

See the Code of Practice for Quality Assurance for Taught Programmes: Annex B before completing this template - available on <http://www.ukc.ac.uk/registry/quality/code2001/annexb.html> - and the relevant Faculty notes of guidance.

To use this template, download the file and insert text in the sections provided. You should consult your Department Director of Learning and Teaching when preparing a proposal. Directors of Learning and Teaching are required to sign off proposals before submission to the Faculty Learning and Teaching Committee. Please delete all the sections in italics before submission to the Faculty Officer.

1 The title of the module

Biotechnology, Computation and Public Affairs

2 The Department which will be responsible for management of the module

Biosciences

3 The Start Date of the Module

Week 8, 2005

4 The number of students expected to take the module

15

5 Modules to be withdrawn on the introduction of this proposed module and consultation with other relevant Departments and Faculties regarding the withdrawal

None

6 The level of the module (eg Certificate [C], Intermediate [I], Honours [H] or Postgraduate [M])

M

7 The number of credits which the module represents

Note: undergraduate full-time students take modules amounting to 120 credits per year and postgraduate full-time students take modules amounting to 180 credits per year for a Masters award

9.5

8 Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)

Michaelmas

9 Prerequisite and co-requisite modules

None

10 The programmes of study to which the module contributes

MSc Biotechnology and Computation

11 The intended subject specific learning outcomes and, as appropriate, their relationship to programme learning outcomes

1. Students will develop a better understanding of commercial, ethical, and the legal implications of applied biocomputing, which supplements their purely scientific knowledge.
2. Students will gain an appreciation of Data Protection, data security and the sharing of database information, especially those based on biometrics.
3. Students will be encouraged to discuss and debate the issues involved, improving communication skills and providing a forum for articulating adversarial viewpoints.

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- 12 The intended generic learning outcomes and, as appropriate, their relationship to programme learning outcomes
1. An appreciation of group working
 2. Oral presentation skills
 3. Ability to acquire technical knowledge both as a group and as an individual
 4. To appreciate some of the ethical and business issues pertinent to the exploitation of Biotechnology and Computation.
 5. Ability to both formulate and articulate an opinion based on commercial, ethical, legal and technical information.

13 A synopsis of the curriculum

Expert speakers are drawn from the University of Kent and the U.K. biopharmaceutical/biotechnology industries. Topics to be covered in the lecture series will be drawn from:

1. The biotechnology business: funding, the future of biotechnology.
2. Stages in the development of a commercial product: considerations in scale-up and production.
3. Innovations: examples from plant, microbial and medical biotechnology.
4. *Data protection and ethical issues relating to use of data*
5. *Public awareness of sociological impact of computing*
6. Patenting: obtaining a patent, patent infringement, patent protection, and regulations.
7. Public perceptions of biotechnology: ethics, pros and cons of biotechnological innovations.
8. Regulatory affairs.
9. Quality control and quality assurance.

14 Indicative Reading List

This will be discussed with and advised to students at the start of the module

- 15 Learning and Teaching Methods, including the nature and number of contact hours and the total study hours which will be expected of students, and how these relate to achievement of the intended learning outcomes

12 x 1 h lectures/discussions (12h)

2 x 2 h adversarial debate (4h)

Completion of biocomputing and public affairs portfolio (30h)

Self-directed study (54h)

- 16 Assessment methods and how these relate to testing achievement of the intended learning outcomes

The course is not formally assessed, however students will be required to prepare and complete the following in order to gain the necessary credits for completion of the course.

1. Adversarial debate.
2. Portfolio component composed of biotechnology and public affairs related topics that have been reported or discussed in the media, on the web or anywhere else in the last 12 months. Students must then choose one of these topics and write two 400-500 word press release style paragraphs which address these topics from different perspectives, briefly describing the biotech issue, their stance and the reasons for this.

- 17 Implications for learning resources, including staff, library, IT and space

Staff are drawn from UoK and existing industrial contacts. Any materials that are not in the public domain will be provided by the staff delivering the module.

- 18 A statement confirming that, as far as can be reasonably anticipated, the curriculum, learning and teaching methods and forms of assessment do not present any non-justifiable disadvantage to students with disabilities

This is confirmed

Statement by the Director of Learning and Teaching: "I confirm I have been consulted on the above module proposal and have given advice on the correct procedures and required content of module proposals"

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..... 17.05.02

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Director of Learning and Teaching

Date

Statement by the Head of Department: "I confirm that the Department has approved the introduction of the module and will be responsible for its resourcing"

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Head of Department

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Date

Revised August 2002; Revision 2 in 2003.