

BCH Courses' Description

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 103 Course title: Biochemical fundamentals of Life

Credit hours: 2 (2+0+0) Level: 3^{ed} level

Contact hours: 2 Course prerequisites: None

Course Description:

This course covers general introduction to biochemistry. It describes the living cell, its organelles and the general foundations determining cell structure and functions. It also covers relevant chemical concepts, properties of water as main constituent of life, chemicals elements and their distribution in earth and cell, different chemical bonds, functional groups chemical equilibrium and homeostasis, acids, bases and buffer solution, the formation of macro-molecules from small building blocks.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 202 Course title: General Biochemistry

Credit hours: 4(3+0+2) Level: 3^{ed} level

Contact hours: 5 Course prerequisites: None

Course Description:

This is an introductory course in biochemistry. It covers carbohydrates; their stereo-isomers, and configuration; function and structure, monosaccharides, reducing and non-reducing, sugar derivatives, oligosaccharides, and polysaccharides, storage, functional and structural polysaccharides. Lipids; fatty acids, triglycerides, phospholipids, sphingolipids, derived lipids, lipoproteins and steroids. Introduction about nucleic acids, nitrogenous bases. Introduction to hormones and vitamins, etc. with special emphasis on macromolecules structures and functions.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 303 Course title: Protein Biochemistry

Credit hours: 3 (2+0+2) Level: 4th Level

Contact hours: 4 Course prerequisites: BCH 202

Course Description:

This course covers the structural features of natural amino acids, stereo-isomerism, and configuration; their classification, functional groups and their effect on protein conformation, zwitterion and pl, titration curve; chemical reactions specifying each amino acid, spectroscopic properties, and their biological importance. Peptide bond formation, it is regid and planar and biologically active peptides. Protein classification, levels of protein structure (primary to quaternary), alpha helix, beta sheet; protein architecture. Physical and chemical properties. Fibrous vs globular proteins; domains and motifs; Different functions of proteins, biosynthesis, folding and the role of molecular chaperons. Protein denaturation and renaturation. Effect of protein structure on ligand binding, ex. Hemoglobin/O2, immunoglobulins/antigens. Techniques used in amino acid analysis, peptide synthesis, protein purification, quantification, protein sequencing and its role in elucidating the evolutionary relationships; mass spectrometry.



Course No. and abbrev: BCH 312 Course title: Biochemical Calculations

Credit hours: 3 (2+0 +2) Level: 4th level

Contact hours: 4 Course prerequisites: BCH 202

Course Description:

An introductory course that deals with the most common calculation problems in biochemistry including calculation of concentration, pH value, ionization of weak acids, buffer composition, and reaction constants as well as the subjects of spectrophotometric measurements and statistical analysis of data. The course also offers tutorials on the same subjects supported by hands-on experiments whenever possible.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 320 Course title: General Enzymology

Credit hours: 3 (3+0+0) Level: 5th level

Contact hours: 3 Course prerequisites: BCH 303

Course Description:

General aspects: nature of enzymes, localization, units of enzyme activity, specificity and specific Nonenzyme catalysts: ribozymes and apoenzymes. Enzymes kinetics. Michaelis-Menten equation. Enzyme inhibition. Irreversible inhibition and suicide inhibition. Bisubstrate reaction. Cooperativity and allosteric enzyme. The transition state theory and its analogs. Types of enzymatic catalysis. Definition, classification of coenzymes. Multi-molecular form of enzymes. Isolation, purification, characterization of enzymes and criteria of purity of enzymes. Applications of free and immobilized enzymes in the food, and pharmaceutical industries. Enzyme applications in cheese manufacture. Utilization of enzymes baking. Analytical and therapeutic applications of enzymes.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 322 Course title: Experiments in Enzymology

Credit hours: 2 (0+0+4) Level: 5th level

Contact hours: 4 Course prerequisites: BCH 303

Course Description:

A set of special experiments designed to study parameters of enzyme activity, activation & inhibition, and isolation & characterization of enzymes.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 361 Course title: Molecular Biology

Credit hours: 4 (3+0+2) Level: 5th level

Contact hours: 5 Course prerequisites: BCH 303

Course Description:

This course covers fundamental aspects of molecular biology with emphasis on human genome: composition, chemical and physical properties, genes, and gene products. The course covers most DNA-associated processes such as replication, transcription, translation, as well as DNA transposition, recombination and rearrangements, gene expression, and recent advances in molecular biology. The course aims at providing basic knowledge necessary to understand the importance of the central dogma in molecular biology and the more advanced concepts such as genetic engineering or recombinant DNA technology.



Course No. and abbrev: BCH 452 Course title: Biomembranes and Cell Signaling

Credit hours: 2 (2+0+0) Level: 5th level

Contact hours: 2 Course prerequisites: BCH 202

Course Description:

General structural and functional properties of natural and synthetic membranes. Functions and properties of proteins, lipids and carbohydrates of biomembranes. Solubilization and fractionation of biomembranes. Fluids mosaic model. Types of transport across biomembranes. Calculation of energy change in each case. Composition and function of the different types of cellular membranes: Membranes of erythrocyte, intestinal mucosa, renal tubules, muscle cells, mitochondria, nerve cells, retinal cells and bacterial cells. Types and properties of signals and signal transduction. Biosynthesis and assembly of membranes.

B. List of the Elective Courses

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 350 Course title: Plant Biochemistry

Credit hours: 2 (2+0+0) Level: 5th level

Contact hours: 2 Course prerequisites: None

Course Description:

Plant Biochemistry is a course designed to introduce the students to biochemical processes that take place in plant such as photosynthetic reactions, nitrogen fixation, plant secondary metabolites, the metabolic pathways, plant hormones, the use of plant in medicine and industry and plant molecular biology. The goal of this course is to study the plants biochemistry based on the latest knowledge and the biochemical differences between plants and other organisms. This course can target students from different disciplines such as biochemistry, botany and anyone using plant products -in food and medicines.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 476 Course title: Chemistry of antibiotics

Credit hours: 2(2+0+0) Level: 5th level

Contact hours: 2 Course prerequisites: BCH 202

Course Description:

This course covers an introduction to secondary metabolites and their chemical structure, properties and function. It also covers the classification of antibiotics, usage, isolation and purification, characterization, structural and functional properties, mode of action and resistance from the chemical and biochemical point of view.



C. List of Service courses offered to other departments

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 101 Course title: General Biochemistry

Credit hours: (2+0+3)4 Level: 3ed level

Contact hours: 5 Course prerequisites: None

Course Description:

Cell structure and organelle function. Biological buffers. Amino acids. Peptides. Proteins. Enzymes. Carbohydrates. Lipids. Metabolism of carbohydrates. Metabolism of lipids. Metabolism of proteins. Nucleic acid. Hormones. Vitamins. Biochemistry of blood.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 102 Course title: Cellular Biochemistry

Credit hours: 2(1+2+0) Level: None

Contact hours: 3 Course prerequisites: None

Course Description:

The aim of this course is to give knowledge about the cellular organelles and their structures and functions. Eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells, life cycle of virus, cellular molecules, fractionation and separation of organelles, plasma membrane and cytoskeleton, cell division and cell culture.

Nucleus, DNA, RNA and Central dogma of molecular biology

Mitochondria , Endoplasmic Reticulum, Cytosol, Lysosomes, Peroxisomes, Golgi Apparatus ...etc

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 220 Course title: Fundamentals of Blood

Credit hours: 2 (1+0+2)

Contact hours: 3

Biochemistry

Level: 3^{ed} level

Course prerequisites: None

Course Description:

This course is oriented for Microbiology student's in the preparatory year as an introductory course in biochemistry of blood. This course covers the physical properties, basic compositions and functions of blood. Blood formation. Erythrocytes structure, metabolism and its abnormalities. Some types of anemia. Leucocytes types and functions. Platelets and blood clotting mechanism. Blood grouping and some components of plasma proteins and fats.



Course No. and abbrev: BCH 332 Course title: Physical Biochemistry

Credit hours: 3(3+0+0) Level: 6

Contact hours: 3 Course prerequisites: BCH 303

Course Description:

A course designed to study the methods for purification and characterization of biomolecules. The topics of this course include biochemical applications of Spectroscopy (absorption, fluorescence, and Mass spectroscopy), basic & common methods (tissue homogenization, dialysis, filtration, and salting out), Hydrodynamic methods (various forms and applications of centrifugation), Electrophoresis (paper, PAGE, and agarose), various forms and applications of Chromatography (gel filtration, ion-exchange, adsorption, affinity, and HLPC), and Radioisotope applications in Biochemistry.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 333 Course title: Experiments in Biophysical Biochemistry

Credit hours: 2(2+0+4) Level: 6

Contact hours: 6 Course prerequisites: BCH 312

Course Description:

A set of experiments to introduce the students to the most common methods and equipments used in biochemistry.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 340 Course title: Metabolism -1

Credit hours: 3(3+0+0) Level: 6

Contact hours: 3 Course prerequisites: BCH 320

Course Description:

Introduction to metabolism and bioenergetics. Saccharides metabolism. Glycogen metabolism. Glycolysis and its regulation. Citric acid cycle, glyoxylate cycle. Oxidative phosphorylation. Gluconeogenesis. Diabetes. Pentos phosphate shunt. Photosynthesis. Defects in carbohydrate metabolism. Classification of lipid, lipolysis, lipogenesis. Biosynthesis of fatty acids. Oxidation of fatty acids. Ketogenesis. Defect in lipid metabolism.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 462 Course title: Biotechnology and Genetic engineering

Credit hours: 4 (2+0+4) Level: 6

Contact hours: 6 Course prerequisites: BCH 361

Course Description:

The main objective of this course is to introduce the modern and emerging approaches in Molecular Biotechnology and its applications in Biochemistry. The course is divided into four rotations, each with its own theoretical and practical sessions with emphasis on the theoretical basis of each technique, the actual working method, hands-on experience, pitfall and strengths of each technique.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 471 Course title: Blood Biochemistry

Credit hours: 3(2+0+2) Level: 6

Contact hours: 4 Course prerequisites: BCH 320

Course Description:

Physical properties and functions of blood. Cellular and non-cellular components of blood. Structure and function of hemoglobin. Metabolism of erythrocytes and its abnormalities (e.g. jaundice). Types of anemia, biochemical basis of each. Types and functions of leucocytes. Coagulation and its interrelationship to platelets. Blood formation and its disorders. Types of plasma proteins and their variation in different diseases.



Course No. and abbrev: BCH 440 Course title: Metabolism -2

Credit hours: 3(3+0+0) Level: 7

Contact hours: 6 Course prerequisites: BCH 340

Course Description:

Lipoproteins properties and their metabolism. Metabolism of prostaglandins. Sterol metabolism. Digestion and absorption of amino acids. Catabolism of amino acids. Biosynthesis of amino acids. Conversion of amino acids to specialized products. Biochemistry of prophyrins. Integration of metabolism.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 447 Course title: Practical Metabolism

Credit hours: 2(0+0+4) Level: 7

Contact hours: 4 Course prerequisites: BCH 340

Course Description:

A selection of metabolic experiments that include carbohydrates, lipids, and proteins.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 453 Course title: Hormones

Credit hours: 2 (2+0+0) Level: 7

Contact hours: 2 Course prerequisites: BCH 340, BCH 352

Course Description:

Mechanism of action of hormones. Definition and classification of hormones. Hypothalamus and pituitary hormones. Hormones of adrenal cortex. Hormones of the adrenal medulla. Thyroid gland hormones. Parathyroid hormones. Pancreatic hormones. Gonadal hormones.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 463 Course title: Bioinformatics

Credit hours: 3(1+0+4) Level: 7

Contact hours: 3 Course prerequisites: BCH 361

Course Description:

This is a practical course designed to train students in the use of public data banks & software to retrieve, analyze, and assemble biological data with special emphasis on concepts relating to gene and protein structures.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 477 Course title: Immunochemistry

Credit hours: 2(2+0+0) Level: 7

Contact hours: 2 Course prerequisites: BCH 471

Course Description:

The fundamental aspect of innate and adaptive immunity. Humoral immunity: antibodies: classes and subclasses, structure and function, biosynthesis, reaction with antigen. Complement system. T-lymphocytes and cell mediate immunity. Human HLA antigens and transplation immunity; immunosuppression; hypersensitivity; autoimmunity; vaccination. Disorders; of the immuno deficiency. Immunochemistry techniques.



Course No. and abbrev: BCH 484 Course title: Introduction in Scientific skills

Credit hours: 2(1+2+0) Level: 7

Contact hours: 3 Course prerequisites: BCH 333, BCH361

Course Description:

This course trains students with concepts and mechanisms of scientific research including the various stages of preparation, implementation and observing the ethics of scientific research. The course also trains students with important techniques in Biochemistry.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 445 Course title: Biochemistry of Nutrition

Credit hours: 3(2+0+2) Level: 8

Contact hours: 4 Course prerequisites: BCH 303

Course Description:

This course is designed to study nutrition via biochemical concepts with emphasis on biochemical and physiological fundamentals of nutrition. The course presents an integrated approach to the roles of protein, fat, carbohydrate, energy, minerals and vitamins in metabolism, and their relationships to nutritional concepts.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 493 Course title: Research Project

Credit hours: 2(0+0+4) Level: 8

Contact hours: 4 Course prerequisites: BCH 484, Finishing 115 h

Course Description:

Senior student engages in an independent research project in one of the applied field of biochemistry at the department research laboratories under the supervision of a staff's member. By the end of the semester, he should present a seminar and full report about his project.

Course No. and abbrev: BCH 496 Course title: Field Training in Biochemistry

Credit hours: 5(0+0+10) Level: 8

Contact hours: 10 Course prerequisites: BCH 484-BCH 361-BCH 340

Course Description:

This course is field training practical course given in the 8th semester in collaboration with Biomedical Laboratories in hospitals, pharmaceutical and food companies. The course aims to practice students on various biochemical techniques and their applications in clinical and diagnostic laboratories, chemical and pharmaceutical companies and food industries, and the foundations in methodologies. This training course is designed to complement what was studied in our curriculum e.g., blood biochemistry, body fluids, biomarkers, immunology, metabolism, endocrinology and molecular biology. At the end of the course, students will prepare and present their finding as a report. The students' progress will be evaluated by both internal and external supervisor.