Biological Sciences (with a Foundation Year)
A four-year route to a range of BSc (Hons) degree programmes within the School of Life Sciences.

UCAS Code: C108 | 4 Years (1+3) | Full-time

This course provides students with the opportunity to enter a range of degree programmes within the School of Life Sciences.

Entry Requirements
A typical offer is likely to be CDD or 80 points in three subjects at A Level, preferably in related subjects. Students with alternative A Level combinations are welcome to apply but should expect to be made higher offers. All students must meet the baseline GCSE requirements of 5 GCSEs at grade C or above including Mathematics (grade 5 if numerical), English Language (grade 4 if numerical) and Sciences (either core and additional science or two separate sciences). Adult learners will be considered without Level 3 qualifications but must meet the GCSE requirements and may be invited for interview. Students with overseas qualifications should contact the college to enquire about whether their qualification are accepted for entry.

Students holding offers at the University of Liverpool may be made a change of course offer to C108, after the examination results, if they fail to gain the required number of points for their first choice course.

Applicants will be expected to fall into one of the following categories:

- Adult learners returning to education with A Level passes
- Adult learners returning to education with 5 GCSE / O Level passes or more inc. Maths, Sciences and English Language
- Sixth Form school leavers currently studying A Levels or BTEC L3 Extended Diploma (Applied Science)
- Students from within the European Union

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Course Modules

During the Foundation year, students will study modules in Biology, Chemistry or Geography*, Mathematics for Biologists and Applications of Biology.

*This can limit choice of progression programme. Please see course selection chart/progression tables.

Biology (2 semesters compulsory)
This course looks at cell structure and function, biological molecules, cell division, genetics and metabolism in the first semester. During the second semester students will study hormonal control, transport systems in mammals and multicellular animals, the action of drugs, pharmacology and immunity. Biology is a practical subject and students will have many opportunities to take part in laboratory investigations and practical sessions.

Chemistry (2 semesters compulsory)
This module covers atomic structure, atoms and moles, the periodic table, chemical bonding, chemical energy, kinetics an introduction to Organic Chemistry, alkanes and alkenes. In the second semester ideas are extended and the key areas of Organic Chemistry, the Chemistry of the main group elements and Equilibria are studied in further depth. During the two semesters problem solving and practical work are integrated into the lecture programme.

Geography (2 semesters compulsory)
The module takes an enquiry approach into the investigation of the way people interact with their varied environments. Topics include Ecosystems, atmospheric processes, river systems, natural hazards, environmental pollution and Coastal Systems. Students will develop a range of case studies concerning the questions, issues and problems that these geographical areas present.

Half Mathematics (2 semesters compulsory)
This half module lecture course aims to introduce students to algebra, coordinate geometry, polynomials, differentiation, integration, logarithms and statistics. Emphasis will be placed on applying material to other areas of the programme studied.

Applications of Biology (2 semesters compulsory)
This half module course builds upon some of the topics introduced in the Biology module. Students will explore the areas of microbiology and biotechnology, genetics, selective breeding and genetic diversity. There will be some laboratory-based assignments.

Progression
Assessment is by examination and coursework. Students are expected to score an overall mark of 50% to progress to the second year of the course. In the second year students will start on the first year of:

B120 Human Physiology    C1F7 Marine Biology with Oceanography
B210 Pharmacology         C300 Zoology
C100 Biological Sciences (deferred choice) C400 Genetics
C111 Tropical Disease Biology C500 Microbiology
C130 Biological and Medical Sciences C700 Biochemistry
C160 Marine Biology        D900 Bioveterinary Science