

Programme Specification: Undergraduate

For students starting in Academic Year 2017/2018

1. Course Summary

Names of programme(s) and award title(s)	BSc (Hons) Biochemistry BSc (Hons) Biochemistry with International Year (see Annex A for details) BSc (Hons) Biochemistry with Work Placement Year BSc (Hons) Studies in Biochemistry BSc (Hons) Studies in Biochemistry with International Year (see Annex A for details) BSc (Hons) Studies in Biochemistry with Work Placement Year
Award type	Dual Honours/Major/Minor <i>NB: all students who study a science Principal subject are candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Science (with Honours) (BSc Hons) irrespective of their second Principal subject.</i>
Mode of study	Full time
Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award	Level 6
Duration	3 years 4 years if an Applied Life Sciences Placement or International Year is included
Location of study	Keele University – main campus
Accreditation (if applicable)	The major route and combinations with Biology, Human Biology or Neuroscience are accredited by the Royal Society of Biology Excludes “Studies in”. For further details see section 12.
Regulator	Office for Students (OfS)
Tuition Fees	UK/EU students: Fee for 2017/18 is £9,250* International students: Fee for 2017/18 is £14,150** <i>(if combined with a non-laboratory-based Principal Subject)</i> <i>or</i> £15,250** <i>(if combined with a laboratory-based Principal Subject)</i>

* These fees are regulated by Government. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study in response to changes in government policy and/or changes to the law. If permitted by such change in policy or law, we may increase your fees by an inflationary amount or such other measure as required by government policy or the law. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

** We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

	<p>The fee for the placement year is calculated at 20% of the</p> <p>The fee for the International Year is calculated at 15% of the standard year fee</p>
Additional Costs	Refer to section 18

How this information might change: Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

2. What is a Dual Honours programme?

Dual Honours degrees are degrees that are taken in two different subjects, resulting in an *X and Y* degree title, for example *Biochemistry and Biology*. If you are taking a Dual Honours programme, these will be the two subjects you applied for. These are referred to as your Principal Subjects.

In a Dual Honours degree you must take at least 120 credits in each Principal Subject, accrued over all three levels of study, with at least 30 credits in Year 1 (Level 4) and at least 45 credits in each of Years 2 and 3 (Levels 5 and 6) in each of two Principal Subjects. The remaining available credits can be filled with modules from these subjects or other subjects entirely.

What is a Major/Minor programme?

Major/Minor degrees are degrees that are taken in two different subjects, much like a Dual Honours degree, except that you will specialise in the Major subject. In a Major/Minor degree you will need at least 225 credits in your Major subject over your three years of study with at least two modules (30 credits) taken each year in your Major Subject, although some Principal Subjects will require you to take more than this and this will be stated in the relevant programme specification. You will also need 90 credits in your Minor subject with a minimum of 30 credits (two modules) taken in Year 1 (Level 4) and 45 credits (three modules) taken in Year 2 (Level 5).

Students taking the Minor Route in Biochemistry might not necessarily be able to demonstrate that they have achieved all of the Programme's learning outcomes.

3. Overview of the Programme

The Biochemistry programme is a Principal Subject that can be taken as part of a dual honours degree. This broad educational remit has been a distinctive feature of Keele's academic philosophy since it was founded in 1953. You will study Biochemistry and your other Principal subject for two years at which point you may choose to specialise in either Biochemistry (major route) or your other subject (if a major route is available for that subject).

The Keele Biochemistry programme provides a broad and varied coverage of modern biochemistry, offering the chance to investigate the most exciting areas of 21st Century life science and medical research and it allows students to tailor their degree course to their interests and ambitions. Studying life at the molecular level offers the opportunity to investigate the core topics in the life sciences today, from unlocking the secrets of the human genome to the individually tailored molecular therapies of the future. The Keele Biochemistry programme places particular emphasis on human and mammalian biochemistry, especially as it relates to health and disease. Students may combine Biochemistry with the Principal Programme in Biology if they wish to complement their study of molecular biochemistry with a broad and varied coverage of modern biology, with emphasis on whole organisms. Staff provide a friendly and supportive environment. Training is also provided in the employability skills that will help you to reach your potential in your chosen career, whether or not this is in biochemistry.

4. Aims of the Programme

The broad aims of the programme are to:

- provide you with core knowledge, understanding and skills relevant to biochemistry;
- produce skilled and motivated graduates who are suitably prepared for further study or for employment within or outside their field;
- cultivate interest in the biosciences, particularly at the cellular and molecular level, within a caring and intellectually stimulating environment;
- promote the development of a range of employability skills, for use in all areas where numeracy and an objective, scientific approach to problem-solving are valued;
- promote the development of independent research skills to enable you to undertake relevant postgraduate study

5. What you will learn

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Intellectual skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

In Dual Honours Biochemistry and in Biochemistry (Major) successful students will achieve all the Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) listed below. In the Biochemistry (Minor) route they will achieve all the ILOs, although those associated primarily with ISPs will be achieved to a lesser extent. The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under four main headings:

Subject knowledge and understanding

Successful students will be able to

- U1 understand and explain the chemistry that underlies biochemical reactions and the techniques used to investigate them
- U2 understand the chemical and thermodynamic principles underlying biological catalysis and the role of enzymes and other proteins in determining the function and fate of cells and organisms.
- U3 have a critical understanding of essential features of cell metabolism and its control, including topics such as energy and signal transduction and respiration
- U4 understand the principles that determine the three-dimensional structure of biological macromolecules (including nucleic acids and proteins) and be able to explain detailed examples of how structure enables function
- U5 acquire a critical understanding of the molecular basis of genetics and be able to explain some detailed examples
- U6 have critical knowledge and understanding of gene expression, with a detailed knowledge of specific examples; the structure, arrangement, expression, and regulation of genes; and relevant experimental methods

- U7 be familiar with a wide range of cells (both prokaryotic and eukaryotic) and parasitic entities (e.g. viruses) and be able to explain critically how their properties suit them for their biological function, and how they could be investigated experimentally
- U8 have a critical understanding of the innate and adaptive immune system
- U9 devise and evaluate suitable experimental methods for the investigation of relevant areas of biochemistry and molecular biology
- U10 be aware of current developments in biochemistry and molecular biology including areas of ethical or public concern
- U11 demonstrate an ability to mine, manipulate and interpret data from small molecule and macromolecular databases.

Subject specific skills

Successful students will be able to:

- S1 read and use appropriate literature with a full and critical understanding, while addressing such questions as content, context, aims, objectives, quality of information, and its interpretation and application
- S2 employ a variety of methods of study (including bioinformatics) in investigating, acquiring, recording and analysing information relevant to the subject
- S3 prepare, process, interpret and present data, using appropriate qualitative and quantitative techniques, statistical programmes, spreadsheets and programs for presenting data visually
- S4 use and attain competence in a range of laboratory techniques
- S5 design, conduct, analyse, report and evaluate biochemical experiments, acknowledging an awareness of the validity, accuracy, calibration, precision and reproducibility of results
- S6 work safely and responsibly in the laboratory with awareness of standard procedures such as risk assessment, ethical approval of research, relevant health and safety regulations, issues relating to animal welfare and procedures for obtaining informed consent
- S7 recognise philosophical and ethical issues relevant to the subject
- S8 develop an appreciation of the interdisciplinary nature of science and of the validity of different points of view

Intellectual skills

Successful students will be able to:

- I1 assess the merits of contrasting theories, paradigms, concepts or principles
- I2 think independently, set tasks and solve problems by a variety of methods
- I3 make reasoned decisions and develop reasoned arguments
- I4 obtain and interpret several lines of subject-specific evidence to formulate and test hypotheses

- I5 make critical interpretations, evaluations and judgements of data and text
- I6 analyse, synthesise and summarise information critically, including published research or reports
- I7 apply biochemical I understanding to familiar and unfamiliar problems, and emphasise the interdisciplinary nature of science and the validity of different points of view
- I8 take responsibility for their own learning and reflect upon that learning
- I9 construct grammatically correct documents in an appropriate academic style using and referencing relevant ideas and evidence.
- I10 understand the importance of academic and research integrity

Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Successful students will be able to:

- E1 develop an adaptable, flexible, sustainable and effective approach to study and work, including time management, creativity and intellectual integrity
- E2 acquire, analyse, synthesise, summarise and present information and ideas from a wide range of sources: textual, numerical, verbal, graphical
- E3 prepare, process, interpret and present data using appropriate qualitative and quantitative techniques, statistical programmes, spreadsheets and programs for presenting data visually
- E4 use the internet and other electronic sources critically as a means of communication and a source of information
- E5 cite and reference work in an appropriate manner, ensuring academic integrity and the avoidance of plagiarism whether intentional or not
- E6 communicate effectively to a variety of audiences by written, spoken and graphical means using appropriate techniques and scientific language
- E7 develop skills necessary for self-managed and lifelong learning, including working independently, organisational, enterprise and knowledge transfer skills
- E8 work with others to identify and achieve collaborative goals and responsibilities and perform in a respectful manner that is accepting of the viewpoints and opinions of others and evaluates the roles and development of team members
- E9 motivate themselves and sustain that motivation over an extended period of time
- E10 identify and work towards targets for personal, academic and career development.

Keele Graduate attributes

Engagement with this programme will enable you to develop your intellectual, personal and professional capabilities. At Keele, we call these our ten Graduate Attributes and they include independent thinking, synthesizing information, creative problem solving, communicating clearly, and appreciating the social, environmental and global implications of your studies and activities. Our educational programme and learning environment is designed to help you to become a well-rounded graduate who is capable of making a positive

and valued contribution in a complex and rapidly changing world, whichever spheres of life you engage in after your studies are completed.

Further information about the Keele Graduate Attributes can be found here: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/journey/>

6. How is the Programme taught?

Learning and teaching methods used on the programme vary according to the subject matter and level of the module. They include the following:

- **Traditional lectures** where the lecturer provides students with a framework for reading and independent study. Some lecture classes may feature guest speakers working in biochemistry or biomedical fields
- **Interactive learning** in large classes where students have the opportunity to work together in smaller groups, interact with the lecturer and reflect on their own learning. Interactive lectures may involve the use of voting systems or involve students in answering quick quizzes or writing short summaries
- **Practicals** in laboratories are particularly important and weekly laboratory classes are designed to train you in the skills needed for a career in biochemistry and provide training in a wide range of research techniques
- **Tutorials** and seminars in small groups of students where key issues can be discussed in more depth. Students are expected to play a full part and, occasionally, to lead these discussions. Some tutorials and seminars consist largely of student presentations and many are based on scientific papers studied in advance
- **Independent study** based on directed reading from text books, research papers and research reviews.
- **Web-based learning** using the University's virtual learning environment (KLE). The KLE is used to give students easy access to a wide range of resources and research tools, and as a platform for online discussions and quizzes
- For those who choose to take the non-experimental project module in Biochemistry in their final year, the opportunity to undertake a piece of **independent study** supervised and supported by a member of staff
- For those who choose to take the experimental project module in Biochemistry in their final year, the opportunity to undertake a piece of **independent experimental research** supervised and supported by a member of staff and usually within a research group

Apart from these formal activities, students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their tutors on a one-to-one basis.

These learning and teaching methods enable students to achieve the learning outcomes of the programme in a variety of ways. For example:

- Lectures and independent study allow students to gain knowledge and understanding of molecular mechanisms and the complexity of cellular processes
- Seminars, tutorials and online discussions provide opportunities for students to ask questions about, and suggest answers to biochemical questions, and to present their own ideas to members of staff and other students using an appropriate medium of communication
- Interactive lectures, seminars, tutorials and web-based activities encourage students to reflect on their own learning and take responsibility for its development by addressing areas of difficulty, perhaps by discussing them with their fellow students or by getting additional help from a member of staff
- Laboratory practicals allow students to generate, analyse and interpret biochemical data and use a range

of techniques

- Undertaking an experimental project with the support of an experienced researcher allows students to formulate relevant research questions and devise, carry out and analyse experiments to answer them.

7. Teaching Staff

Currently our core teaching staff comprises of academic staff and a senior demonstrator who play the most significant roles in the delivery of the programme. However, many of the remaining academic staff from the School of Life Sciences, are also involved to some extent in teaching e.g. in project supervision or delivery of option modules. Teaching staff from the School of Pharmacy, School of Medicine and the University Hospitals of North Midlands also contribute to various aspects the Programme. Most staff are active in bioscience research and qualified to PhD level or equivalent professional level. As part of probationary requirements, new staff must complete a postgraduate certificate in teaching at HE level, which is recognised by SEDA. Several Life Sciences' staff members have been awarded Keele's prestigious Excellence in Teaching and Learning awards and several were awarded a KeeleSU Education Award for personal tutoring.

There is a growing culture of higher education research and several members of staff are active this field, with members of staff having already completed an MA in Teaching and Learning and several others in the process of doing so. In recent years several teaching innovation projects have been run by Life Sciences staff and several new projects have been proposed. Members of the School of Life Sciences hold recognised or accredited teaching qualifications and a number are Fellows or Associates of the Higher Education Academy (HEA) and a number are Senior Fellows of the HEA.

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

8. What is the Structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from course to course, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to the end of April.

Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

There are four types of module delivered as part of this programme. They are:

- Compulsory core module – a module that you are required to study on this course;
- Optional core module – these allow you some limited choice of what to study from a list of modules;
- Programme approved elective module – subject-related modules that count towards the number of subject credits required by your degree;
- Free-standing elective module – a free choice of modules that count towards the overall credit requirement but not the number of subject-related credits.

Dual Honours

Students take four Biochemistry modules at Levels 4 and 5, two in each semester. At Level 5, there is also the option of studying abroad for one of the two semesters (please note that due to the structure of the Neuroscience course, students combining with Neuroscience can only do semester 1 abroad). At Level 6, students take four modules in Biochemistry, of which one must be an independent study module: Life Sciences Experimental Project (with research skills assessment), Life Sciences Non-Experimental Project and Applied Life Sciences Placement. Dual Honours students combining Biochemistry with another Life Sciences subject (Biology,

Neuroscience or Human Biology) must take a 30-credit ISP (Independent Study Project), either a Double Applied Life Sciences Placement or a Life Sciences Double Experimental Project (with research skills assessment).

Major Route Biochemistry

The Keele degree structure indicates that students must accumulate at least 225 credits for a major route subject across all three years and at least 90 credits (at least 45 at level 5) in the minor subject. On the Biochemistry major route, the core modules account for 60 credits each at levels 4 and 5 and at least 105 at level 6 (exceeding the minimum requirements). Students take four Biochemistry modules in Years 1 and 2 (Levels 4 and 5), two from each semester. In Year 2 (Level 5), there is also the option of studying abroad for one of the two semesters (please note that due to the structure of the Neuroscience course, students combining with Neuroscience can only do semester 1 abroad). In Year 3 (Level 6), students study either eight modules in Biochemistry, or seven modules in Biochemistry and one in their other subject or a Free-standing Elective Module. The Biochemistry modules must include a 30 credit Life Sciences Double Experimental Project (with research skills assessment) or 30 credit Applied Life Sciences Placement.

Minor Route Biochemistry

To achieve a minor award, the Keele degree structure stipulates that students must accumulate at least 90 credits in the minor subject across all three years, with at least 45 of these at Level 5. The Biochemistry minor route accounts for 60 credits each and levels 4 and 5 (exceeding the requirement). Students take four Biochemistry modules at Levels 4 and 5, two from each semester. At level 5, there is also the option of studying abroad for one of the two semesters (please note that due to the structure of the Neuroscience course, students combining with Neuroscience can only do semester 1 abroad). At level 6, students study either no modules in Biochemistry and eight in their other subject or one module in Biochemistry and seven in their other subject. The Biochemistry modules may not include any of the independent study modules: Life Science Experimental Project (with research skills assessment), Life Sciences Non-Experimental Project and Applied Life Sciences Placement.

Note that many modules are shared with students on other courses, such as Human Biology, Biology, Biomedical Science or Neuroscience.

Year 1 (Level 4)

Compulsory Core modules	Credits	Optional Core / Programme Approved Elective modules	Credits
Nature's Tools: Proteins & Enzymes	15	None	
Metabolism: Major Metabolic Pathways	15		
Information & Inheritance	15		
Cells & Organelles: Biochemical Aspects of Cell biology	15		

Year 2 (Level 5)

Compulsory Core modules	Credits	Optional Core / Programme Approved Elective modules	Credits
Gene & Protein Engineering	15	Study Abroad modules ¹	60
Molecular, Cellular & Structural Immunology	15		
Metabolism in Health and Disease	15		
Cell Signalling	15		

¹ Students may only undertake Study Abroad in one of the semesters of level 5. Students combining with Neuroscience can only study abroad in semester 1.

Year 3 (Level 6)

Compulsory Core modules	Credits	Optional Core / Programme Approved	Credits
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		Elective modules NB Students select between 2 and 5 modules	
Bioinformatics and Science Communication	15	Advances in Medicine	15
		Human Parasitology	15
Optional Core modules (select 15 or 30 credits)^{1,2}	Credits	Structural Biology & Macromolecular Function	15
Life Sciences Experimental Project (with research skills assessment) ^{# \$*}	15 ² or 30 ^{1,3}	Medical Glycobiology	15
Life Sciences Non-Experimental Project ^{# \$*}	15	Cancer Biology	15
Applied Life Sciences Placement ^{# \$*}	15 or 30 ³	Biology of Disease* (<i>Major route only</i>)	15
		Case Studies in Biotechnology (<i>Major route</i>)	15

¹ Students on RSB accredited programmes must choose a 30 credit ISP and achieve a minimum mark of 40% in the 30 ISP; otherwise they may be eligible for the Studies in Biochemistry Award route

² Students combining with Chemistry or Medicinal Chemistry, must choose a 15 credit ISP

³ The Double Applied Life Sciences Placement module may replace Life Sciences Double Experimental Project (with research skills assessment) if the nature of the placement is deemed suitable and the work carried out meets the criteria of the research project module.

For further information on the content of modules currently offered please visit:

www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/az

Learning Outcomes

The table below sets out what students learn in the Programme, the modules in which that learning takes place, and the main ways in which students are assessed on their learning. At Levels 4 and 5 these learning outcomes are achieved in the compulsory core modules, which all students are required to take. At Level 6, the stated outcomes are achieved by taking either of the project modules (or Applied Life Sciences placement module) and any of the taught modules offered in each semester. Core material across biochemistry is covered in Levels 4 and 5, whereas students specialise in their choice of topics in year 3 and cover topics in detail.

Subject Knowledge and Understanding		
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered	Principal forms of assessment (of the Level Outcome) used
<i>Successful students will be able to:</i>		
U1 understand and explain the chemistry that underlies biochemical reactions and the techniques used to investigate them	Nature's Tools: Proteins & Enzymes Metabolism: Major Metabolic Pathways	Lab reports (staff and peer assessed), essays, short answer tests, end of module examination
U2 understand the chemical and thermodynamic principles underlying biological catalysis and the role of enzymes and other proteins in determining the function and fate of cells and organisms.	Nature's Tools: Proteins & Enzymes Metabolism: Major Metabolic Pathways Metabolism in Health and Disease Cell Signalling Medical Glycobiology	Lab reports (staff and peer assessed), essays, short answer tests, end of module examination

U3 have a critical understanding of essential features of cell metabolism and its control, including topics such as energy and signal transduction and respiration	Metabolism: Major Metabolic Pathways Cells & Organelles: Biochemical Aspects of Cell Biology Metabolism in Health and Disease Cell Signalling	Lab reports (staff and peer assessed), essays, short answer tests, end of module examination
U4 understand the principles that determine the three-dimensional structure of biological macromolecules (including nucleic acids and proteins) and be able to explain detailed examples of how structure enables function	Nature's Tools: Proteins & Enzymes Information & Inheritance Molecular, Cellular & Structural Immunology Structural Biology & Macromolecular Function Medical Glycobiology	Lab reports (staff and peer assessed), essays, short answer tests, end of module examination, literature comparison
U5 acquire a critical understanding of the molecular basis of genetics and be able to explain some detailed examples	Information & Inheritance Gene & Protein Engineering Cancer Biology	Lab reports (staff and peer assessed), essays, short answer tests, end of module examination
U6 have critical knowledge and understanding of gene expression, with a detailed knowledge of specific examples; the structure, arrangement, expression, and regulation of genes; and relevant experimental methods	Information & Inheritance Gene & Protein Engineering Molecular, Cellular & Structural Immunology Cancer Biology	Lab reports (staff and peer assessed), essays, short answer tests, end of module examination
U7 be familiar with a wide range of cells (both prokaryotic and eukaryotic) and parasitic entities (e.g. viruses) and be able to explain critically how their properties suit them for their biological function, and how they could be investigated experimentally	Information & Inheritance Cells & Organelles: Biochemical Aspects of Cell Biology Human Parasitology Biology of Disease	Lab reports (staff and peer assessed), essays, short answer tests, posters, end of module examination
U8 have a critical understanding of the innate and adaptive immune system	Molecular, Cellular & Structural Immunology Structural Biology & Macromolecular Function	Lab reports, essays, literature comparison, end of module examination
U9 be able to devise and evaluate suitable experimental methods for the investigation of relevant areas of biochemistry and molecular biology	All modules with practical elements, but particularly the experimental research projects	Lab skills assessment, lab reports, project reports
U10 be aware of current developments in biochemistry and	All modules, particularly at level 6 and Information & Inheritance,	Computer exercises (blog, wiki), essays, end of module examination

molecular biology including areas of ethical or public concern	Gene & Protein Engineering	
U11 be able to demonstrate and ability to mine, manipulate and interpret data from small molecule and macromolecular databases.	Bioinformatics and Science Communication	Bioinformatics report

Subject Specific Skills		
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered	Principal forms of assessment (of the Level Outcome) used
<i>Successful students will be able to:</i>		
S1 read and use appropriate literature with a full and critical understanding, while addressing such questions as content, context, aims, objectives, quality of information, and its interpretation and application	All modules	Essays, literature review, literature comparison
S2 employ a variety of methods of study (including bioinformatics) in investigating, acquiring, recording and analysing information relevant to the subject	All modules with a practical component, in particular non-experimental and experimental projects and Bioinformatics and Science Communication	Computer exercises (bioinformatics), project reports, lab reports
S3 prepare, process, interpret and present data, using appropriate qualitative and quantitative techniques, statistical programmes, spreadsheets and programs for presenting data visually	All modules with a practical component, in particular non-experimental and experimental projects and Bioinformatics and Science Communication	Computer exercises (bioinformatics), project reports, lab reports, oral and poster presentations
S4 use and attain competence in a range of laboratory techniques	All modules with a practical component, in the experimental projects	Lab reports, project reports, lab skills assessment
S5 design, conduct, analyse, report and evaluate biochemical experiments, acknowledging an awareness of the validity, accuracy, calibration, precision and reproducibility of results.	All modules with a practical component, in the experimental projects	Lab reports, project reports, lab skills assessment
S6 work safely and responsibly in the laboratory with awareness of standard procedures such as risk assessment, ethical approval of research, relevant health and safety regulations, issues relating to animal welfare and procedures for obtaining informed consent	All modules with a practical component, in the experimental projects	Lab reports, project reports, lab skills assessment
S7 recognise philosophical and ethical issues relevant to the	Most modules, particularly Information and Inheritance, Gene and Protein Engineering and	Computer exercise (blog), end of module examination, lab skills

subject	project modules	assessment, project report
S8 develop an appreciation of the interdisciplinary nature of science and of the validity of different points of view.	All modules, particularly at level 6	Literature reviews, project reports.

Intellectual Skills		
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered	Principal forms of assessment (of the Level Outcome) used
<i>Successful students will be able to:</i>		
I1 assess the merits of contrasting theories, paradigms, concepts or principles	All modules	Essays, end of module examination, literature review
I2 think independently, set tasks and solve problems by a variety of methods	All modules	All assessments
I3 make reasoned decisions and develop reasoned arguments	Level 6 modules in particular	Essays, dissertation, literature comparison end of module examination
I4 obtain and interpret several lines of subject-specific evidence to formulate and test hypotheses	Metabolism in Health and Disease Experimental projects	Poster, project reports
I5 make critical interpretations, evaluations and judgements of data and text	All modules but in particular Metabolism in Health and Disease and Experimental projects	Poster, project reports, essays
I6 analyse, synthesise and summarise information critically, including published research or reports	Most modules, in particular, Structural Biology & Macromolecular Function and ISP modules	Essays, dissertations, literature comparison, project reports
I7 apply biochemical understanding to familiar and unfamiliar problems, and emphasise the interdisciplinary nature of science and the validity of different points of view	Most modules	Essays, end of module examination, short answer tests
I8 take responsibility for their own learning and reflect upon that learning	All modules, Personal Development Planning with personal tutor, engaging with feedback	All assessments
I9 construct grammatically correct documents in an appropriate academic style using and referencing relevant ideas and evidence.	All modules where there are written assessments, especially those where different writing styles are developed	All assessments
I10 understand the importance of academic and research integrity	All modules especially those with associated laboratory work	All written work, especially lab reports and project reports

Key or Transferable Skills (including employability skills)		
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered	Principal forms of assessment (of the Level Outcome) used
<i>Successful students will be able to:</i>		
E1 develop an adaptable, flexible, sustainable and effective approach to study and work, including time management, creativity and intellectual integrity	All modules	All assessments
E2 acquire, analyse, synthesise, summarise and present information and ideas from a wide range of sources: textual, numerical, verbal, graphical	All modules	Lab reports, project reports, oral and poster presentations, essays, literature reviews
E3 prepare, process, interpret and present data using appropriate qualitative and quantitative techniques, statistical programmes, spreadsheets and programs for presenting data visually	All modules, in particular project modules and Bioinformatics and Science Communication	Lab reports, project reports, computer exercises, oral and poster presentations
E4 use the internet and other electronic sources critically as a means of communication and a source of information	All modules	Computer exercises (blog, wiki, bioinformatics), essays
E5 cite and reference work in an appropriate manner, ensuring academic integrity and the avoidance of plagiarism whether intentional or not	All modules	All assessments where outside sources are used
E6 communicate effectively to a variety of audiences by written, spoken and graphical means using appropriate techniques and scientific language	Most modules, in particular Bioinformatics and Science Communication and ISP modules	Oral and poster presentations, essays, lab reports, project reports
E7 develop skills necessary for self-managed and lifelong learning, including working independently, organisational, enterprise and knowledge transfer skills	All modules, particularly those with a practical component.	All assessments
E8 work with others to identify and achieve collaborative goals and responsibilities and perform in a respectful manner that is accepting of the viewpoints and opinions of others and evaluates the roles and development of team members	All modules will have some element of group work.	Group posters, computer exercises (wiki, blog)
E9 motivate themselves and sustain that motivation over an extended period of time	All modules, but level 6 ISP in particular	Project report, dissertation, literature review, Lab skills assessment

E10 identify and work towards targets for personal, academic and career development	All modules and via personal tutor system	All assessments
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9. Final and intermediate awards

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

Honours Degree	360 credits	<p>You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6</p> <p>The number of Biochemistry credits a student requires depends on whether Biochemistry is taken as a Dual, Major or Minor subject.</p> <p>Dual Honours: You will require at least 120 credits in both Biochemistry and your other principal study (out of 360 credits overall), with at least 30 credits in year 1 (level 4) and 45 credits in years 2 and 3 (levels 5 and 6) in each of your two Principal subjects.</p> <p>Major Route (Accredited by the Royal Society of Biology)*: You will require at least 225 credits in Biochemistry and at least 90 credits in their other Minor subject over the course of the degree. Students taking Biochemistry as a Major subject must obtain at least 30 credits in Biochemistry at each of level of study.</p> <p>Minor Route: You will require at least 90 credits in Biochemistry and at least 225 credits in your other Major subject over the course of the degree. Students taking Biochemistry as a Minor subject must obtain at least 30 credits in Biochemistry in Year 1 (level 4) and 45 credits in Biochemistry in Year 2 (level 5).</p>
Diploma in Higher Education	240 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher
Certificate in Higher Education	120 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher

**NB: Students who do not achieve a pass mark in the 30 credit ISP (Independent Study Project) will not have 'Accredited by the Royal Society of Biology' in their degree title*

Biochemistry with International Year: in addition to the above students must pass a module covering the international year in order to graduate with a named degree in Biochemistry with International Year. Students who do not complete, or fail the international year, will be transferred to the three-year Biochemistry programme.

Biochemistry with Work Placement Year: in addition to the above students must pass a non-credit bearing module covering the work placement year in order to graduate with a named degree in Biochemistry with Work Placement year. Students who do not complete, or fail the placement year, will be transferred to the three-year Biochemistry programme.

10. How is the Programme assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used within Biochemistry at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay

particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The following list is representative of the variety of assessment methods used within Biochemistry:

- **Unseen examinations** in different formats test students' knowledge and understanding of biochemistry. Examinations may consist of essay, short answer and/or multiple choice questions, paper comprehension
- **Essays** including those based on case study material and **literature reviews** (such as non-experimental project) also test the quality and application of subject knowledge. In addition they allow students to demonstrate their ability to carry out basic bibliographic research and to communicate their ideas effectively in writing in an appropriate scholarly style using the Harvard system of referencing
- **Class tests** taken either conventionally or online via the Keele Learning Environment (KLE) assess students' subject knowledge and their ability to apply it in a more structured and focused way
- **Computer exercises** might include contributing to wikis or blogs or using bioinformatics tools
- **Laboratory reports** – structured proformas and full lab reports are formal summaries of work carried out in the laboratory and test students' understanding of the practical aspects of the course and develop the skills necessary to enable students to present and analyse their results
- **Experimental projects** test students' knowledge of research methodologies and their ability to carry them out (experimental project only). They also enable students to demonstrate their ability to formulate research questions, design experiments, carry them out, accurately record their data and analyse the results. The project report will demonstrate that the students can place their research in context with the literature and present their results in a concise format
- **Non-experimental projects** test non-laboratory research skills including those described above for essays and literature reviews
- **Oral and poster presentations** and reports assess students' subject knowledge and understanding. They also test their ability to work effectively as members of a team, to communicate what they know orally and visually, and to reflect on these processes as part of their own personal development.
- **Peer assessment** – In some cases students will be involved in marking other students' work, usually with a prescriptive marking guide. This helps students to appreciate where marks are gained and lost and gives them the opportunity to see the common mistakes made by other students

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess students' achievement of learning outcomes. Students are also assessed formatively to enable them to monitor their own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Purely formative assessment is concentrated at Level 4 when students are tested and provided with extensive feedback on both the quality of their academic writing and the development of their subject knowledge and understanding. Feedback, including guidance on how students can improve the quality of their work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

Undergraduate courses at Keele contain an element of module choice; therefore, individual students will experience a different mix of contact time and assessment types dependent upon their own individual choice of

modules. The figures below are an example of activities that a student may expect on your chosen course by year/stage of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lecture, seminar, tutorial, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and labs, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

Activity	Year 1 (Level 4)	Year 2 (Level 5)	Year 3 (Level 6)
Scheduled learning and teaching activities	34%	28%	24%
Guided independent Study	66%	72%	76%
Placements	0%	0%	0%

12. Accreditation

The Major Route and Dual honours combinations with Biology, Human Biology and Neuroscience are accredited by the Royal Society of Biology (RSB).

Students should note that to be awarded Royal Society of Biology accreditation they must achieve a minimum standard of 40% in the Life Sciences Double Experimental Project with research skills assessment (or equivalent placement module). Students that condone this module may still be eligible for the award Studies in Biochemistry

13. Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

The following course specific regulations should be noted:

1. Laboratory, lecture and tutorial classes

1.1 Wearing a laboratory coat is compulsory in all classes held in laboratories. Students will not be allowed to attend the laboratory class without a laboratory coat.

1.2 Students must wear appropriate clothing in the laboratories, including sensible footwear. Closed shoes and low heels should be worn. This is to avoid tripping and to protect the feet in the case of spillages. Long hair must be tied back. Students who are inappropriately dressed may, at the discretion of the member of staff in charge, be excluded from the class and recorded as being absent without good cause.

1.3 Students who arrive late to laboratory classes may, at the discretion of the member of staff in charge, be excluded from the class and recorded as being absent without good cause.

1.4 Students who display serious misconduct in any class may, at the discretion of the member of staff in charge, be excluded from the class and recorded as being absent without good cause. Serious misconduct involves wilful damage to property, injury or threat to persons, or persistent disruption of teaching.

1.5 The unauthorised use of mobile phones or headphones is not permitted in any class.

1.6 Students are not permitted to record, video or photograph taught sessions or meetings with staff, except with the permission in advance of the staff concerned. Permission will be given where this is part of an approved disability adjustment. Any permission to record, video or photograph is for personal use only and all recordings, videos or photographs remain the property of the presenter and Keele University.

2. Health and Safety

2.1 Students are required to read and follow the procedures in the School of Life Sciences Safety Handbook, which is available from the Life Science Noticeboard on the KLE.

3. Attendance requirements

3.1 Attendance at tutorials, seminars, workshops and laboratory sessions on this programme is compulsory. Failure to attend a class without good cause will result in an informal warning. Failure to attend any subsequent classes without good cause will lead to the issuing of a formal University warning in accordance with Regulation 1A9 and could result in the requirement to withdraw from the university. Attendance at lectures is expected, but is not compulsory. Attendance at these sessions will be recorded.

3.2 Self-certification of illness as a reason for absence from compulsory classes will be accepted for no more than two periods of absence, each covering no more than 7 days, per semester. Any subsequent absence for reasons of illness must be accompanied by a doctor's note.

4. Accreditation

4.1 If a student fails the Life Sciences double experimental project module (or the alternative Double Applied LS placement module) but has it condoned, then they will not be eligible for an RSB accredited degree, but shall instead be eligible for the award BSc Studies in Biochemistry

5. Applied Life Science Placements, Exchange Periods and Study Abroad

5.1 A student who has completed a semester abroad will not normally be eligible to transfer onto the International Year option.

14. What are the typical admission requirements for the programme?

Subject	A-level	Subjects not included	International Baccalaureate	BTEC	Access to Higher Education Diploma	GCSE requirements
Biochemistry (Dual Honours)	<p>ABC – BBB</p> <p>To include 1 Science subject (Applied Science, Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, Human Biology, Maths, Psychology, Sports Science or Statistics). A or AS-level Chemistry at grade C also required.</p> <p>*** A Pass in Science Practical will be required if applicant is taking A level Biology, Chemistry or Physics (England) **</p> <p>** Science practical only required from applicants taking reformed A level Biology, Chemistry or Physics in England.</p> <p>*** If applicant has not had opportunity to sit AS level in England, please contact the Admissions team</p>	General Studies and Critical Thinking	32 to include Higher Level Chemistry at 6 or another Higher Level Science subject at 6 and Standard Level Chemistry at 5.	DDM You must have taken sufficient Science Units, please contact us for advice	Obtain Access to HE Diploma with 30 Level 3 credits at Distinction and 15 Level 3 credits at Merit. You must also have taken sufficient Science credits, please contact us for advice.	Maths @ C (or 4) English Lang @ C (or 4)

Applicants who are not currently undertaking any formal study or who have been out of formal education for more than 3 years and are not qualified to A-level or BTEC standard may be offered entry to the University's Foundation Year Programme.

Applicants for whom English is not a first language must provide evidence of a recognised qualification in English language. The minimum score for entry to the Programme is Academic IELTS 6.0 or equivalent.

Please note: All non-native English speaking students are required to undertake a diagnostic English language assessment on arrival at Keele, to determine whether English language support may help them succeed with their studies. An English language module may be compulsory for some students during their first year at Keele.

Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/accreditationofpriorlearning/>

15. How are students supported on the programme?

- Module tutors are responsible for providing support for learning on the modules. They also give whole class or individual feedback on formative assessments, where appropriate, and provide individual feedback on in-course assessments and more general feedback on examinations. Every module is supported by a page on KLE, providing supplementary materials, which may include lecture notes, reading lists, module information, assessment guidance and revision materials.
- Tutors and demonstrators provide help and advice to students in laboratory sessions and project supervisors and research staff provide support during project work.
- Every student is allocated to a personal tutor who is responsible for reviewing and advising on students' academic progress in Biochemistry and on their other Principal Programme. Personal tutors also provide advice on module choices (only applicable for level 6 in Biochemistry).
- Personal tutors also act as a first point of contact for students on non-academic issues that may affect their learning and can refer students on to a range of specialist health, welfare and financial services co-ordinated by the University's Student Support and Development Services.
- If students are on placement, they will have a Keele-based supervisor in addition to their workplace supervisor who will visit them during their placement and support them during the write-up phase of their project.

All members of teaching staff on the Biochemistry Principal Programme are available to see students during office hours, if available (open door policy), and by appointment.

16. Learning Resources

Biochemistry lectures are delivered in modern teaching rooms across the University, almost all of which are equipped with computers, internet access and electronic whiteboards or projection equipment. Rooms may be arranged either in traditional lecture format or more informally to allow students to work together in small groups.

Practical sessions are held in dedicated teaching laboratories within the School of Life Sciences. These were completely refitted in 2006. An £11 million new extension to the Huxley Building will provide additional teaching laboratory space and is expected to be up and running by the start of the 2017 academic year.

For final year projects, students will be working in research laboratories primarily in the Huxley Building, Guy Hilton Research Centre or Lennard Jones Building.

The learning resources available to students on the Programme include:

- The extensive collection of books and journals relevant to undergraduate study held in the University Library. Much of this material is also accessible online to Keele students from anywhere

in the world with a University username and password.

- A smaller collection of biochemical publications and materials are held in the Undergraduate Resource Room in the School of Life Sciences. The Resource Room is open at regular times during teaching periods and the resources are specifically related to the needs of students on Principal Programmes in the School of Life Sciences. There are also networked computers and a printer in this room which can be used in addition to the University computing facilities (in the Lennard Jones Building and Library)
- The Keele Learning Environment (KLE) which provides easy access to a wide range of learning resources including lecture notes, electronic materials available in a repository maintained by the University Library and other resources – video, audio and text-based – accessible from external providers via the internet.

17. Other learning opportunities

Study abroad (semester)

Students in the School of Life Sciences have the potential opportunity to spend a semester abroad in their second year studying at one of Keele's international partner universities. These may include institutions in Europe, North America, Australia, South Africa or Hong Kong. Exactly which countries are available depends on the student's choice of degree subjects. An indicative list of countries is on the website (<http://www.keele.ac.uk/studyabroad/partneruniversities/>); however this does not guarantee the availability of study in a specific country as this is subject to the University's application process for studying abroad.

No additional tuition fees are payable for a single semester studying abroad but students do have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad to be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination

Whilst students are studying abroad any Student Finance eligibility will continue, where applicable students may be eligible for specific travel or disability grants. Students studying in Erasmus+ destinations may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible for income dependent bursaries at Keele.

Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

Study Abroad (International Year)

A summary of the International Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided at Annex A.

Industrial placement

Students registered for Biochemistry programmes may apply to undertake an industrial placement between levels 5 and 6. This forms part of the Applied Life Sciences Placement module at Level 6.

Students wishing to carry out an industrial placement in the UK will be responsible for organising their own placement, with the support of the placement tutor. This allows students to choose when and where to carry out their industrial placement, taking into consideration the potential living and travel expenses incurred and the effect on other opportunities available to earn money. Students are encouraged to consider the potential costs incurred in carrying out the industrial placements at the time of setting these up. Some placements attract a stipend or salary, which should be discussed with the potential employer before accepting the placement.

They are also liable for University fees (at a reduced rate) whilst on placement. Further guidance and support on these considerations is available from the module tutors.

Some Industrial placements are available at our partner research institutes throughout continental Europe. These placements have in the past attract a stipend from the European Union under the ERASMUS, but the situation re Brexit is not clear, and you should consider whether any amount offered will cover the costs of accommodation, travel and subsistence before accepting the placement. The ERASMUS tutor in the School of Life Sciences will give any guidance and support required.

Other opportunities

There may also be opportunities to undertake a final year project abroad via a partner institute in Malaysia (see: noticeboards in the School of Life Sciences for details) or via an external agency such as Operation Wallacea (<http://opwall.com/>). Both these options will have cost implications.

There are a number of schemes available from eg the Wellcome Trust that provide bursaries for students to gain laboratory experience in the summer vacation between their 2nd and 3rd years. Staff in Life Sciences have hosted these bursaries in the past and students who are interested can approach staff, who will have to submit an application on the students' behalf to the funding bodies (usually in January or February). Staff may also be willing to host students in their laboratories during the summer vacation on a voluntary basis.

Other learning opportunities for Biochemistry students vary from year to year but include the opportunity to hear from, and talk to, a range of guest speakers and presenters including researchers from around the world. Some of these activities are timetabled as part of taught modules, others are organised separately but are widely advertised and undergraduate students are always welcome to attend.

18. Additional costs

Biochemistry costs

You will be supplied with a lab coat, but will have to meet the costs of a replacement should you lose or damage it (approximately £12). Other incidental costs are core textbooks (£150 over the 3 years, but primarily in first year for the two main text books), printing costs and materials such as calculators and writing equipment. If your final year project is supervised off-site, you will be expected to meet the transport costs.

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation.

We do not anticipate any further additional costs for this undergraduate programme.

19. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in Biochemistry are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The Learning and Teaching Committee of the School of Life Sciences is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the Biochemistry Programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year and as part of the University's Curriculum Annual Review and Development (CARD) process.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Internal Quality Audit (IQA) process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every Biochemistry module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of the Curriculum Annual Review and Development (CARD) process.
- Findings related to the Biochemistry Programmes from the annual National Student Survey (NSS), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of students in all three years of the Biochemistry Programme is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Programmes Staff/Student Liaison Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student’s degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/ga/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/>

20. The principles of programme design

The Biochemistry Programmes described in this document have been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

- UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education: <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>
- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Biosciences (2015) http://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/sbs-biosciences-15.pdf?sfvrsn=4eef781_24
- Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations>
- Royal Society of Biology Degree Accreditation Handbook: https://www.rsb.org.uk/images/Degree_Accreditation_Handbook_July16.pdf
- School Strategic Plan 2015-2020

21. Document Version History

Version history	Date	Notes
Date first created	October 2016	
Revision history	V2.0: August 2017	Inclusion of ‘Studies in’ and Work Placement Year award titles. Section 12 modified to amend degree title for major route students who do not pass the 30 credit ISP. Minor changes to module names and availability and updates to ILO table Additional course regulations added to replace separate course regs document; Accreditation information added. [major – reissued]
	V2.1: April 2019	Removal of Developmental Biology (optional module) at Level 6
Date approved	16/10/2017	

Programme Specification

Annex A for Dual Honours Programmes

Please note: in order to be eligible to take the International Year option your other subject must also offer this option. Please refer to the information published in the course document for your other subject.

International Year Programme

Students registered for Dual Honours Biochemistry may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their period of study at Level 5 to the Dual Honours programme in both their principal subjects, providing that they meet the progression criteria outlined in this document. Students accepted onto the International Year programme will have an extra year of study at an international partner institution after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.

Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the International Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfy the examiners in respect of the International Year will normally revert to the Dual Honours programme without the International Year and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.

Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for 'Dual Honours Biochemistry with International Year'.

International Year Programme Aims

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the international year programme of study aims to provide students with:

1. Personal development as a student and a researcher with an appreciation of the international dimension of their subject
2. Experience of a different culture, academically, professionally and socially

Entry Requirements for the International Year

Students may apply to the 4-year programme during Level 5. Admission to the International Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff.

The criteria to be applied are:

- Academic Performance (an average of 60% across all modules at Level 5 is normally required)
- General Aptitude (to be demonstrated by application for study abroad, interview during the 2nd semester of year 2 (Level 5), and by recommendation of the student's personal tutor, 1st and 2nd year tutors and programme director)

Student Support

Students will be supported whilst on the International Year via the following methods:

- Phone or Skype conversations with Study Abroad tutors, in line with recommended Personal Tutoring meeting points.
- Support from the University's Global Education Team

Learning Outcomes

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete a Keele undergraduate programme with International Year will be able to:

- a. Describe, discuss and reflect upon the cultural and international differences and similarities of different learning environments
- b. Discuss the benefits and challenges of global citizenship and internationalisation
- c. Explain how their perspective on their academic discipline has been influenced by locating it within an international setting.

In addition, students who complete Biochemistry with International Year' will be able to:

- i) Use independent research skills to identify relevant information resources on a range of subjects related, or complementary, to Biochemistry.
- ii) Demonstrate the use of critical thinking skills, augmented by creativity and curiosity, in discussing the application of their International Year studies to Biochemistry.

Please note that students on Dual Honours programmes with International Year must meet the subject-specific learning outcomes for BOTH their principal subjects.

These learning outcomes will all be assessed by the submission of a satisfactory individual learning agreement, the successful completion of assessments at the partner institution and the submission of the reflective portfolio element of the international year module.

Course Regulations

Students registered for the 'Dual Honours Biochemistry with International Year' are subject to the course specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the International Year, the following regulations will apply:

Students undertaking the International Year must complete 120 credits, which must comprise *at least 40%* in the student's discipline areas.

This may impact on your choice of modules to study, for example you will have to choose certain modules to ensure you have the discipline specific credits required.

Students are barred from studying any Biochemistry module with significant overlap to Level 6 modules to be studied on their return. Significant overlap with Level 5 modules previously studied should also be avoided.

Additional costs for the International Year

Tuition fees for students on the International Year will be charged at 15% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The International Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation, to find out more about your personal eligibility see: www.gov.uk

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Students studying in Erasmus+ destinations may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible income dependent bursaries at Keele.

Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some Governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.