

Course Information

Content Outline

In 2015 your biology course will take in three areas of study.

Cells – based on plant and animal cell processes, e.g. osmosis, mitosis, photosynthesis & respiration, and using microscopes

Ecology – based on communities and the patterns of life found in those communities

Research – based on information presented to the public and how accurate it is

Assessment

You have the opportunity to gain up to 18 Achievement Standard credits.

You also have the opportunity to gain Course Endorsement with Merit or Excellence in this subject. To gain an Excellence endorsement you need to gain 14 or more credits at Excellence level. To gain a Merit endorsement you need to gain 14 or more credits at Merit [or combination of Merit and Excellence]. Also, at least 3 credits must be from internally assessed standards, and 3 from external assessment.

During the year you will be required to carry out two practical assessments to test your skills in biology.

You will be required to research a biological topic and analyse information. At the end of the year you will be required to sit one paper in the external examinations.

Assessment Timing / Deadlines

Standard No.	Standard Title	Level	Credits	Int / Ext	Task Description	Duration Due date
91156	Demonstrate understanding of life processes at the cellular level	2	4	Ext	Bio 2.4 External Examination	8 weeks
91160	Investigate biological material at the microscopic level	2	3	Int	Bio 2.8 Draw biological drawings from specimen slides you have made	4 weeks Term 2 Week 4
91162	Carry out a practical investigation in a biology context, with supervision	2	4	Int	Bio 2.1 Carry out a biological fair test	4 weeks Term 2 Week 9
91158	Investigate a pattern in an ecological community, with supervision	2	4	Int	Bio 2.7 Carry out a pattern seeking investigation	6 Weeks Term 3 Week 6
91154	Analyse the biological validity of information presented to the public	2	3	Int	Bio 2.2 Present a report about a controversial topic	4 weeks Term 3 Week 10

Estimated Costs / Stationery

You will require a folder and A4 refill for your notes. A fee of \$20 covers the cost of workbooks that will be given out at regular intervals during the year, and a logbook for the investigation. There may be the opportunity to visit a laboratory at Nortec and use high quality microscopes. This would be an additional cost.