
BIOL813: Principles of Biochemistry

Subject Outline

6 credit points

Subject Information

Autumn, 2026, Wollongong
On Campus

On-Campus Delivery

This subject is delivered in-person and includes on-campus or other location-based learning activities that cannot be undertaken by students studying Online/Distance. Students unable to attend campus or any other nominated physical delivery location should not enrol in this subject.

Lectures will be delivered both online and on campus while workshops and laboratory practicals will be held on campus.

This subject is delivered in conjunction with BIOL213.

Subjects with a delivery mode of On Campus and/or Flexible with International Student enrolments will be delivered in accordance with the ESOS National Code. That is, online learning experiences (such as lectures, tuition, and resources) will be supplementary to in-person learning experiences such as scheduled classes and/or scheduled contact hours.

UOW may need to modify teaching locations, teaching delivery, and assessment delivery at short notice in response to unforeseen circumstances such as health or environmental factors.

For up-to-date information please refer to your subject's Moodle site.

The Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health

The Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs designed to meet the needs of a diverse student population. We carry out world-leading research which is strongly aligned with our teaching program

As a student of our faculty, you will be actively engaged in learning with extensive clinical, laboratory and/or field work experiences, use of advanced educational technologies and opportunities for enriching work experience. More information about the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health and our School is available on our web pages: <https://www.uow.edu.au/science-medicine-health/>

Within many of our courses, attending a workplace experience or clinical placement is an exciting part of your course program. Whilst integral to your learning, these health-related placements also let you experience what it's like to work as a professional in real-life workplace settings. More information about requirements for Health Placements is available on our webpage: <https://www.uow.edu.au/student/health-placements/>

Teaching Staff

Teaching Role	Coordinator
Name	Dr Jane AL Kouba
Telephone	+61242214842
Email	jalkouba@uow.edu.au
Room	18.222
Consultation Times	Please email for appointment

Teaching Role	Lecturer
Name	Dr. Aidan Grosas
Telephone	+61 2 42393925
Email	agrosas@uow.edu.au
Room	42.215
Consultation Times	Please email for appointment

Teaching Role	Lecturer
Name	Professor Heath Ecroyd
Telephone	+61 2 42213443
Email	heathe@uow.edu.au
Room	42.312
Consultation Times	Please email for appointment

Teaching Role	Lecturer
Name	Dr. Emma-Jayne Proctor
Email	eproctor@uow.edu.au
Room	32.229
Consultation Times	Please email for appointment

Teaching Staff Additional Information

The teaching team is subject to change. Please refer to the subject Moodle site for the most up-to-date information.

Expectations of Students

UOW values are intellectual openness, excellence and dedication, empowerment and academic freedom, mutual respect and diversity, recognition and performance. We will provide a safe, equitable and orderly environment for the University community, and expect each member of our community to behave responsibly and ethically ([Student Conduct Rules](#)).

We expect that students demonstrate these values and professional behaviour, both face to face and online, making genuine efforts to complete their studies successfully, arriving on time to class, taking part constructively in class discussions and activities, demonstrating appropriate professional and ethical conduct in all communication with UOW staff and community members, and submitting assignments on time (or completing a request for Academic Consideration in advance if needed).

Guiding Communication Principles for Students

Moodle Announcements will be the primary platform for communication of general information to students

- Students should ensure they regularly check the main announcements forum at the top of each subject's Moodle site.
- It is the student's responsibility to check all subject Moodle sites regularly for information and notifications.

SOLS messages will be used for all central communication relating to the following:

- Administrative matters relating to student enrolment
- Critical information relating to course or subject, e.g. Changes to assignments, policy updates, class cancellations or changes
- Timetable information
- Security and emergency information
- Students are encouraged to check SOLS messages daily as these messages are often of high priority

SOLS and Moodle announcements can NOT be responded to.

Appropriate Online Behaviour

The University is committed to providing a safe, respectful, equitable and orderly environment for the University community, and expects each member of that community to behave responsibly and ethically. Students must comply with the University's [Student Conduct Rules](#) and related policies including the [IT Acceptable Use Policy](#) and [Bullying Prevention Policy](#), whether undertaking their studies face-to-face, online.

For more information on appropriate communication and etiquette in the online environment please refer to the guide [Online and Email Etiquette](#).

Copyright

Commonwealth of Australia

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Hardcopies of this document are considered uncontrolled please refer to your Moodle site for the latest version.

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Section A: General Information

Learning Outcomes

Subject Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students will be able to:

1. Describe the major classes of macromolecules and their subunits;
2. Describe the basic principles of enzyme function;
3. Describe the information flow from DNA to protein;
4. Perform the calculations necessary to relate physical amounts and concentrations of biochemicals;
5. Interpret biochemical data and reach valid scientific conclusions;
6. Display the following experimental skills:
 - i. Safe and responsible conduct in laboratories,
 - ii. The ability to dispense and manipulate small (μl) volumes accurately,
 - iii. Use and understand the operation of a limited range of modern laboratory equipment.

Subject Description

BIOL813 focuses on the principles of biochemistry. With increasingly robust technologies that provide detailed views of molecular processes, progress in biochemistry is exciting - providing new wonders and new challenges. Students will explore the biochemical structure and biological function of proteins, nucleic acids, carbohydrates, lipids and their subunits. Students will learn about enzymes as important reaction catalysts of biological systems, without which life would not exist. Through an exploration of information pathways students will learn about the molecular structure of genetic material, how this genetic information is transmitted from one generation to the next with high fidelity and how this genetic information is ultimately expressed in the astonishing variety of protein molecules in a living cell. Through the exploration of real-life case studies students will gain an appreciation of how biochemistry continues to solve modern challenges in human and environmental health but also plays a role in sustainability, food security, water and sanitation, just to name a few. Thus touching on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Through engagement in group and individual activities, students will develop skills in effective problem-solving and communication, alongside teamwork, whilst developing digital literacy and data integrity skills through utilisation of an electronic laboratory notebook. Providing students with professional skills sought after by employers.

Course Handbook

Information about subject pre-requisites, co-requisites and restrictions as well as course completion requirements and Course Learning Outcomes can be found in the [Course Handbook](#).

Subject Details: Practical Activities, eLearning, Readings and Materials

Subject eLearning

The University uses the eLearning system Moodle to support all coursework subjects. The subject Moodle site can be accessed via your SOLS page.

Safety Guidelines

The rules below are general rules that are required when participating in labs, practicals, fieldwork or simulated fieldwork activities. Before commencing these activities you are to ensure that you understand specific procedures and policy related to safety.

- All first year students undertaking Chemistry (CHEM101/102/104/105) must complete the Moodle WHS Induction (see the subject Moodle site for more details below)

- Before commencing lab/practical/fieldwork activity you are to ensure that you understand specific procedures and policy related to safety.
- You may need to review a Risk Assessment and complete a Participant Acknowledgement form before commencing any fieldwork/practical work. These materials will be made available by the supervisor/Subject Coordinator.
- You must inform the Subject Coordinator of any medical conditions which may impact upon your ability to participate in these activities before commencing the practical.
- All Reasonable Adjustment cases (Access Plans) must be discussed with the Subject Coordinator prior to commencing the activity.
- Participation in the lab/practical/field/simulation activities may be denied to students who do not abide by these, and other conditions which may be specified by the Subject Coordinator.
- Never use any equipment or attempt any experiment without checking the safety implications with your laboratory supervisor or experienced delegated laboratory worker
- Undergraduate students are not permitted to work after hours unless there is appropriate approval and supervision.
- For subjects including field trips, students may be required to contribute to costs associated with the provision of field trips that form part of the course of study.

FOUNDATIONAL Work Integrated Learning

This subject contains elements of 'Foundational WIL'. Students in this subject will observe, explore or reflect on possible career pathways or a work-related aspect of their discipline.

Using Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI)

UOW is committed to embracing gen AI as a tool to enhance learning and development of important digital and work-readiness skills.

Your subject coordinator will provide specific guidance on the use of gen AI in your assessment tasks via your Subject Outline and/or your subject Moodle site. If gen AI use is permitted, it should be used thoughtfully, critically, and in ways that support your own learning.

Guidance on appropriate use of AI in assessments, including how to [acknowledge GenAI](#) can be found on the [Using Generative Artificial Intelligence in Assessment website](#)

You are responsible for all work you submit, and ethical use of gen AI is an important part of maintaining academic integrity. Misuse or unauthorised use may breach the [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

Major Text(s)

Lehninger, Principles of Biochemistry, 8th Ed, Nelson and Cox (2021) W.H. Freeman Macmillan Learning, New York

If there is a textbook available for purchase, you can find the details at University Bookshop <https://unishop.uow.edu.au/>

Recommended Readings and Other Resources

The following references complement the prescribed readings and textbooks:

- Biochemistry (6th edition) Berg, Tymoczko & Stryer (574.192/49)
- Biochemistry (3rd edition) Mathews, van Holde & Ahern (574.192/88)
- Principles & Techniques of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (6th edition) Wilson & Walker (574.192028/16)
- iGenetics (3rd edition) Russell (576.5/5)

Recommended readings are not intended as an exhaustive list, students should use the Library catalogue and databases to locate additional resources.

This is not an exhaustive list of references. Students should also use the library catalogue and databases to locate additional resources.

Additional Materials

UOW Approved Calculator
Laboratory Coat and safety glasses for the wet-practical laboratories

Lectures, Tutorials and Attendance Requirements

Lecture Times *

UOW may need to modify teaching locations, teaching delivery, and assessment delivery at short notice in response to unforeseen circumstances such as health or environmental factors.

For up-to-date information please refer to your subject's Moodle site.

Up to date timetable and delivery information is located at
<http://www.uow.edu.au/student/timetables/index.html>

You can access your personal timetable by logging into SOLS and selecting 'My Timetable'

Lecture Program *

Week	Commencing	Topics Covered	Readings
1	02 Mar 2026	1. Amino acids: properties and functional groups 2. Protein structure	3 3 & 4
2	09 Mar 2026	3. Characterisation and separation of proteins 4. Nucleotides & nucleic acids	3 & 4 8
3	16 Mar 2026	5. Lipids 6. Membrane structure and function	10 11
4	23 Mar 2026	7. Carbohydrates 8. Glycobiology	7 7
5	30 Mar 2026	9. Summary lecture 1 INTERACTIVE LECTURE ON CAMPUS	
6	06 Apr 2026	10. Central dogma genes & chromosomes 11. Replication in prokaryotes and eukaryotes	8 & 24 25
7	13 Apr 2026	12. Transcription in prokaryotes 13. Transcription in eukaryotes	26 26
	20 Apr 2026	Mid-Session Recess	
8	27 Apr 2026	14. Introduction to translation 15. Translation and protein modifications	27 27 & 28
9	04 May 2026	16. Summary lecture 2 INTERACTIVE LECTURE ON CAMPUS	
10	11 May 2026	17. Protein function & ligand binding 18. Enzymes and how they work	5 6
11	18 May 2026	19. Enzyme kinetics I 20. Enzyme kinetics II	6 6
12	25 May 2026	21. Enzyme kinetics III	6

		22. Enzyme regulation	6
13	01 Jun 2026	23. Summary lecture 3 INTERACTIVE LECTURE ON CAMPUS	
	08 Jun 2026	Study Recess	
	13 Jun 2026	Examinations	
	20 Jun 2026	Examinations	

* The above times and program may be subject to change. Students will be notified of any change via SOLS.

Additional Lecture Comments

The following are examples of the topics to be covered in this course. This is not an exhaustive list and will be subject to change.

- Amino acids: properties and functional groups
- Protein structure and separation of proteins
- Carbohydrates and glycobiology
- Nucleotides and nucleic acids
- Lipids and membrane structure and function
- Genes and chromosomes
- Replication in prokaryotes and eukaryotes
- Transcription in prokaryotes and eukaryotes
- Translation and protein modifications
- Protein function and ligand binding
- Enzymes and bioenergetics
- Enzyme kinetics and regulation

A timetable of lecture topics, along with the practical classes, will be available from the subject Moodle site in week 1 of session.

Recording of Teaching and Learning Activities

The University of Wollongong supports the recording of UOW educational content as a supplemental study tool, to provide students with equity of access, and as a technology-enriched learning strategy to enhance the student experience.

If you make your own recording of a lecture, class, seminar, workshop or any other educational session provided as part of your course of study you can only do so with the explicit permission of the lecturer and those people who are also being recorded.

You may only use educational content recorded through the delivery of subject or course content, whether they are your own or recorded by the university, for your own educational purposes. Recordings cannot be altered, shared or published on another platform, without permission of the University, and to do so may contravene the University's Copyright Policy, Privacy Policy, Intellectual Property Policy, IT Acceptable Use Policy and Student Conduct Rules. Unauthorised sharing of recordings may also involve a breach of law under the Copyright Act 1969.

Most lectures in this subject will be recorded, when they are scheduled in venues that are equipped with lecture recording technology and made available via the subject Moodle site within 48 hours.

Your Privacy - Recording of Teaching and Learning

In accordance with the Student Privacy & Disclosure Statement, and Lecture Recording Procedures when undertaking our normal teaching and learning activities, the University may collect your personal information. This collection may occur incidentally during the recording of lectures in equipped venues (i.e. when your

identity can be ascertained by your image, voice or opinion), or via the delivery of online content therefore the University further advises students that:

- Lecture recordings are made available to students, university staff, and affiliates, securely via the Learning Platform;
- Recordings are made available only for the purpose for which they were recorded, for example, as a supplemental study tool or to support equity and access to educational resources;

If you have any concerns about the use or accuracy of your personal information collected in a lecture recording, you may approach your Subject Coordinator to discuss your particular circumstances.

The University is committed to ensuring your privacy is protected. If you have a concern about how your personal information is being used or managed, please refer to the University's Privacy Policy or consult our Privacy webpage <https://www.uow.edu.au/privacy/>

Tutorial/Seminar/Workshop Times

The Faculty uses the SMP Online Tutorial System and your class times and locations can be found at <https://www.uow.edu.au/student/timetables/index.html>. Please note that class times on the timetable are provisional and may change.

Tutorial/Seminar/Workshop Program

Where the restrictions require temporary adjustments for delivery and tutorial/seminar/workshop arrangements, any necessary changes will be advised and provided by your Subject Coordinator. Please check Subject Moodle site regularly

Week	Week Commencing	Topics Covered	Readings and Activities
1	02 Mar 2026	NO PRAC – orient yourself with the subject	
2	09 Mar 2026	1. Pipette & amino acids	
3	16 Mar 2026	2. Electrophoresis	
4	23 Mar 2026	NO PRAC – catch up and review subject content	
5	30 Mar 2026	Module 1 workshop	
6	06 Apr 2026	Mid-session Quiz (20%)	
7	13 Apr 2026	3. DNA replication	
	20 Apr 2026	Mid-Session Recess	
8	27 Apr 2026	NO PRAC – catch up and review subject content	
9	04 May 2026	Module 2 workshop	
10	11 May 2026	4. Enzyme kinetics I	
11	18 May 2026	5. Enzyme kinetics II	
12	25 May 2026	6. Enzyme kinetics III assessment prac	
13	01 Jun 2026	Module 3 workshop	
	08 Jun 2026	Study Recess	
	13 Jun 2026	Examinations	
	20 Jun 2026	Examinations	

The above program may be subject to change.

Recent Improvements to Subject

The Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health is committed to continual improvement in teaching and learning and takes into consideration student feedback from many sources including, direct student feedback to tutors and lecturers and responses to the Subject and Course Evaluation Surveys. Feedback is also used to inform comprehensive reviews of subjects and courses.

Extraordinary Changes to the Subject Outline

In extraordinary circumstances the provisions stipulated in this Subject Outline may require amendment after the Subject Outline has been distributed. All students enrolled in the subject must be notified and have the opportunity to provide feedback in relation to the amendment, where practicable, prior to the amendment being finalised.

Learning Analytics

Learning Analytics data (such as student engagement with Moodle, access to recorded lectures, University Library usage, task marks, and use of SOLS) may be used by the Subject Coordinator and your faculty's Head of Students to assist in analysing student engagement, and to identify and recommend support for students identified who may be in need of assistance. If you have questions about the kinds of data the University uses, how we collect it, and how we protect your privacy in the use of this data, please refer to <https://www.uow.edu.au/privacy/>

Section B: Assessment

Assessment Summary

Assessment Item	Form of Assessment	%
Assessment 1	Quiz	20%
Assessment 2	Quiz	20%
Assessment 3	Assignment	15%
Assessment 4	Lab/Prac/Simulation	15%
Assessment 5	Exam	30%
TOTAL MARKS		100%

Please note: Copies of student work may be retained by the University in order to facilitate quality assurance of assessment processes.

Assessment 1: Quiz - Practical post-lab quizzes

Marking Criteria	Marked against a standardised answer sheet
Length	Between 6-10 Moodle quiz questions.
Weighting	20%
Assessment Due	15 Mar 2026 (Sunday in Session Week 2) 22 Mar 2026 (Sunday in Session Week 3) 19 Apr 2026 (Sunday in Session Week 7) 24 May 2026 (Sunday in Session Week 11)
Type of Collaboration	Individual assessment
Style and format	Online quiz questions
Generative AI use	In this assessment, the use of any GenAI technology is prohibited.
Assessment submission	To be completed online by Sunday 10 pm following each prac class.
Assessment return	Within 21 days of due date
Detailed information	There are pre-lab quizzes associated with each practical, these are not the post-lab quizzes and the marks are not included in the 20% post lab quiz marks, but students must complete the prelab (available on the BIOL213 Moodle site) BEFORE they attend their laboratory class. Access to the post-lab quiz will be restricted until you have successfully completed the relevant pre-lab quiz. The post-lab quizzes will contain experimental data, calculations and quiz-style questions pertaining to that week's practical class. There will be 4 quizzes in total, and each is worth 5 %.

Assessment 2: Quiz - Mid-session theory quiz

Marking Criteria	Marked against a standardised answer sheet
Length	1 hour
Weighting	20%
Assessment Due	To Be Announced
Type of Collaboration	Individual assessment
Style and format	On campus during scheduled classes. In-person, closed book quiz. Combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. In 43.104 lab during your allocated lab time in Week 6.
Generative AI use	In this assessment, the use of any GenAI technology is prohibited.

	The content for your final submission must be your original work. Use of GenAI technology may result in an academic misconduct investigation.
Assessment submission	On campus during scheduled classes
Assessment return	Within 21 days of due date
Detailed information	Multiple choice and short answer questions covering the theory content of module 1 of the subject The Mid-Semester Quiz will be completed in Week 6 during your allocated laboratory time. If you miss the Mid-Semester Quiz due to illness or other misadventure you should apply for Academic Consideration with supporting documentation to request an opportunity to sit a deferred quiz.

Assessment 3: Assignment - Laboratory notebook worksheets

Marking Criteria	Marked against a standardised answer sheet. Successful completion of laboratory activity; correct calculations, equations, diagrams and/or observations; correct short answer questions to reflect on understanding of laboratory concepts.
Length	Completed during practical class time and submitted by 10 pm the Sunday of that practical class week via Feedback fruits on Moodle.
Weighting	15%
Assessment Due	15 Mar 2026 (Sunday in Session Week 2) 22 Mar 2026 (Sunday in Session Week 3) 19 Apr 2026 (Sunday in Session Week 7) 17 May 2026 (Sunday in Session Week 10) 24 May 2026 (Sunday in Session Week 11)
Type of Collaboration	Individual assessment and group work
Style and format	Practical worksheets (submitted as a group for selected worksheets and individually for the rest). Short answer questions may require explanations of content or calculations from the experiments. You may require recording observations, calculations, equations, graphs and diagrams to record laboratory data. Short answer questions completed at the end of the laboratory class allow students to reflect on their understanding of the laboratory concepts. Key practical skills (assessed individually) that will address subject learning outcome number 6. During laboratory classes you will be assessed on up to 6 practical skills.
Generative AI use	In this assessment, the use of any GenAI technology is prohibited. It is important to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • keep drafts of your work as you may be asked to demonstrate how you developed an assessment item. • ask your Subject Coordinator if you are unsure of assessment instructions. <p>The content for your final submission must be your original work. Use of GenAI technology may result in an academic misconduct investigation.</p>
Assessment submission	The laboratory notebook worksheets will be submitted via Feedback fruits on Moodle. The key practical skills will be marked off in class by your demonstrator.
Assessment return	Within 21 days of due date
Detailed information	The purpose of the worksheet assessment is to demonstrate the ability to work in groups, record and analyse data collected in practical class, and

	<p>answer questions pertaining to the class. In addition to enhancing individual practical skills.</p> <p>Two of the five worksheets will be marked, but all worksheets need to be submitted for participation marks.</p> <p>For each of the 2 marked worksheets: the overall worksheet mark will be a composite of the group submitted worksheet mark, and the individual mark associated with the key practical skills.</p>
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Assessment 4: Lab/Prac/Simulation - Practical assessment

Marking Criteria	Marked against a standardised answer sheet.
Length	1hr and 20 mins during practical allocated hours in week 12.
Weighting	15%
Assessment Due	To Be Announced
Type of Collaboration	Individual assessment
Style and format	<p>On campus during scheduled classes. In 43.104 lab during your allocated lab time in Week 12.</p> <p>The assessment will be delivered as a simulated activity using a lab data generator. The simulated lab activity will be based on a practical that you have conducted previously in the laboratory during the subject but with slight variation to determine an unknown inhibitor. Quiz questions to follow will be based on the understanding of the data generated by the simulation and the methodology behind it. The quiz will be completed via Moodle on campus and will include a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. There will also be a practical activity assessing pipetting skills associated with that assessment on campus.</p>
Generative AI use	<p>In this assessment, the use of any GenAI technology is prohibited. It is important to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • keep drafts of your work as you may be asked to demonstrate how you developed an assessment item. • ask your Subject Coordinator if you are unsure of assessment instructions. <p>The content for your final submission must be your original work. Use of GenAI technology may result in an academic misconduct investigation.</p>
Assessment return	Within 21 days of due date
Detailed information	<p>The practical assessment is based on the lab data generator simulation. Students will be given access to the lab data generator which they will be able to access using computers available in the lab, as well as on personal devices at home. It will test your analytical and interpretation capability and your ability to run an experiment related to the enzyme kinetics module. It will virtually test your attention to detail through your ability to pipette the correct amounts, include the proper controls, and troubleshoot common problems you may face related to pipetting. Students will be expected to interpret data, identify possible errors in their results. This assessment will also assess your ability to analyse data using spreadsheets, such as Excel, which may include generating standard curves and other related graphs associated with the enzyme kinetics module. Students will be provided with information regarding the use of Excel for data analysis in this subject, however it is strongly recommended that if you are not familiar with using software such as Excel, then you utilise some study time to review some videos (examples: Excel Full Course Tutorial (4+ Hours); Data Analysis using Excel Tutorial For Beginners MS Excel Training Edureka MS Excel Live - 3 - YouTube) which details different ways of using Excel for data analysis.</p>

Assessment 5: Exam - Final exam

Marking Criteria	Marked against a standardised answer sheet
Length	2 hours
Weighting	30%
Assessment Due	The final exam will be held during the UOW exam period, and students should ensure they are available during this period. Students will receive a SOLSmail advising when full details of the delivery format, and date of the final exam are available in the SOLS Exam Timetable.
Type of Collaboration	Individual assessment
Style and format	The final exam will be invigilated and held on campus. The questions will relate to content from Modules 2 and 3: lectures 10-23 (weeks 6-13). Some questions may assess some practical/workshop content. •What is the format? Short answer questions (SAQs) on paper and multiple choice questions (MCQs) via a Moodle quiz online.
Generative AI use	In this assessment, the use of any GenAI technology is prohibited. The content for your final submission must be your original work. Use of GenAI technology may result in an academic misconduct investigation.
Detailed information	The Final Exam will be held during the exam period. If you miss the Final Exam due to illness or other misadventure you should apply for Academic Consideration with supporting documentation to request an opportunity to sit a deferred exam. Additional information regarding the format and question style will be made available via the Moodle site towards the end of session.

Minimum Requirements to Pass this Subject

Minimum Student Attendance and Participation

It is expected that students will allocate 12 hours per week to this subject, including any required class attendance, completion of prescribed readings and assessment tasks.

Student attendance at practical's and workshops is compulsory and students must attend 100% of practical and workshop classes. Absences will require the submission of an application for Academic Consideration via SOLS and the presentation of suitable documentation, for example a Medical Certificate, to Student Central as soon as practical. For further details about applying for academic consideration visit the Student Central webpage: <http://www.uow.edu.au/student/central/academicconsideration/index.html>

If you miss a practical or workshop class for whatever reason, you must submit an application for Academic Consideration via SOLS. If required, you should also contact the subject coordinator as soon as possible. All practical's are assessable whether you attend or not, therefore the onus is on you to catch up on any material that you may have missed. You must do this by personal study and by seeking assistance from fellow students in your group, lecturers and/or demonstrators if necessary.

Minimum Requirements for a Pass in this Subject

To receive a clear pass in this subject a total mark of 50% or more must be achieved. In addition, failure to meet any of the hurdle requirements is grounds for awarding a Technical Fail (TF) in the subject, even where total marks accumulated are greater than 50%.

The hurdles for this subject are:

- Obtaining 45% of the available marks on the combined result from the theory-related assessment tasks (2 and 5), and
- Obtaining 50% of the available marks on the combined result from the practical-related assessment tasks (1,3 and 4)

Hurdle Assessment

Subjects may include a hurdle assessment. A hurdle assessment is an assessment that requires a minimum level of performance as a condition for passing the subject. Examples include, achievement of a pass grade or above in a skills-based assessment or final examination. Hurdle assessments are applied to subjects to ensure students:

1. meet learning outcomes
2. demonstrate you can complete a task safely and/or meet professional standards.

For more on hurdle assessments see the Assessment and Feedback Policy [Section 8: Hurdle Assessments \(50-51-52\)](#).

Failure to meet a hurdle assessment requirement may constitute grounds for the award of a Technical Fail (TF) grade in this subject.

Should this subject contain a hurdle assessment, it will be stated under the specific assessment in Section B: Assessments.

UOW Grade Descriptors

The UOW Grade Descriptors are general statements that communicate what our grades represent, in terms of standards of performance, and provide a frame of reference to ensure that assessment practice across the University is appropriate, consistent and fair. Grade Descriptors are expressed in general terms so that they are applicable to a broad range of disciplines. Grade Descriptors are available here <https://www.uow.edu.au/student/exams/results/>. For more information on the UOW grade descriptors refer to the Teaching and Assessment: Assessment and Feedback Policy: [Teaching and Assessment: Assessment and Feedback Policy](#)

Assessment Learning Outcome Matrix

Learning Outcomes	Measures - Assessment weighting				
	Practical post-lab quizzes (20%)	Mid-session theory quiz (20%)	Laboratory notebook worksheets (15%)	Practical assessment (15%)	Final exam (30%)
Describe the major classes of macromolecules and their subunits;		✓			
Describe the basic principles of enzyme function;					✓
Describe the information flow from DNA to protein;					✓
Perform the calculations necessary to relate physical amounts and concentrations of biochemicals;	✓		✓	✓	
Interpret biochemical data and reach valid scientific conclusions;	✓		✓	✓	
Display the following experimental skills: i) Safe and responsible conduct in laboratories, ii) The ability to dispense and manipulate small (μl) volumes accurately, iii) Use and understand the operation of a limited range of modern laboratory equipment.			✓	✓	

Submission, Retention and Collection of Written Assessment

Assessed work must be handed in by the date and time listed under each assessment task. All assessment tasks must represent the enrolled student's own ORIGINAL work and must not have been previously submitted for assessment in any formal course of study.

Extensions

Students requesting an extension of time to submit an assessment task, deferred exam or exemption of a compulsory attendance requirement, must apply using Academic Consideration through SOLS. Students must apply before, or on the assessment/s due date and where evidence is required, students must provide evidence no later than three working days after the assessable item's due date for their request to be considered. **For information on the Academic Consideration Policy, eligibility requirements and how to apply, see:** <https://www.uow.edu.au/student/admin/academic-consideration/>

Late Submission of Assessment Tasks and Penalties

Assessed work must be submitted in by the date and time given. If an assessment is submitted late, it will be marked in the normal way, and a penalty will then be applied.

In the absence of an approved request for Academic Consideration in the form of an extension, assessment tasks must be submitted in line with the assessment instructions.

- An assessment task that is submitted late will receive a penalty of 5% of the total possible marks for each 24-hour period, or part thereof, that it is late.
- Work submitted after seven calendar days will not be marked and will be given a mark of 0.
- No assessment task can be handed in for a mark once the assessment task has been returned to students.
- Penalties accrue on each day that the assessment task is late, including Saturday, Sunday and public holidays

Note: Assessments must still be submitted to meet minimum performance requirements even though no mark is to be awarded.

Collection

Students will be notified when they can collect or view their marked assessment. In accordance with University Policy marked assessments will usually only be held for 21 days after the declaration of marks for that assessment.

Retention

The university may retain copies of student work in order to facilitate quality assurance of assessment processes, in support of the continuous improvement of assessment design, assessment marking and for the review of the subject. The University retains records of students' academic work in accordance with the University Records Management Policy and the State Records Act 1988 and uses these records in accordance with the University Privacy Policy and the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Scaling

Marks awarded for any assessment task or part of any assessment task, including an examination may be subject to scaling at the end of the session. Marks will be scaled only when unpredicted circumstances occur and in order to ensure fairness of marking across groups of students. The method of scaling will depend on the type of scaling required by the circumstances. When scaling is deemed necessary, it will follow a detailed consideration by the Unit Assessment Committee and/or the Faculty Assessment Committee of the marks of the group of students concerned. Scaling will not affect any individual student's rank order within their cohort. For more information please refer to [Finalisation of Student Results Policy](#) for details.

Supplementary Assessment

Supplementary assessment may be offered to students whose performance in this subject is close to that required to pass the subject, and are otherwise identified as meriting an offer of a supplementary assessment. For information about eligibility criteria and the form and timing of supplementary assessments see the [Supplementary Assessment Procedure](#)

Review and Appeal of Academic Decisions

A student may request an explanation of a mark for an assessment task or a final grade for a subject consistent with the student's right to appropriate and useful feedback on their performance in an assessment task. A student may also seek further explanation for other academic decisions such as Academic Consideration, Supplementary Assessment or Credit for Prior Learning. If a student is not satisfied with the explanation, or have further concerns, they may have grounds for a formal review. For further information refer to [Review and Appeal of Academic Decisions Policy](#)

Assessment Quality Cycle

The UOW Assessment Quality Cycle provides a level of assurance that assessment practices across the University are appropriate, consistent and fair. Quality assurance activities are undertaken to support the continuous improvement of assessment and promote good practices in relation to assessment design, marking and review of the subject prior to subsequent delivery.

Academic Integrity

The University's Academic Integrity Policy, faculty handbook and subject guides clearly set out the University's expectation that students submit only their own original work for assessment and avoid plagiarising the work of others or cheating. Re-using any of your own work (either in part or in full) which you have submitted previously for assessment is not permitted without appropriate acknowledgement. Plagiarism can be detected and has led to students being expelled from the University.

The use by students of any website that provides access to essays or other assessment items (sometimes marketed as 'resources'), is extremely unwise. Students who provide an assessment item (or provide access to an assessment item) to others, either directly or indirectly (for example by uploading an assessment item to a website) are considered by the university to be intentionally or recklessly helping other students to cheat. Uploading an assessment task, subject outline or other course materials without express permission of the University is considered academic misconduct and students place themselves at risk of being expelled from the University.

Students should visit the following University website and become familiar with the University's policy on plagiarism [Academic Integrity Policy](#)

Referencing

The Author-Date (Harvard) referencing system should, unless otherwise specified for a particular assessment (check Details of Assessment Tasks), be utilised. A summary of the Harvard system can be accessed on the Library website at: <http://uow.libguides.com/refcite>

Section C: General Advice for Students - Policies and Procedures

Student Services and Support

There are a range of services available to students that are provided free of charge. A good place to get to know services that may be of use to you is the [Get Started @ UOW](#) or search for "Get Started @ UOW". Services available include:

Service	Link to information about the service
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander	https://www.uow.edu.au/about/services/woolyungah-indigenous-centre/about-us/
Careers advice	https://www.uow.edu.au/student/careers/
Counselling	https://www.uow.edu.au/student/support-services/counselling/
Student Accessibility and Inclusion (SAI)	https://www.uow.edu.au/student/support-services/sai/
Information Tech.	https://www.uow.edu.au/its/index.html?ssSourceSiteId=getstarted
Study Skills	https://www.uow.edu.au/student/support-services/academic-skills/

Student Support Coordinator (SSC)

If you have a temporary or ongoing issue or a problem that is affecting your study, including issues that are related to belonging to an equity group, then the Student Support Coordinators may be able to help. There are Student Support Coordinators available to assist students who are studying at all UOW Campuses and in all UOW Faculties. Contact details can be found on the UOW website: <https://www.uow.edu.au/student/support-services/coordinators/>

Student Advocacy Service

The Student Advocacy Service (SAS) is free, confidential and independent service for all UOW students. The SAS provides advocacy and referral for a range of academic, procedural and administrative issues. For more information visit: <https://www.uow.edu.au/student/support-services/advocacy/>

AskUOW

AskUOW is your primary administrative and information contact during your studies.

Our purpose is to ensure students have access to the information they need, at the time they need it. We can help with a wide range of enquiries, including key topics such as:

- Applying for [academic consideration](#)
- Fees and scholarships
- Official documentation and student letter requests
- Student forms such as course transfer and leave of absence applications
- Student ID card issuance and replacement
- Subject enrolment
- Transport concession cards and Opal cards
- Updating personal details

Get instant answers 24/7 online using [AskUOW](#). Log in with your UOW username and password.

For further support contact askuow@uow.edu.au or call on 1300 275 869 (1300 ASK UOW) or +61 2 4221 3927.

Library Services

Save yourself time and enhance your studies: connect with information specialists and resources anytime, anywhere.

- For Library support connect with [Live Chat](#) or [contact the Library](#).
- For self-help see [Frequently Asked Questions](#) or browse [Library guides](#) to find information, databases and skills tutorials.
- [Research consultations](#) are available to UOW Postgraduate, Honours and Deans Scholar students.

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity involves upholding ethical standards in all aspects of academic work, including learning, teaching and research. It involves acting with the principles of honesty, fairness, trust and responsibility and requires respect for knowledge and its development. The Policy can be found at:

<https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=26>

Code of Practice - Research

This Code mandates the current policy and best practice relating to procedures for responsible research. The Code can be found at: <https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=11>

Honours Policy

This policy sets out the responsibilities of all parties involved in managing students undertaking Honours Programs. The Code can be found at: <https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=36>

The Code of Practice - Work Integrated Learning (Professional Experience)

The Code of Practice - Work Integrated Learning (Professional Experience) sets out what is expected from students, the University and Host Organisations in providing work integrated learning professional experience programs. It applies to professional experience programs that form the whole or part of a subject or course offered at the University. The Code assists in promoting a productive work integrated learning experience for students and in promoting relevant UOW Work Integrated Learning Design Principles.

<https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=12>

Copyright Policy

The purpose of this Policy is to outline responsibilities and procedures regarding the use of third party copyright material, with the objectives of reducing staff and UOW exposure to the risks associated with the use of third party copyright material, assisting staff to make full legal use of the materials at their disposal by clearly identifying responsibilities and promoting copyright compliance. The Policy can be found at:

<https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=135>

Course Progress Policy

The Course Progress Policy establishes the requirements, definitions and procedures to be used in determining the standards of acceptable course progress. The Policy can be found at:

<https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=30>

Examination Rules and Procedures

The UOW rules and procedures outline exam conditions, student conduct in exams, and the procedures for exam management. Further information can be found here: <https://www.uow.edu.au/student/exams/>

Ethical Objection by Students to the Use of Animal and Animal Products in Coursework Subjects

This policy provides a framework for recognition of and responses to students' ethical or religious objection to animal use in coursework subjects at the University of Wollongong. For the purpose of this policy, animal use includes killing of animals in experimental work, dissection of animals that are already dead, use of animal tissues, use of animal-derived products (such as sera). These uses are relevant to teaching and assessment. Further information about this policy can be found here: <https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=154>

Coursework Rules

The Coursework Rules (hereafter the Rules) govern the admission, enrolment, progression through, and qualification for a coursework award offered by the University. Further information can be found here: <https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=4>

Human Research Ethics

The Human Research Ethics Committee protects the welfare and rights of the participants in research activities. Further information can be found here: <https://www.uow.edu.au/research-and-innovation/researcher-support/ethics/human-ethics/>

Inclusive Language Guidelines

UOW endorses a policy of non-discriminatory language practice in all academic and administrative activities of the University. Further information is available from: <https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=239>

Intellectual Property Policy

UOW's IP Intellectual Property Policy provides guidance on the approach taken to Intellectual Property (IP), including its ownership, protection and exploitation. Further information about the management of IP is available at <https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=146>

Review and Appeal of Academic Decisions Policy

UOW aims to provide a transparent and consistent process for resolving a student concern about an academic decision that has affected their academic progress, including a mark or grade. Further information is available at: <https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=40>

Student Academic Consideration Policy

The purpose of the Student Academic Consideration Policy is to enable student requests for academic consideration for assessable components of a subject to be evaluated in a fair, reasonable, timely and consistent manner throughout the University. **For information on the Policy, eligibility and how to apply see:** <https://www.uow.edu.au/student/admin/academic-consideration/>

The Student Charter - Your Rights and Responsibilities

The Student Charter is based on principles that guide all members of the University and that promote responsible partnerships within and beyond the University community. <https://www.uow.edu.au/student/charter/>

Student Assignment of Intellectual Property (IP) Policy

This policy applies to all Students (under-graduate and post-graduate) of the University of Wollongong (UOW). It may also apply to other persons by agreement. This policy sets out the approach taken by UOW in relation to Student assignment of intellectual property. Further information about this policy can be found here: <https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=146>

Student Conduct Rules

These Rules outline the required conduct of students of UOW, and direct staff and students to University Rules, standards, codes, policies, guidelines, procedures and other requirements which specify acceptable and unacceptable student conduct, and the management of alleged student misconduct.

<https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=6>

Teaching and Assessment: Assessment and Feedback Policy

The purpose of this Policy is to set out the University of Wollongong's approach to effective learning, teaching and assessment, including the principles and minimum standards underlying teaching and assessment practice.

The Policy can be found at: <https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=38>

Teaching and Assessment: Code of Practice - Teaching

This Code is a key document in implementing the University's Teaching and Assessment Policy and sets out the specific responsibilities of parties affected in relation to learning, teaching and assessment, as well as procedures for teaching staff. The Code can be found at: <https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=9>

Teaching and Assessment: Subject Delivery Policy

This Policy sets out specific requirements in relation to the delivery of Subjects. The policy can be found at:

<https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=39>

Workplace Health & Safety Policy

The Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) unit at UOW aims to provide structures, system and support to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all at the campus. Further information is available from:

<https://policies.uow.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=177>