University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Introduction to biochemistry, PG_00203335						
Field of study	Medical Biology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject	2027/2028			
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study			
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery	at the university			
Year of study	2		Language of instruction	Polish			
Semester of study	3		ECTS credits	3.0			
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form	credit			
Conducting unit	Laboratory of Microbial Biochemistry -> Department of General and Medical Biochemistry -> Faculty of Biology -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr inż. Karolina Stojowska-Swędrzyńska				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	0.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours	Self-study	SUM	
	Number of study hours	30		6.0	39.0	75	
Subject objectives	The aim of the exercises is to familiarize students with the structure and function of macromolecules (nucleic acids, proteins, sugars, lipids) and with laboratory biochemical techniques used to analyze macromolecules and biochemical processes. An additional goal is for students to acquire the ability to independently perform biochemical experiments and interpret the results.						

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[BIOLMEDL3_W10] has an advanced knowledge and understanding of the physicochemical and biological basis of health sciences	Understands and describes the physicochemical and biological basis of health sciences and understands the basics of methodology.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[BIOLMEDL3_W02] has an advanced knowledge and understanding of the structure and properties of basic types of biological macromolecules, molecular mechanisms of the pathways of basal metabolism and flow of genetic information, and sources of variation in organisms; explains the rules of inheritance	The student describes the structure, properties and functions of basic types biological macromolecules and mechanisms of biochemical methods.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[BIOLMEDL3_U01] uses basic apparatus and research tools and, maintaining the correct sequence of operations, performs simple physical, biological or chemical observations and measurements in laboratory work in the biological or medical sciences	The student uses basic research equipment and tools and, maintaining the correct sequence of activities, performs simple biochemical and physical observations and measurements in laboratory work in the field of biological or medical sciences.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[BIOLMEDL3_U11] is able to use language specialized for medical biology in a way that is clear and accessible to both specialists and non-specialists alike	Is able to use the language specialized in medical biology (with particular emphasis on biochemical terms) in a way that is understandable and accessible to both specialists and non-specialists.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[BIOLMEDL3_K05] jest odpowiedzialny za bezpieczeństwo pracy własnej i innych oraz potrafi rozpoznać sytuacje zagrożenia i podjąć odpowiednie działania	The student is responsible for their own safety and the safety of others, and is able to recognize hazardous situations and take appropriate actions.	[SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
[BIOLMEDL3_K07] Is responsible for the equipment/materials entrusted to him and his own work and respects the work of others	The student is responsible for the provided laboratory equipment, instruments, materials and reagents. He is responsible for his own work and respects the work of others.	[SK8] observation of student's independent or team work

Subject contents

- Structure, function and properties of basic macromolecules: nucleic acids, proteins, carbohydrates, lipids.
- Methods of separation and analysis of nucleic acids and proteins (agarose and polyacrylamide electrophoresis).
- Methods of identification and analysis of biochemical properties of selected macromolecules.- Methods of separating molecules due to differences in molecular weight (molecular filtration).
- Structure and functions of enzymes, methods of determining enzymatic activity, enzyme inhibition.
- Chromatographic methods (thin layer chromatography, paper chromatography).

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Completion of courses covering general and organic chemistry. Knowledge of the structure of basic inorganic and organic compounds, isomerism, chemical bonds, mechanisms of basic chemical reactions, energetics of chemical reactions, hydrophobic interactions, acids and bases, pH, units of measurement, solution concentration units, ability to calculate solution concentrations.

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Written reports of laboratory experiments	50.1%	30.0%
Test with closed and open questions	50.1%	70.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature

- Instructions for laboratory classes (provided by the laboratory coordinator) (in Polish)

	Supplementary literature	(Textbooks in Polish): • Berg J. M., Tymoczko J. L., Stryer L. 2017. Biochemia. PWN, Warszawa • Berg J. M., Stryer L. , Tymoczko J. L., Biochemia. Krótki kurs. PWN Warszawa 2013 • Kłyszejko-Stefanowicz L. (red.). 2005. Ćwiczenia z biochemii. PWN, Warszawa • Hames B. D., Hooper N.M. 2007. Krótkie wykłady: Biochemia. PWN, Warszawa
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Differences in the structure of RNA and DNA, characteristic features of plasmid DNA, amino acid structure, what is the isoelectric point, what is molecular filtration, what is the active center of the enzyme, list the differences between competitive and non-competitive inhibition, What is the Biuret reaction used for, what is an amphiphilic molecule.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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