

# BL5000 Biology Distance Learning MBioChem MBiol

(BL5000 online module handbook version 43)

**Credits:** 30

**Semester:** 3

**Module Organiser**

Dr Susan Gurney

[smrw@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:smrw@st-andrews.ac.uk)

**Pre-requisite Modules:**

**Anti-requisite Modules:**

**Post-requisite Modules:**

**Additional Module**

**Information:**

[Please check MMS regularly for additional module information](#)



This module is appropriate for students on the MBioChem degree and those MBiol students with molecular or cellular interest. This distance learning module will look in detail at the processes involved in creating a scientific research project. The aim of the module is for the students to develop independent thought in experimental design. While on placement a series of online assessments will test the students' ability to critically analyse research literature identify core and specialised techniques in the biosciences design experiments for specific research questions quantitatively and statistically analyse data and publish research in the appropriate manner. The students should ultimately gain valuable skills necessary for successful independent research careers.

[View the current Biology Online Module Catalogue for BL5000](#)

[BL5000View BL5000 \(2023/4\) in the University of St Andrews Module Catalogue](#)

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# BL5000: Timetable

**Legend** (not all modules have every event type):

lecture	tutorial	workshop	practical	other
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## Semester 1: Week 1

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Tuesday 12-09-2023 16:00 to 17:00	Online Teams Tutorial	<a href="#">Dr Susan Gurney</a> -	Tutorial T1: <b>Introduction</b> 2023-4_BL5000_T1

## Semester 1: Week 3

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Tuesday 26-09-2023 16:00 to 17:00	Online Teams Tutorial	<a href="#">Dr V Anne Smith</a> Dr Susan Gurney	Tutorial T2: <b>Task 1</b> 2023-4_BL5000_T2

## Semester 1: Week 7

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Tuesday 24-10-2023 16:00 to 17:00	Online Teams Tutorial	<a href="#">Dr Jacqueline Nairn</a> Dr Susan Gurney	Tutorial T3: <b>Task 2</b> 2023-4_BL5000_T3

## Semester 2: Week 3

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Tuesday 30-01-2024 16:00 to 17:00	Online Teams Tutorial	<a href="#">Dr Rafael Guimaraes da Silva</a> Dr Susan Gurney	Tutorial T4: <b>Task 3</b> 2023-4_BL5000_T4

## Spring Break: 26-Feb-2024 to 01-Mar-2024

## Semester 2: Week 10

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Tuesday 26-03-2024 16:00 to 17:00	Online Teams Tutorial	<a href="#">Dr Susan Gurney</a> -	Tutorial T5: <b>Task 4</b> 2023-4_BL5000_T5

# BL5000: Reading List

[BL5000Click for BL5000 reading list](#)

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## BL5000: Assessment

Assessment consists of 100% coursework

[BL5000View coursework assessment details for BL5000 \(2023/4\) in MMS](#)

The following related information applies to all Biology modules:

School of Biology Marking Criteria:	See <a href="#">JH booklet info (st-andrews.ac.uk)</a>
Late submission of continuous assessment work:	All late submissions of coursework that do not require electronic submission should be made via the Biology Teaching Office, Level 2, BMS Building, North Haugh.
Exam details:	See School of Biology UG Handbook <a href="#">JH booklet info (st-andrews.ac.uk)</a> : All Biology exams will be conducted online for 2022-23.
Exam timetable:	See <a href="#">Timetables - Exams - University of St Andrews (st-andrews.ac.uk)</a>
Expected attendance:	See <a href="#">JH booklet info (st-andrews.ac.uk)</a> for detailed attendance requirements.
Good Academic Practice & Avoiding Academic Misconduct:	See <a href="#">JH booklet info (st-andrews.ac.uk)</a>
University Student Handbook:	<a href="#">University Student Handbook</a>
School and University regulations in the School and University Undergraduate Handbook relating to absence reporting, penalties and rules for late submission of work, extensions for coursework, return of coursework, S-coding, good academic practice and Academic Alerts.:	<a href="#">JH booklet info (st-andrews.ac.uk)</a> <a href="#">University Student Handbook</a>

## Who to ask

(Information in this section applies to all Biology Modules)

**Before contacting staff**, students should check the content of the Biology Undergraduate Handbook, the module handbook and specific task instructions.

### Questions about

General teaching matters  
Rescheduled or cancelled events  
Lecture or practical content  
Completing assessed practical assignments  
Completing assessments  
Marking on continuous assessment  
Marking on exams  
Rearranging practical days  
Absence and/or extensions  
Difficulties with academic progress which impact more than one module:  
Overall performance, progress or future directions:  
Disability:  
For advice and support on any issue e.g. academic, financial, international, personal or health matters, or if you are unsure of who to go to for help:

### University assistance with urgent matters out of office hours:

### Contact

Biology Teaching Office ( [bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk) )  
Check your University email  
The lecturer who presented the material  
The lecturer who set the assignment  
Module Organiser ( [Dr Susan Gurney smrw@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:Dr Susan Gurney smrw@st-andrews.ac.uk) )  
The Demonstrator or Module Organiser ( [Dr Susan Gurney smrw@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:Dr Susan Gurney smrw@st-andrews.ac.uk) )  
Module Organiser ( [Dr Susan Gurney smrw@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:Dr Susan Gurney smrw@st-andrews.ac.uk) )  
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Module Organiser ( [Dr Susan Gurney smrw@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:Dr Susan Gurney smrw@st-andrews.ac.uk) ) **and** the Biology Teaching Office ( [bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk) )  
Year Coordinator  
See School of Biology UG Handbook for list: [JH booklet info \(st-andrews.ac.uk\)](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/jh-booklet-info)  
Advisor of Studies  
Disability Coordinator ( [biodisabilities@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:biodisabilities@st-andrews.ac.uk) )  
Advice & Support Centre  
Address: 79 North Street, St Andrews  
Email: [theasc@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:theasc@st-andrews.ac.uk)  
Web: <https://www.standrews.ac.uk/ask-a-question/>  
Tel: 01334 462020  
Tel: 01334 476161  
Web: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/advice/counselling/incrisis/>

## Biology Teaching Office:

We are happy to hear from you about teaching matters. The School of Biology Teaching Office is open Monday to Friday 09.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 - 17.00. School of Biology staff will respond to your emails during these hours. Our team will provide a response to you within three working days.

Biology Teaching Office (Level 2), University of St Andrews, Biomolecular Sciences Building, North Haugh, St Andrews, Fife KY16 9ST

Email: [bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk)

Tel: 01334 46 3602 or 3566

## BL5000: Contributing Staff

**[Dr Susan Gurney](#)**  
**(Module Organiser)**

Associate Lecturer in Biology

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[Dr V Anne Smith](#)

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[vas1@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:vas1@st-andrews.ac.uk)

## **BL5000: Learning Outcomes**

Students completing module BL5000 successfully should be able to:

- develop novel and interesting research questions from scientific research literature
- assess the strength and limitations of experimental techniques and discuss how these would influence their use within research projects
- develop a course of experiments that addresses a defined research question
- understand the requirements for publishing scientific work and the processes by which this work is reviewed
- develop confidence in designing and planning experimental research projects
- develop critical evaluation skills

# **BL5000: Acquired Skills**

## **Practical Skills**

- Image analysis
- Image processing

## **Transferable Skills**

- Group discussion - participating
- Research proposal
- Review article on given topic
- Critically evaluating sources/information
- Finding information on the web
- Finding literature
- Referencing
- Ethical considerations
- Designing experiments

# Policies

(Information in this section applies to all Biology Modules)

- The procedures and regulations followed by the School of Biology are outlined in the [University Handbook](#) and in the School of Biology UG handbook [JH booklet info \(st-andrews.ac.uk\)](#)
- All coursework associated with the module must be completed and submitted by its due date.
- Specific School regulations relating to absence reporting, penalties and rules for late submission of work, extensions for coursework, return of coursework, S-coding, Good Academic Practice and Academic Alert are stated in the School of Biology UG handbook [JH booklet info \(st-andrews.ac.uk\)](#) and students are required to carefully read these regulations.
- Students are also referred to the University Handbook, available at: <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/studenthandbook/>