

**Biochemistry I**

Code: 103266  
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2501925 Food Science and Technology	FB	1	2

**Contact**

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**Use of Languages**

Principal working language: catalan (cat)  
Some groups entirely in English: No  
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes  
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

**Teachers**

Néstor Gómez Trias  
Antonio Casamayor Gracia  
Jorge Perez Valle

**Prerequisites**

There are no official prerequisites. However, it is advisable to review the basic contents of Biology and Chemistry of the first semester and the Baccalaureate.

**Objectives and Contextualisation**

This subject should allow the student to understand that biological processes, especially those related to food and nutrition, are the result of a series of biochemical reactions. The student must understand the structural bases of these processes, as well as the molecular basis of the transmission of genetic information. Likewise, the student must understand the molecular basis of the transmission of genetic information. The specific training objectives are to know and understand:

- The structure and function of proteins, carbohydrates, lipids, nucleotides
- The structure of nucleic acids and the processes of replication, transcription and translation
- The foundations and applications of the main biochemical and molecular biology techniques

**Competences**

- Adopt an ethical stance and attach importance to quality in work.
- Analyse, summarise, resolve problems and make professional decisions.
- Apply knowledge of the basic sciences to food science and technology.
- Apply the scientific method to resolving problems.
- Communicate effectively with both professional and non-professional audiences, orally and in writing, in the first language and/or in English.
- Develop individual learning strategies and planning and organisation skills.

- Display knowledge of nutrients, of their bioavailability and function in the organism, and the bases of nutritional balance.
- Display knowledge of the physical, chemical, biochemical and biological properties of raw materials and foods.
- Search for, manage and interpret information from different sources.
- Stay abreast of new knowledge, adapt to new situations and develop creativity.
- Use IT resources for communication, the search for information within the field of study, data processing and calculations.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Adopt an ethical stance and attach importance to quality in work.
2. Analyse, summarise, resolve problems and make professional decisions.
3. Apply the fundamental principles and the applications of biochemistry to food biotechnology.
4. Apply the scientific method to resolving problems.
5. Communicate effectively with both professional and non-professional audiences, orally and in writing, in the first language and/or in English.
6. Describe mechanisms of transmission and regulation of genetic information in the cell.
7. Describe the reactions of reaction, kinetics and enzyme regulation.
8. Develop individual learning strategies and planning and organisation skills.
9. Establish the metabolic role of vitamins, oligoelements and other essential nutrients.
10. Explain the structures and properties of the principal biological molecules.
11. Search for, manage and interpret information from different sources.
12. Stay abreast of new knowledge, adapt to new situations and develop creativity
13. Use IT resources for communication, the search for information within the field of study, data processing and calculations.

## Content

### PART 1. THE CHEMISTRY OF LIFE

Unit 1.- Introduction to the chemistry of living beings. Biomolecules. Properties of water and importance of the aq

Unit 2.- Constituents of proteins: amino acids. Structure and properties.

Unit 3.- The amino acid sequence of proteins. The peptide bond. The primary structure of proteins. Sequencing c

Unit 4.- Three-dimensional structure of proteins. Secondary structure. The  $\alpha$ -helix and the  $\beta$ -sheet. Tertiary struct

Unit 5.- Fibrous proteins.  $\alpha$ -keratin, collagen and others.

Unit 6.- Oxygen-transport proteins. Structure of myoglobin and hemoglobin. The center of oxygen binding. Cooperative binding.

Unit 7.- Catalytic proteins: enzymes. General properties. Classification. Substrates and coenzymes or cofactors. Inhibition.

Unit 8.- Enzyme kinetics. The Michaelis-Menten equation. Meaning of  $K_m$  and  $V_{max}$ . Effects of pH and temperature.

Unit 9.- Mechanisms of regulation of enzymatic activity: Regulation of enzyme concentration. Allosteric enzymes. Covalent modification.

Unit 10.- Vitamins and trace elements. Structure, function, requirements and avitaminosis.

Unit 11.- Biochemical study of carbohydrates. Generalities. Families of monosaccharides. Natural oligosaccharides.

Unit 12.- Biochemical study of lipids. Fatty acids. Triglycerides. Phosphoglycerides. Sphingolipids and glucolipids.

Unit 13.- Nucleotides and derivatives. Purines and pyrimidines and their nucleotides. The nucleotides as enzymatic cofactors.

## PART 2. REPLICATION, TRANSCRIPTION, SYNTHESIS OF PROTEINS

Unit 14.- Nucleic Acids. DNA and its structure. Base equivalence. Double helix. Nucleosomes.

Unit 15.- DNA replication. Semiconservative replication. DNA polymerases. Okazaki fragments. DNA replication: regulation.

Unit 16.- RNA and transcription. RNA polymerase and synthesis of RNAs. Prokaryotes and eukaryotic promoters.

Unit 17.-

The genetic code. The nature of the code and its main features. The base triplets. tRNA as an adapter in protein

Unit 18.- The synthesis of proteins. Activation of amino acids. Characteristics of aminoacyl tRNA synthase. Initia

Unit 19.- Control of gene

expression. Induction and gene repression. Lac operon. Control of gene expression in eukaryotes.

Unit 20.-

Introduction to food biotechnology. Introduction to recombinant DNA techniques. Biotechnological applications of

#### LABORATORY PRACTICES.

Practice 1. Separation of a mixture of amino acids by ion exchange chromatography and identification by thin lay

Practice 2. Enzymes: determination of the Km.

Practice 3. Bioinformatic applications in bibliographic research.

Practice 4 (2 days). Applications of PCR to food biotechnology.

#### SEMINARS

Seminar 1: Chromatographic techniques.

Seminar 2: Spectrophotometric techniques.

Seminar 3: Enzymatic analysis.

Seminar 4: Discussion of a scientific article.

Seminar 5: PCR, cloning, recombinant protein expression.

Seminar 6: Sequence of DNA, microarrays.

## Methodology

The methodology of the learning process combines the theoretical classes where the teacher exposes the most relevant concepts of the subject. The subject is based on the following activities:

- Presential lectures with ICT support explaining the basic concepts of the subject.
- Seminars and problem solving: Presentation by the teacher of specific topics and discussion in small groups.
- Laboratory practices: Acquisition of work skills in the laboratory and experimental understanding of concepts explained in face-to-face classes and seminars.
- Autonomous work of the student, individually or in groups, for the preparation of topics proposed by the teacher or the student. This work involves the search and selection of information in various sources of scientific databases. Presentations are public, they must include multimedia material and ICT support and are followed by a discussion.

## Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Laboratory practices	12	0.48	2, 4, 3, 1, 8, 10
Seminars and problem solving	6	0.24	2, 4, 3, 9, 10
Theoretical lectures	31	1.24	2, 4, 3, 1, 7, 6, 9, 10
Type: Supervised			
Self-learning preparation	22.5	0.9	3, 1, 11, 5, 7, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13
Type: Autonomous			
Study and bibliographic searching	74	2.96	2, 4, 3, 11, 7, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13

## Assessment

The maximum score is 10 points. Students will pass the subject with an overall score of 5.0 or higher. The evaluation system is organized in three modules. The final qualification is the average of the three modules.

- Module 1. Theory, seminars and problems.
    - Evaluation system: test with multiple choice answers.
    - Weight in the global rating: 70%.
    - Competences evaluated: CE1, CE2, CE11, CT1, CT2, CT9
- Students may opt for partial tests of the syllabus. There will be two partial tests. The scheme includes the different possibilities:
- 1) In the case of obtaining a minimum of 4,5 in both partial exams, the m

2) If the average of the two partial exams is less than 5, the student will have to retake the partial / partial with a s

If in the retake of the partial exam the student obtains a mark less than 4.5 (out of 10), the partial exams will not c

3) In case the student has to retake the two partial exams, the exam will

• Module 2. Laboratory practices:

Laboratory practices are mandatory. The student who has not completed

- Assessment system: Multiple choice test about the activities carried out

- Weight in the global rating: 10% (Maximum score: 1,0)

- Competences evaluated: CE1, CE2, CE11, CT2, CT8,CT9

• Module 3. Self-learning.

Theself-learning work is compulsory and, therefore, the student who doe

- Evaluation system: papers presented.

- The written and oral presentation will be evaluated, as well as the comp

- Weight in the global rating: 20% (Maximum score: 2.0)

- Skills evaluated: CE1, CE2, CE11, CT4, CT5, CT6, CT8, CT10

Retake exam

In the retake exam the student will be able to take the failed partial exam

Any student regardless of the score obtained in the partial tests may cho

Non-gradable: A student is not gradable if he has participated in assessm

## Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Exam of laboratory practices	10	0	0	2, 4
Partial and final exams	70	2	0.08	2, 3, 1, 7, 6, 8, 9, 10
Presentation and discussion of self-learning project	20	2.5	0.1	2, 4, 3, 11, 5, 7, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13

## Bibliography

### Basic bibliography:

- a) *Anàlisi química quantitativa*. D.C. Harris, trad. 6a ed., Reverté, 2006.
- b) *Fundamentos de Química Analítica*, D. Skoog, D.M. West, F.J. Holler i S.R. Crouch, 8a ed. Thomson, 2005.
- c) *Química General*, Petrucci, Harwood, Herring, trad. 8a ed, Prentice Hall, 2007.

### Main textbooks:

- 1.- Stryer, L., Berg, J.M. & Tymoczko, J.L. BIOQUIMICA. CURSO BASICO. 1ª edició. Ed. Reverté 2014
- 2.- Nelson, D.L., & Cox, M.M. Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry. 5ª edició. Freeman ed. 2009.
- 3.- Fennema, O.R. Química de los Alimentos. 2ª edició. Ed. Acribia. 2000.
- 4.- Sanchez de Medina F. Tratado de Nutrición. Tomo I: Bases fisiológicas y bioquímicas de la nutrición. 2ª edición. Ed. Panamericana.

### Others:

- 5.- Berg, J. M., Tymoczko, J. L. & Stryer, L. Bioquímica. 6ª edició. Ed. Reverté. Barcelona, 2007.
- 6.- Voet, D., Voet, J.G & Pratt, C.W. Fundamentos de Bioquímica. 2ª edición. Ed. Panamericana. 2007.
- 7.- P. C. Champe & R.A. Harvey. Biochemistry. 3ª edició. Lippincott's Illustrated Reviews. 2004
- 8.- Mathews, Van Holde & Ahern. Bioquímica. 3ª edició. Adison-Wesley, 2002.
- 9.- Wong D.W.S. Química de los Alimentos. 1ª edició. Ed. Acribia. 1995.
- 10.- McKee, T; McKee, J.R.. Bioquímica, las bases moleculares de la vida. 4ª Ed. McGraw-Hill, 2009