

**Bioinformatics**

Code: 100948  
ECTS Credits: 3

| Degree                | Type | Year | Semester |
|-----------------------|------|------|----------|
| 2500253 Biotechnology | OB   | 3    | 1        |

The proposed teaching and assessment methodology that appear in the guide may be subject to changes as a result of the restrictions to face-to-face class attendance imposed by the health authorities.

**Contact**

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**Use of Languages**

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

**Teachers**

Nathalia Varejao Nogueira Da Paz

**Prerequisites**

There are no prerequisites for this subject, but it is necessary to review the concepts acquired in the subjects of "Biochemistry", "Genetics and Molecular Biology" and "Recombinant DNA Technology" taught during the first and second year.

**Objectives and Contextualisation**

The subject taught during this course is an introductory vision of bioinformatics. This subject is aimed at students of Biotechnology of the third year (5th semester) and corresponds to a theoretical subject of 3 credits. The objectives and contents of this subject have been defined taking into account that within the same subject (Molecular Biology of Systems) is the subject of "Genomics, Proteomics and Interactomics."

The main objectives are:

- To provide students with basic bioinformatic knowledge that allows both the use of tools to search for information in molecular databases and address the computational analysis of sequences and structures of nucleic acids and proteins.
- Provide a broad perspective of the potential of this discipline both in the field of research and in the professional.

**Competences**

- Interpret experimental results and identify consistent and inconsistent elements.
- Learn new knowledge and techniques autonomously.
- Make an oral, written and visual presentation of one's work to a professional or non-professional audience in English or in one's own language.

- Obtain information from databases and use the software necessary to establish correlations between the structure, function and evolution of macromolecules.
- Reason in a critical manner
- Search for and manage information from various sources.
- Search for, obtain and interpret information from the principal databases on biology, bibliography and patents and use basic bioinformatic tools.
- Use ICT for communication, information searching, data processing and calculations.
- Work individually and in teams

## Learning Outcomes

1. Establish structural, functional and evolutionary relations based on information in existing biological databases .
2. Interpret experimental results and identify consistent and inconsistent elements.
3. Learn new knowledge and techniques autonomously.
4. Make an oral, written and visual presentation of ones work to a professional or non-professional audience in English or in one's own language.
5. Obtain, interpret and use information from databases on biology, bibliography, patents, markets, etc.
6. Reason in a critical manner
7. Search for and manage information from various sources.
8. Use ICT for communication, information searching, data processing and calculations.
9. Work individually and in teams

## Content

Lesson 1- Introduction. Data banks in Molecular Biology. Search engines: Entrez and SRS. Primary and secondary data banks. Search in specialized databases. Identification of proteins by means of searches in databases.

Lesson 2- Analysis of sequential DNA information. Restriction maps (cloning). Design of probes and oligonucleotides for PCR for the detection and quantification of a sequence, cloning or directed mutagenesis. Secondary structure of RNA.

Lesson 3- Genome Projects and Genomic Browsers. Sequencing, ensemble and annotations of genomes. Identification of coding sequences and promoters.

Lesson 4- Sequence alignments. Concepts of homology and similarity. Algorithms of alignment for sequence pairs. Dot-Plot. Global and local alignment. Punctuation array Gaps Search by similarity in databases: BLAST and FASTA.

Lesson 5- Creation and analysis of multiple sequences alignments: multiple sequence alignment. Editing and viewing programs. Evaluation of conserved regions of proteins. Design of probes and oligonucleotides for PCR based on a multiple alignment of protein sequences. Phylogenetic trees.

Lesson 6-Proteins: analysis of function. Identification of homologues, motifs, domains, and protein families. Identification of distant homologues through PSI-Blast. Statistical models that relax the frequency of an amino acid in a specific position (PSSM matrices, profiles, and hidden Markov model HMM). Prediction of motives and domains. Databases of motives, domains, and protein families. Representation of LOGOS of reasons or emprints.

Lesson 7\_ Proteins: analysis of structure. Prediction methods of globular protein proteins, ab-initio based, based on homology and neural networks. Evaluation of the reliability of the prediction methods. Prediction of the structure of membrane proteins with transmembrane helix and beta barrel. Prediction of "coiled-coil". Analysis and prediction of the three-dimensional structure: Methods of prediction of the tertiary structure. The bank of PDB structures. Visualization and comparison of structures. Structural classification of proteins.

Lesson 8- Proteins: analysis and prediction of the folding and aggregation of proteins. Sequence-based predictions, identification of therapeutic targets. Predications based on structure. Redesign of protein solubility.

## Methodology

The teaching methodology includes two types of different activities: theory classes and practical classes in the computer classroom.

### Theoretical Classes

Classes to transmit the basic concepts and the information necessary to develop an autonomous learning. Theory classes will be non-contact and will be taught through audiovisual support. Support in the form of presentations in PowerPoint that will be available to the student on the Virtual Campus.

### Computer classroom practices or Problems

This activity will take place in the computer rooms of the Faculty and will be carried out in groups of 20 students. These practices will be organized based on problems raised by the teachers and that the student will have to solve using the different tools and bioinformatics analysis. The teacher in each session will pose different problems that will be made in each session or they will have to be solved by the students as autonomous work. At the end of each session, students must submit the corresponding problems to each session. This delivery will be made through the virtual campus.

Attendance at problem sessions and delivery of exercises is mandatory.

### Tutorials

Individual sessions or small groups for the resolution of doubts related to the subject. This type of activity will be done at the request of the students.

## Activities

| Title                        | Hours | ECTS | Learning Outcomes         |
|------------------------------|-------|------|---------------------------|
| Type: Directed               |       |      |                           |
| Classes in the computer room | 20    | 0.8  | 3, 8, 7, 1, 4, 2, 5, 6, 9 |
| Theoretical classes          | 6     | 0.24 | 3, 8, 7, 1, 5             |
| Type: Supervised             |       |      |                           |
| Tutorials                    | 5     | 0.2  | 8, 7, 2, 5, 6             |
| Type: Autonomous             |       |      |                           |
| Study                        | 40    | 1.6  | 3, 8, 7, 1, 2, 5, 6, 9    |

## Assessment

The competences of this subject will be evaluated through continuous evaluation. There will be two types of evaluation:

- Written tests
- Resolution of problems in the sessions of the computer room or deliveries via MODDLE platform.

A) Written tests,

It will consist of two written tests, the first will include topics 1-4 (part 1) and the second topics 5-8 (part 2). Each test will consist of short questions and the resolution of problems. They will be made preferably in the

computer rooms of the Faculty so that the student will have at his disposal all the bioinformatics tools necessary to answer the questions and problems raised.

The weight of each test will be 35% of the final mark.

To pass these tests, you must obtain a minimum score of 5 out of 10 points. Students who do not pass each test with a mark equal to or greater than 5 can retrieve it in the retake test scheduled at the end of the semester. When the student has one of the written tests with a grade below 5, he can take the retake test of the corresponding part (1 or 2), whenever the student is eligible for the retake process.

B) Resolution of problems in the sessions of the computer room.

It is an individual evaluation that will consist of: the continuous evaluation by means of the delivery of all the laboratory problems, the evaluation of a practice proposed by the teachers and the delivery of a conceptual map of the subject.

The weight of this evaluation will be 30% of the final mark.

The mark obtained in this evaluation activity can only be included in the average mark if both written tests have grades greater than or equal to 5 out of 10.

#### Retake process

To be eligible for the retake process, the student should have been previously evaluated in a set of activities equaling at least two-thirds of the final score of the course or module. Thus, the student will be graded as "No Avaluable" if the weighting of all conducted evaluation activities is less than 67% of the final score.

The retake exam will have the same format as the written tests, that is: short questions and problem-solving. It will also be held in the computer rooms of the Faculty on the scheduled date.

#### Improvement of the final mark

Students who wish to improve their grades may take a note improvement exam at the end of the semester, on the date and place scheduled for the recovery exam. The degree of difficulty of this test will correspond to the objective of the test and, therefore, may be higher than the other written tests. The student who presents himself to improve the grade waives the previously obtained mark in the evaluation of the written test that he recovers.

Marks obtained in practice sessions can not be modified.

#### Calculation of final mark

Final note = (Evaluation 1 \* 0.35) + (Evaluation 2 \* 0.35) + (Problems 1 \* 0.15) + (Problems 2 \* 0.15)

#### General considerations on the evaluation

To pass the subject it is necessary to obtain a final grade equal to or greater than 5. The final grade will be obtained by doing the weighted average of the three assessment activities. The average will not be done if you do not get a score equal to or greater than 5 in the written test or the retake test of each part.

The revision of the written tests will be carried out on a concerted day and place, between 1 and 7 working days after the publication of the notes.

Students who cannot attend a written test for a justified cause and provide the official documentation corresponding to the Degree Coordinator will have the right to perform in another date a test that could combine the resolution of problems and the oral response to questions raised by the teacher.

The degree coordinator will ensure the specification of this with the teacher of the subject affected.

Any aspect that is not contemplated in this guide will follow the regulations of evaluation of the Faculty of Biosciences.

## Assessment Activities

| Title                                               | Weighting | Hours | ECTS | Learning Outcomes         |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------|------|---------------------------|
| Problems done in the sessions on the computer room. | 30%       | 0     | 0    | 3, 8, 7, 1, 4, 2, 5, 6, 9 |
| Written test 1                                      | 35%       | 2     | 0.08 | 3, 8, 7, 1, 2, 5, 6, 9    |
| Written test 2                                      | 35%       | 2     | 0.08 | 3, 8, 7, 1, 2, 5, 6, 9    |

## Bibliography

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