

Course Biology		NESA Course Code: Preliminary 11030 HSC 15030
2 units for each of Preliminary and HSC year. Board Developed Course. DOES count in the 6 units of the Board Developed Courses required for the HSC. DOES count towards an ATAR		Course costs Yes
Success Criteria (what skills and aptitudes you need to have for success in this subject) Consistently achieved 70% or better in each assessment task in Year 10 Semester 1 Year 10 results in mathematics 60% or better Thinking and writing skills to explain, analyse and evaluate Practical skills to plan and conduct investigations Strong organisational skills and good time management practices		
Course Description Biology is the study of living organisms, life processes & interactions between organisms and their environment. The Preliminary course incorporates the study of the mechanisms and systems that living things use to obtain, transport and use for their own growth and repair; biotic and abiotic features of the environment and the interdependence of organisms in an ecosystem; the evolution of life on Earth; and the effects of global changes on the diversity of Australian biota during the formation of the Australian continent. The HSC course builds upon the Preliminary course. It examines the processes and structures of DNA and the way in which inheritance of characteristics are transmitted from generation to generation. The course also analyses the causes and responses to infectious and non-infectious diseases.		
Main Topics Covered		
Preliminary course	HSC course	
Cells are the Basis of Life Organisation of Living Things Biological Diversity Ecosystem Dynamics	Heredity Genetic Change Infectious Disease Non Infectious Disease and Disorders	
Particular Course Requirements Practical experiences will include no less than a 15 hour Depth Study in each of the Preliminary and HSC years. A Depth Study is any type of investigation/activity that a student completes that allows further development of one or more concepts found within or inspired by the syllabus. These studies may incur additional costs for field trips, incursions and excursions. A Skills and Assessment book is included in the course fee.		
Assessment for the HSC course		
External Assessment	Internal Assessment	Weighting
A 3 hour written examination worth 100 marks, with equal weighting given to the four HSC content modules Working Scientifically Skills will be integrated. There will be 20 objective response questions worth 1 mark each and 20 to 25 longer response items, at least two of which will be worth 7 to 9 marks.	Knowing and understanding biology	40
	Skills in Working Scientifically	60

	TOTAL	100%