

Introducing Advanced Higher Biology

Advanced Higher is SQA's highest level of National Course. It is very demanding. Advanced Higher extends students' knowledge and skills beyond Higher. Students will face new academic and personal challenges, requiring them to develop their knowledge and abilities, and to think and work independently.

Advanced Higher Biology

The Advanced Higher Biology Course is made up of two mandatory Units and one optional Unit from a choice of three.

The Units cover the following content areas:

Mandatory Units

Cell & Molecular Biology	1 credit
Environmental Biology	1 credit
Investigation	0.5 credit

Optional Units

Biotechnology	0.5 credit
Animal Behavior	0.5 credit
Physiology, Health and Exercise	0.5 credit

There is an external examination and an externally assessed Investigation report which determines the grade of the Course. The investigation report is based on work carried out in the mandatory investigation Unit. The report should be around 2000-2500 words in length excluding contents page, tables, graphs etc.

To gain the Course award candidates must pass all of the Unit assessments as well as the external assessment.

The external examination lasts for two and a half hours and makes up 80% of the total marks (100 marks). An investigation report makes up the other 20% (25 marks).

Further Information

You can find the detailed Course Arrangements on the Biology page of SQA's website (www.sqa.org.uk). A specimen examination paper is also available here, together with other information and guidance.

Copies of past examination papers (for the last two years) can be purchased from SQA's Customer Contact Centre – tel 0845 279 1000. The Contact Centre can also send you our free leaflet *Introducing Advanced Higher* (publication code BD2803).