full time  |
| 13. Modes of delivery  | Standard   |
| 14. Intermediate awards and titles and FHEQ Level of Award   | N/A  |
| 15. UCAS Code  | N/A  |
| 16. HECoS Code   | 100346   |
| 17. Route Code   | C100UBILOSC3   |
| 18. Relevant subject benchmark statements and other external and internal reference points used to inform programme design | <a href="#">UK Quality Code for Higher Education</a><br><a href="#">QAA Subject Benchmark Statement</a> (Biosciences)<br><a href="#">Brunel 2030</a><br>Brunel Placement Learning Policy, as published under the 'Placements' section of the ' <a href="#">Managing Higher Education Provision with Others</a> ' page. |
| 19. Admission Requirements   | Successful completion of at least first 2 years of UK medical degree (including the courses for dentist and veterinarian) with a profile   |

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|   | equivalent to a 2.1 average (with no condoned/failed/re-assessed modules). |
| 20. Other relevant information (e.g. study abroad, additional information on placements)  | N/A  |
| 21. Programme regulations not specified in Senate Regulation 2. Any departure from regulations specified in Senate Regulation 2 must be stated here and approved by Senate. |  |
| 22. Further information about the programme is available from the College website.  | Link to programme information on the College website                       |

### 23. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme is a one-year, intercalated research degree that students who have completed at least 2 years of the medical degree course can undertake to gain an additional, research degree at the point of graduation. The programme is designed to provide students with the advanced knowledge and understanding in life science and its impact on biomedical science.

The students will be trained to conduct research related to pressing contemporary issues in the biomedicine that, with the practicing laboratory skills acquired will represent a perfect platform for a research career.

### 24. PROGRAMME AND INTERMEDIATE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding (K) cognitive (thinking) skills (C) and other skills and attributes (S) in the following areas:

| <b>FHEQ Level</b>   | <b>Category</b><br>(K = knowledge and understanding, C = cognitive (thinking) skills, S = other skills and attributes) | <b>Learning Outcome</b>   | <b>Associated Assessment Blocks Code(s)</b>   | <b>Associated Study Blocks Code(s)</b>   | <b>Associated Modular Blocks Code(s)</b> |
|---------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| <b>FHEQ Level 6</b> |  |   |   |  |  |
| 6                   | K  | Demonstrate critical understanding of advanced theoretical and practical aspects relevant to the human health and biomedical sciences | <b>BB3805</b><br>(Research Methods assessment block)<br><br>BB3806<br>(Literature Interrogation and Synthesis)<br><br>BB3807<br>(Research Presentation) | <b>BB3708</b><br>(Research Methods-1 (Scientific Communication))<br><br><b>BB3709</b><br>(Research Methods-2 (Experimental Design, Ethics and Statistics)) |  |

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|   |   |  | and Recording)<br>BB3808 (Project Report) | BB3702 (Research project)  |  |
| 6 | K | Demonstrate understanding of how to work safely in the laboratory whilst employing a range of research and experimental techniques | BB3805<br>BB3807                          | BB3709<br>BB3702           |  |
| 6 | C | Critically evaluate and synthesise the current scientific literature related to a specific topic in life sciences.                 | BB3805<br>BB3806<br>BB3808                | BB3708<br>BB3702           |  |
| 6 | C | Develop a research plan, formulate hypotheses and conduct a research project.  | BB3807                                    | BB3708<br>BB3702           |  |
| 6 | C | Report on research findings and evaluate the relevance in a cognate research area.   | BB3807<br>BB3808                          | BB3708<br>BB3709<br>BB3702 |  |
| 6 | S | Be able to carry out advanced data analyses with the ability to select and apply appropriate mathematical and statistical methods. | BB3708<br>BB3808                          | BB3709<br>BB3702           |  |
| 6 | S | Critically analyse data and be able to present complex research findings in a clear and concise manner.                            | BB3805<br>BB3807<br>BB3808                | BB3708<br>BB3709<br>BB3702 |  |
| 6 | S | Communicate effectively complex scientific issues (theoretical and research in written and oral forms).                            | BB3805<br>BB3806<br>BB3807<br>BB3808      | BB3708<br>BB3702           |  |

**Learning/teaching strategies and methods** to enable learning outcomes to be achieved, including formative assessments

The programme content for the taught modules will be delivered by means of lectures (by members of the Departmental staff), on line lessons, keynote seminars and attendance at seminars. The latter will be delivered by international leaders in a specific field with the purpose to widen student knowledge to new investigative models, alternative topics or consolidate concepts thought throughout the programme.

During the research dissertation project, students will have the opportunity to deepen their knowledge in a specific subject area, to be trained in the advanced research methods needed for the project, to practice strategic experimental design and to exercise critical data analyses.

Critical thinking and evaluative skills will be developed during a variety of practically based and more traditional lecture based modules.

Transferable and employability skills will be developed in all modules. Similarly, communication and presentation skills will be developed in taught modules and assessments. IT and computing skills will be developed throughout the course.

Practical skills will be acquired throughout the course that has a strong focus on the development of practical competencies. Writing skills will be developed through taught modules and assessments and student will

receive both written and verbal feedback on their progresses via assessed assignments. For the project, each student will be assigned an academic supervisor who will guide your work and advice on your progress

**Summative assessment strategies and methods** to enable learning outcomes to be demonstrated.

Knowledge, intellectual, practical, professional and transferable skills will be assessed by a variety of methods including completion of the research project and dissertation

Constructive feedback will be provided in all assessments and tailored to advice students on their progress throughout the course.

## 25. Programme Structure, progression and award requirements

Programme structures and features: levels, assessment blocks, credit and progression and award requirements

The proposed programme is a single year at FHEQ Level 6 comprising 120 credits. A 40-credit research methods assessment block will assess the learning outcome from two 20-credit study blocks, and 80 credits will constitute the project. The research aspect of the project is captured in an 80-credit study block and the assessment comprises 3 assessment blocks which are broken down as follows: Literature Interrogation and Synthesis (20 credits), Research Presentation and Recording (20 credits), and Project Report (40 credits).

### FHEQ level 6

#### Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credit

BB3805: Research Methods: 40 credits

BB3806 (Literature Interrogation and Synthesis): 20 credits

BB3807 (Research Presentation and Recording): 20 credits

BB3808 (Project Report): 40 credits Core: Block

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| <p><b>Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume</b></p> <p>BB3708: Research Methods for Intercalated Students 1 (Scientific Communication): 20 credits</p> <p>BB3709: Research Methods for Intercalated Students 2 (Health &amp; safety, Lab skill, Ethics and Statistics): 20 credits</p> <p>BB3702 (Research Project): 80 credits</p>  | <p><b>Optional Study block codes, titles and credit volume</b></p> |
| <p><b>Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits</b></p>  | <p><b>Optional modular block codes, titles and credits</b></p>     |
| <p><b>FHEQ level 6 Progression and Award Requirements</b></p> <p>As per Senate Regulation 2:<br/> <a href="https://www.brunel.ac.uk/about/administration/governance-and-university-committees/senate-regulations">https://www.brunel.ac.uk/about/administration/governance-and-university-committees/senate-regulations</a></p> <p>Mechanisms for classification shall be as per Senate Regulation 2 Appendix A. The weightings in A4 of Appendix A do not apply. The profile for classification shall be entirely based on Year 3.</p> |  |

Please note: this specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods can be found in the modular block, assessment and study block outlines and other programme and block information. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University from time to time and whenever a modification occurs.