



BT4506

**Advanced Bio-
Business**

**Course Handbook
2018-19**

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Cover image:

Confocal micrograph of fluorescently labelled HeLa cells.

Nuclei are labelled in blue, tubulin in green and actin fibres in red.

Courtesy of:

Kevin Mackenzie

Microscopy and Histology Core Facility

Institute of Medical Sciences

University of Aberdeen

<http://www.abdn.ac.uk/ims/microscopy-histology>

Course Summary

This course will build on the work of the previous two courses and challenge students to develop their own virtual bio-business. Many future recruitment opportunities for students with a medical science background may involve roles in bio-business development rather than exclusively research at the bench. This course will enable our students to be at a competitive advantage when seeking such career opportunities when compared to those students that have a traditional scientific background only.

Course Aims & Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course the student will:

1. Know and understand the language, key terminology and methodology associated with the development of a successful drug discovery bio-business.
2. Discuss the reasons why the outcomes are influenced strongly by commercial pressures, milestones and deliverables rather than simply the quality of scientific endeavour.
3. Understand the way a business develops, the costs involved and how financial risk is managed in a small biotechnology based enterprise.
4. Devise a commercialisation process (virtual) from a scientific idea to a viable business opportunity.

Course Teaching Staff

Course Co-ordinator(s):

Professor Heather M. Wallace (ext. 7956)

Other Staff:

Professor Iain Gibson, IMS, School of Medicine, Medical Sciences & Nutrition

Professor Andy Porter, IMS, School of Medicine, Medical Sciences & Nutrition

Assessments & Examinations

Course Assignments

There are 3 assignments in the course:

Assessment 1: - Hand in 22nd February 2019

Essay (approx. 1500 words) – What is the role of a Board and/or Senior Management Team?
– include the role of individual Board/Management Members (e.g. CEO or CSO etc.).

Please focus your answer on the particular situation found in an SME Biotechnology company.

Assessment 2 - 25th March 2019 (to be confirmed)

- Company Presentation (as per Dragon's Den)
- 25 min presentation plus around 10 min questions
- You are an SME Biotech company
- You are less than 5 years old
- You can be in any biotech space
- Feel free to make up science (within reason!)
- Role play (CEO, CFO, CSO, CBO, COO etc). You may need to take on a couple of roles
- All to present

Assessment 3 – Hand in 5th April 2019

- Executive Summary of the Company you presented to the Dragons (approx. 1500 words)

The course will be assessed by continuous assessment (100%). All assignments will be marked on the common grading scale (CGS, copy attached).

Continuous Assessment

- One essay 40%; one presentation 30%; one Executive Summary 30%.

Resit Examination

- One written paper of 2 hours with 2 questions to be answered out of 4. Students must pass the written resit examination.

Class Representatives

We value students' opinions in regard to enhancing the quality of teaching and its delivery; therefore in conjunction with the Students' Association we support the Class Representative system.

In the School of Medicine, Medical Sciences & Nutrition we operate a system of course representatives, who are elected from within each course. Any student registered within a course that wishes to represent a given group of students can stand for election as a class representative. You will be informed when the elections for class representative will take place.

What will it involve?

It will involve speaking to your fellow students about the course you represent. This can include any comments that they may have. You will attend a Staff-Student Liaison Committee and you should represent the views and concerns of the students within this meeting. As a

representative you will also be able to contribute to the agenda. You will then feedback to the students after this meeting with any actions that are being taken.

Training

Training for class representatives will be run by the Students Association. Training will take place within each half-session. For more information about the Class representative system visit www.ausa.org.uk or email the VP Education & Employability vped@abdn.ac.uk. Class representatives are also eligible to undertake the STAR (Students Taking Active Roles) Award with further information about this co-curricular award being available at: www.abdn.ac.uk/careers.

Problems with Coursework

If students have difficulties with any part of the course that they cannot cope with alone they should notify the course coordinator immediately. If the problem relates to the subject matter general advice would be to contact the member of staff who is teaching that part of the course. Students with registered disabilities should contact Mrs Jenna Reynolds (HYPERLINK "mailto:"medsci@abdn.ac.uk) in the School Office (based in the IMS, Foresterhill), or Mrs Sheila Jones (s.jones@abdn.ac.uk) in the Old Aberdeen office associated with the teaching laboratories, to ensure that the appropriate facilities have been made available. Otherwise, you are strongly encouraged to contact any of the following as you see appropriate:

- Course student representatives
- Course co-ordinator
- Convenor of the Medical Sciences Staff/Student Liaison Committee (Prof Gordon McEwan)
- Personal Tutor
- Medical Sciences Disabilities Co-ordinator (Dr Derryck Shewan)

All staff are based at Foresterhill and we strongly encourage the use of email or telephone the Medical Sciences Office. You may have a wasted journey travelling to Foresterhill only to find staff unavailable.

If a course has been completed and students are no longer on campus (i.e. work from second semester during the summer vacation), coursework will be kept until the end of Freshers' Week, during the new academic year. After that point, unclaimed student work will be securely destroyed.

Course Reading List

Staff will recommend relevant reading or resources as appropriate throughout the course.

Lecture Synopsis

The course is run via a series of tutorials and workshops rather than formal lectures. These will normally be 1.5 h long and will all be interactive sessions.

Practical/Lab/Tutorial Work

There is no practical work for this course.

University Policies

Students are asked to make themselves familiar with the information on key institutional policies which been made available within MyAberdeen (<https://abdn.blackboard.com/bbcswebdav/institution/Policies>). These policies are relevant to all students and will be useful to you throughout your studies. They contain important information and address issues such as what to do if you are absent, how to raise an appeal or a complaint and how seriously the University takes your feedback.

These institutional policies should be read in conjunction with this programme and/or course handbook, in which School and College specific policies are detailed. Further information can be found on the [University's Infohub webpage](#) or by visiting the Infohub.

The information included in the institutional area for 2017/18 includes the following:

- Absence
- Academic Appeals & Complaints
- Assessment (Common Grading Scale)
- Codes of Practice on Student Discipline (Academic and Non-Academic)
- Class Certificates
- Recording of Lectures
- Exam Results
- Transcripts
- MyAberdeen
- TurnitinUK
- Feedback
- Communication
- Aberdeen Graduate Attributes
- The Co-Curriculum

Medical Sciences Common Grading Scale

Grade	Grade Point	% Mark	Category	Honours Class	Description
A1	22	90-100	Excellent	First	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outstanding ability and critical thought Evidence of extensive reading Superior understanding The best performance that can be expected from a student at this level
A2	21	85-89			
A3	20	80-84			
A4	19	75-79			
A5	18	70-74			
B1	17	67-69	Very Good	Upper Second	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to argue logically and organise answers well Shows a thorough grasp of concepts Good use of examples to illustrate points and justify arguments Evidence of reading and wide appreciation of subject
B2	16	64-66			
B3	15	60-63			
C1	14	57-59	Good	Lower Second	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repetition of lecture notes without evidence of further appreciation of subject Lacking illustrative examples and originality Basic level of understanding
C2	13	54-56			
C3	12	50-53			
D1	11	47-49	Pass	Third	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited ability to argue logically and organise answers Failure to develop or illustrate points The minimum level of performance required for a student to be awarded a pass
D2	10	44-46			
D3	9	40-43			
E1	8	37-39	Fail	Fail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weak presentation Tendency to irrelevance Some attempt at an answer but seriously lacking in content and/or ability to organise thoughts
E2	7	34-36			
E3	6	30-33			
F1	5	26-29	Clear Fail	Not used for Honours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains major errors or misconceptions Poor presentation
F2	4	21-25			
F3	3	16-20			
G1	2	11-15	Clear Fail/ Abysmal	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Token or no submission
G2	1	1-10			
G3	0	0			

Course Timetable BT4506: 2018-2019

Date	Time	Room	Title	Session	Staff
Week 25					
Fri 18 Jan	14:00-16:00	Med Chi	Introduction to the course and assessments	Lecture	AJP/HMW
Week 26					
Thu 24 Jan	09:00-10:00	Med Chi	*Group Discussion 1	Group	HMW
	10:00-11:00				
	11:00-12:00				
Week 27					
Thu 31 Jan	09:00-10:00	Med Chi	*Group Discussion 2	Group	IRG
	10:00-11:00				
	11:00-12:00				
Week 28					
Thu 7 Feb	09:00-10:00	Med Chi	*Group Discussion 3	Group	HMW
	10:00-11:00				
	11:00-12:00				
Week 29					
Thu 14 Feb	09:00-10:00	Med Chi	*Group Discussion 4	Group	AJP
	10:00-11:00				
	11:00-12:00				
Week 30					
Thu 21 Feb	09:00-10:00	Med Chi	*Group Discussion 5	Group	HMW
	10:00-11:00				
	11:00-12:00				
Week 35					
Mon 25 Mar	14:00-18:00	Med Chi	Dragons Den Presentation	Presentation	HMW/IRG/AJP/Invited Experts

*** Group discussions will be approx. 30 min with each group. Timings and groups will be decided at the first lecture and will remain the same throughout.**

Staff

- Professor Heather M Wallace (HMW) - Course Co-ordinator
- Professor Iain Gibson (IRG)
- Professor Andy J Porter (AJP)