The Biology Stage 6 HSC course consists of core and options organised into a number of modules. The core content covers 90 indicative hours with ONE option Covering 30 indicative hours. **Students are required to cover ONE of the options.**

Practical experiences are an essential component of the HSC Biology Course. Students must undertake no less than 35 indicative hours of practical experiences in the HSC course.

- Practical experiences will emphasise hands on activities. These activities will include:
  - laboratory experiments
  - research, using a wide range of sources, including print materials, the Internet and digital technologies
  - using computer simulations for modelling or manipulating data
  - using and reorganising secondary data
  - extracting and reorganising information in the form of flow charts, tables, graphs, diagrams, prose and keys
  - using animation, video and film resources to capture/obtain information not available in other forms.

The HSC builds upon the Preliminary course. The HSC course incorporates the study of the following **core topics:**

- Maintaining a Balance (30 indicative hours).
- Blueprint of Life (30 indicative hours)
- The Search for Better Health (30 indicative hours)

The **option** chosen to study will be The Human story (30 indicative hours).
ASSESSMENT

The assessment for the Biology HSC course in 2010 will be comprised of:

A **half yearly exam** covering the topics Maintaining a Balance and Blue print of Life core topics. The exam will be comprised of multiple choice questions and require short and long written responses. Students will be given 80 minutes to complete the exam. Sample practice questions may be accessed on the NSW board of studies website.

A **practical assessment task** will also be undertaken by students. This task will assess the student’s ability to independently use practical and problem solving skills acquired during the course.

An **open ended investigation** will be assessed in Term 3.

A **Trial HSC** exam covering all core topics will take place at the end of Term 2. This exam will be comprised of 15 multiple choice questions and require short and long written responses. The exam will be marked out of a total of 100 marks. Students will be allocated 3 hours working time to complete this exam.

Please see your teacher if you have any questions regarding this subject.

Regards

Ms Dracopoulos
Head Teacher Science DHSVAD.