

Syllabus

Subject

Subject / Group	11220 - Biotechnology in Biomedicine / 1
Degree	Master's in Biomedical Research Master's in Applied Biotechnology
Credits	5
Period	1st semester
Language of instruction	English

Professors

Lecturers	Office hours for students					
	Starting time	Finishing time	Day	Start date	End date	Office / Building
Bernhard Oliver Vögler - <i>Responsible</i> oliver.vogler@uib.es	08:30	09:30	Monday	02/09/2019	31/07/2020	Despacho nº 111, 1ª Planta, Institut Universitari de Recerca

Context

Biotechnology is one of the industrial sectors with the best growth perspectives in the 21st century. An important transfer of basic scientific knowledge to the productive sector is particularly expected in the emerging field of biomedicine, which will support health and economical welfare of industrial countries. In this context, the subject 'Biotechnology in Biomedicine' develops the interdisciplinary understanding of the distinct subjects of the Master 'Applied Biotechnology' and the possibilities of their implementation in the socio-economic environment of our society.

Concretely, the educational objective of this subject is to delineate in detail the biotechnological fundamentals of biomedicine, and the extent to which the bases of seemingly unrelated fields are in reality integrated, i.e., informatics, ethics, current legislation and economy. This holistic focus will deepen the knowledge about how a successful scientific-technological transfer from basic research to the productive sector can be achieved.

Requirements

Essential

As the official subject language is English a solid knowledge of this language, both orally and in written form, is required. The linguistic capabilities of the students should be comparable to level B2 according to the Common European Framework of References for Languages, although it is not necessary to present a certificate when enrolling in the subject. A table from the *Conferencia de Rectores de las Universidades*

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Españolas (CRUE) to compare different certificates can be found here: <http://www.crue.org/Documentos compartidos/Certificados para la acreditación de niveles de inglés.pdf>

Recommended

In order to achieve the objective of the subject it is recommended that the students already have basic knowledge regarding the different disciplines of Life Sciences. Such basic knowledge will usually be existing, if having studied one of the following bachelor's degrees: biology, biochemistry, pharmacy, medicine, odontology. However, it is not obligatory to present one of these bachelor's degrees when enrolling in the subject.

Skills

Specific

- * E2 - Design and manage biotechnological and environmental projects.
- * E3 - Acquire knowledge, skills and an update in the use of advanced technologies in order to conduct RDI projects, as well as to provide the student with the necessary tools to solve problems in a multidisciplinary environment.
- * E4 - Know how to create and consolidate a biotechnological company, develop and apply for patents.
- * S1 - Learn the advanced molecular, genetic and cellular concepts involved in health biotechnology.
- * S2 - Know the technological, strategical, commercial and legal fundamentals allowing to convert knowledge in useful and profitable products of the health sector.
- * S3 - Ability to understand and interconnect the different biomedical aspects of biotechnological exploitation at industrial level.

Generic

- * CB6 - To have and to understand knowledge which serves as a base or opportunity to be original in the development and/or application of ideas, particularly in the context of research.
- * CB7 - That the students know how to apply the acquired knowledge and their ability to solve problems in new or less known environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to their field of study.
- * CB8 - That the students are able to integrate knowledge and to face the complexity of expressing judgements starting with an information which, being incomplete or limited, takes into consideration social as well as ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgement.
- * CB9 - That the students know to communicate their conclusions - and the knowledge and reasons that ultimately support them - in a clear and non-ambiguous manner to specialized and non-specialized audiences.
- * CB10 - That the students have the learning abilities which will allow them to continue learning in a mostly self-guided and autonomous way.
- * CG2 - Ability to express hypothesis and to design the ideal studies for their verification.

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Basic

- * You may consult the basic competencies students will have to achieve by the end of the Master's degree at the following address: http://estudis.uib.cat/master/comp_basiques/

Content

Given that a plethora of interesting and important biotechnological and biomedical issues exist, the topics indicated below should be understood as the core content of the subject that may to a certain extent be broadened thematically or adapted to the interests and necessities of the students.

Range of topics

TOPIC 1. History of Biotechnology and Technical Terms

- * Traditional and modern biotechnology
- * Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- * Types of biotechnological companies

TOPIC 2. Drug Development

- * Drug discovery (screening techniques, chemical libraries, plant screening, drug design, molecular targeting)
- * Common abbreviations (e.g., NCE, NCM, API, NOAEL, NOEL y NEL)
- * Preclinical trials (objectives, suitable animal models)
- * Clinical trials (approval, phases and objectives, clinical trial protocol and structure, databases)
- * Drug Safety Management

TOPIC 3. Tissue Engineering

- * Tissue and transplant types (mechanism of graft rejection)
- * Tissue engineering cycle
- * Stem cells (embryonic, adult and induced pluripotent stem cells)
- * Somatic cell nuclear transfer
- * Scaffolds
- * Signals
- * Bioreactors

TOPIC 4. Gene Therapy

- * Horizontal and vertical gene transfer
- * Knock-out and knock-in
- * Gene carriers
- * Properties of viruses
- * History of gene therapy and case reports
- * Legal status and current market situation

TOPIC 5. Synthetic Biology

- * Technical requirements
- * Minimum Gene Project
- * Synthia
- * BioBricks
- * Applications
- * Synbiosafe

TOPIC 6. Data Mining

- * Knowledge discovery in databases (KDD)
- * Knowledge discovery in text (KDT)

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- * Swansons Theorem
- * Undiscovered public knowledge
- * DAD-System

TOPIC 7. Biosafety

- * Environmental biosafety (Convention on Biological Diversity)
- * Biocontainment and hygiene
- * Primary and secondary barriers
- * Safety Equipment
- * Genetically modified organisms
- * Biosafety Levels

TOPIC 8. Bioethics

- * Nuremberg Code
- * Declaration of Helsinki
- * Good Clinical Practice
- * Experiments involving embryonic stem cells (legal status)
- * Experiments involving animals (principle of three R's, requirements of facilities, personnel and researchers)
- * Experiments involving humans (informed consent, clinical trials with children, data protection, bioethical committees)

TOPIC 9. Intellectual Property Rights

- * Intellectual property rights (copyright, copyleft, trademark, commercial secret, Creative Commons License, patents)
- * Requirements and objective of patents
- * Freedom-to-operate
- * Biotechnological patents
- * Patenting process (national, international, time frames)
- * Priority date (first-to-file, first-to-invent)
- * Patent Structure

Teaching methodology

The subject is part of the project Aula Digital which is based on the digital platform MOODLE, an educational instrument promoting electronic distance learning. In this way, the students will benefit from an electronic calendar pointing out relevant news, electronic documents and objective assessment tests.

In-class work activities (1.2 credits, 30 hours)

Modality	Name	Typ. Grp.	Description	Hours
Theory classes	Lectures	Large group (G)	The aim of the lectures is to convey scientific and economic background knowledge, history, theories, equations and critical information. This goal will be achieved by lecturing on the different areas of interest through the professor. Nevertheless, active participation of the audience in form of questions, critical remarks or personal points of view based on already existing individual knowledge is explicitly welcomed, because it will help to provide a more dynamic teaching environment and avoid simple one-way communication.	25

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Modality	Name	Typ. Grp.	Description	Hours
ECTS tutorials	Subject Related Tutorials	Small group (P)	A tutorial for all students will be available during the preparation of the long presentation. In this tutorial the distinct assessment schemes and criteria as well as the appropriate techniques to prepare and conduct oral presentations will be applied to the individual tasks. In this way, the student will be trained to visualize his subject matter in a correct manner by working on a practical example and to find solutions for specific problems that may appear during the preparation phase of his presentation.	2
Assessment	Exam	Large group (G)	The aim of the exam is to provide evidence about the acquired level of knowledge of each student regarding the different subject topics treated in the lectures and student presentations.	2
Assessment	Long oral presentation	Large group (G)	The aim of this activity is to engage the student in the preparation and subsequent oral presentation of a complete academic topic in English language. The oral presentation will be conducted by each student in front of his fellow students and the matter dealt with will be part of the exam. The successful completion of this task will transmit the appropriate knowledge and self-confidence to the student to successfully conduct this type of presentation during his future career.	0.75
Assessment	Short oral presentation	Large group (G)	The aim of this activity is to gain first experience in the oral presentation of an academic topic in English language. The oral presentation will be conducted by each student in front of his fellow students. Even though the oral presentation will only be short, the subsequent assessment of the presentation techniques by the professor will provide a valuable feedback for the student for conducting the long oral presentation. Moreover, the student will be given the option to get a video recording of his presentation upon request.	0.25

At the beginning of the semester a schedule of the subject will be made available to students through the UIBdigital platform. The schedule shall at least include the dates when the continuing assessment tests will be conducted and the hand-in dates for the assignments. In addition, the lecturer shall inform students as to whether the subject work plan will be carried out through the schedule or through another way included in the Aula Digital platform.

Distance education tasks (3.8 credits, 95 hours)

Modality	Name	Description	Hours
Individual self-study	Study of lecture topics	The lecture topics will be recapitulated by the students after the lecture has been given in order to consolidate their knowledge about the specific matter. Moreover, any doubts and questions arising during self-study may be solved during the next lecture.	45
Individual self-study	Preparation of short oral presentation	The aim of this activity is to gain first experience in the preparation of a presentation about an academic topic in English language (duration of presentation: 10 min). A list with subtopics will be given to the student in order to orientate him about the matter that should be treated in the presentation. Even though the presentation will only be short, the problems encountered during its preparation and the subsequent assessment by the professor will provide a valuable feedback for the student before starting	10

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Modality	Name	Description	Hours
		with the preparation of the long oral presentation. The presentation is supposed to be prepared as digital file in a format, which must be readable by the commonly used computer programs (i.e., Microsoft Powerpoint, Open Office, Keynote), or as an online Prezi presentation.	
Individual self-study	Preparation of long oral presentation	The aim of this activity is to engage the student in the preparation of a complete academic topic in English language (duration of presentation: 40 min). A list with subtopics will be given to the student in order to facilitate the selection of the matter for the presentation. The successful completion of this task will transmit the appropriate knowledge and self-confidence to the student to successfully prepare this type of presentation during his future career. The presentation is supposed to be prepared as digital file in a format, which must be readable by the commonly used computer programs (i.e., Microsoft Powerpoint, Open Office, Keynote) or as an online Prezi presentation. The student will also prepare a written summary of the subject, which has to be handed-in at least two weeks before the written exam. At the day of the deadline all summaries will be published at once on Aula Digital without this being understood as a copyright infringement regarding the legal authorship rights of the student, who prepared the summary. The matter of summaries that were not handed-in until the deadline will not be part of the exam.	40

Specific risks and protective measures

The learning activities of this course do not entail specific health or safety risks for the students and therefore no special protective measures are needed.

Student learning assessment

The student will receive a numerical mark between 0.0 and 10.0 in each of the assessments listed in the following table being 0.0 the lowest and 10.0 the highest possible mark. The final subject mark will be calculated from the individual marks of the distinct assessments applying the percentages as indicated below.

Final subject mark = (exam mark x 0.5) + (short presentation mark x 0.1) + (long presentation mark x 0.4)

The marks of the individual assessments will be indicated with two digits after the decimal marker although the final subject mark will only be indicated with one digit after the decimal marker. Rounding will be always be carried out in the common way: if the digit after the digit to be maintained is a 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, the digit to be maintained will remain the same number and, if the digit after the digit to be maintained is a 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, the digit to be maintained will be augmented one number. The minimum final subject mark to successfully complete the subject is 5.0.

Those students, who did not receive at least a 5.0 as final subject mark and/or those that did not attend the written exam, will be given the opportunity to repeat the written exam. Those students, who received a final subject mark of 5.0 or above (= successfully completed the subject), will not have to repeat the exam independently of the achieved mark in the exam. The new final subject mark of those students repeating the exam will be recalculated using the new exam mark and the same marks of the oral presentations as before.

Only those students who neither attended the exam nor gave their long oral presentation will be classified as "not attended" in the final subject mark.



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The oral presentations cannot be given through an online conference but must be held personally in front of the fellow students.

Frau en elements d'avaluació

In accordance with article 33 of Regulation of academic studies, "regardless of the disciplinary procedure that may be followed against the offending student, the demonstrably fraudulent performance of any of the evaluation elements included in the teaching guides of the subjects will lead, at the discretion of the teacher, a undervaluation in the qualification that may involve the qualification of "suspense 0" in the annual evaluation of the subject".

Exam

Modality	Assessment
Technique	Objective tests (retrievable)
Description	The aim of the exam is to provide evidence about the acquired level of knowledge of each student regarding the different subject topics treated in the lectures and student presentations.
Assessment criteria	The exam will consist of multiple choice questions with five possible answers (A-E) from which only one has to be marked. Each correct answer will give 1.0 point and each wrong answer will be penalized by subtracting 0.25 points. The mark of each partial exam will be calculated as follows: $\text{Mark} = ((\text{correct answers} \times 1.0 - \text{wrong answers} \times 0.25) / \text{number of questions}) \times 10$ If a student does not attend the exam, the mark of the exam will be automatically set to 0 and the student will be given the opportunity to repeat the exam.

Final grade percentage: 50%

Long oral presentation

Modality	Assessment
Technique	Observation techniques (non-retrievable)
Description	The aim of this activity is to engage the student in the preparation and subsequent oral presentation of a complete academic topic in English language. The oral presentation will be conducted by each student in front of his fellow students and the matter dealt with will be part of the exam. The successful completion of this task will transmit the appropriate knowledge and self-confidence to the student to successfully conduct this type of presentation during his future career.
Assessment criteria	The conduction of the oral presentation will be assessed with the help of a rubric as scoring tool. The set of criteria and standards, related to the proposed learning objective and used in the applied rubric, will have been handed out to the students before the oral presentation. If a student does not give his long oral presentation during the classes of the subject, this mark will be automatically set to 0.

Final grade percentage: 40%

Short oral presentation

Modality	Assessment
Technique	Observation techniques (non-retrievable)
Description	The aim of this activity is to gain first experience in the oral presentation of an academic topic in English language. The oral presentation will be conducted by each student in front of his fellow students. Even though the oral presentation will only be short, the subsequent assessment of the presentation techniques

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by the professor will provide a valuable feedback for the student for conducting the long oral presentation. Moreover, the student will be given the option to get a video recording of his presentation upon request.

Assessment criteria The conduction of the oral presentation will be assessed with the help of a rubric as scoring tool. The set of criteria and standards, related to the proposed learning objective and used in the applied rubric, will have been handed out to the students before the oral presentation.

If a student does not give his short oral presentation during the classes of the subject, this mark will be automatically set to 0.

Final grade percentage: 10%

Resources, bibliography and additional documentation

Due to the diversity of the subject topics and the interdisciplinary approach there is no single book, which would cover in a comprehensive manner all of the topics listed under contents in this syllabus. Therefore, the professor will indicate necessary literature and scientific bibliography as well as current web resources during the subject development during the lectures or via Aula Digital.

