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Some modules offer the opportunity to undertake practical work in the field at a short residential school run by the Field Studies Council (FSC).

FSC

For details of the FSC’s OU courses visit:
http://www.field-studies-council.org/professional/ou-courses.aspx

Web

For more information about the qualification including links to free online study tasters, videos, news, events and behind-the-scenes interviews with our academics, visit:
www.open.ac.uk/biology

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- Careers support throughout your study

Ongoing support

You won’t be studying on your own. You will have access to:

- Expert personal tutor for one-to-one contact and your own tutor group
- Forums for guidance, advice, community and social interaction
- Computer helpdesk/IT support
- Student support teams
- Disability support teams including equipment loan and communications support
- Open University Students Association (OUSA)

Stage 1

Your study starts with a wide-ranging introduction to highly topical areas of modern science, through which you will begin to acquire the practical, investigative and mathematical skills essential to your development as a scientist.

Stage 2

You will then focus on biology with core modules on Cell biology (S294) and The biology of survival (S295) before choosing from a range of other modules from across the scientific disciplines.

Stage 3

At Stage 3 of your studies you will study more advanced biology modules which draw on your understanding of the fundamental aspects of cell and whole organism biology and the skills you developed at Stage 2. This will include Biological science: from genes to species (S317) as well as a project module.

Further information

More information about the complete Q64 Natural Sciences qualification can be found by visiting:

www.open.ac.uk/courses/qualifications/q64

or specific biology content on modules S294, S295, S317 by visiting e.g. for S294

www.open.ac.uk/courses/modules/s294

Careers and skills development

Transferable and employability skills necessary for many career opportunities will be developed progressively throughout your biology degree.

You will explore biological concepts and develop core skills including:

- Assessing and interpreting scientific information
- Analytical, numerical and communication skills
- Experimental design
- Practical investigations
- Data interpretation
- Collaborative team working
- Science communication
- Problem solving and IT.

“An OU qualification says ‘employ me!’”

Are you ready for science study?

Use our online diagnostic quiz to help you decide if you are ready now or need some extra preparation:

www.open.ac.uk/courses/qualifications/q64#am-i-ready

If your study skills are a bit rusty or you want to try OU study before committing yourself, don’t worry! You can get started with an access module designed to introduce subject areas and build confidence.

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