Stage 2 Biology

**Advice to Students**

The study of Biology is constructed around inquiry into and application of understanding the diversity of life as it has evolved (according to the theory of evolution), the structure and function of living things, and how they interact with their own and other species and their environments.

In their study of Biology, students inquire into and explain biological phenomena and draw evidence-based conclusions from their investigations into biology-related issues, developments, and innovations.

**Prerequisites**

No specific background is assumed, but completion of Stage 1 Biology would be a significant advantage.

**Content**

Stage 2 Biology is a 20-credit subject.

The topics in Stage 2 Biology provide the framework for developing integrated programs of learning through which students extend their skills, knowledge, and understanding of the three strands of science.

The three strands of science to be integrated throughout student learning are:

* science inquiry skills
* science as a human endeavour
* science understanding.

The topics for Stage 2 Biology are:

* Topic 1: DNA and Proteins
* Topic 2: Cells as the Basis of Life
* Topic 3: Homeostasis
* Topic 4: Evolution

**Assessment:**

School-bases assessment (70% total)

* Investigations folio (30%)
  + Two practical investigations
  + One Science as a Human Endeavour investigation
* Skills and Applications Tasks (40%)
  + Four topic tests

External Assessment (30%)

* 2 hour final exam (all material from course)