

Detailed curriculum for the course:

Research Symposium

Academic year:	2025/2026
Program:	Biotechnology for the Life Sciences (2 nd year)
Course code:	BLS203
ECTS points:	3
Language of the course:	English
Teaching hours:	30 hours (all seminary)
Pre-requisites for enrolment:	Completion of two "Laboratory Apprenticeships" courses and BLS106 "Research Proposal and Poster Presentation".

Course leader and contact information:

Title and name:	Assistant Prof. Toni Todorovski
E-mail:	toni.todorovski@uniri.hr
Time period:	18 th May 2026 – 09 th June 2026
Teaching staff:	Assistant Prof. Toni Todorovski (3 hour seminar) Assistant Prof. Nicholas Bradshaw (1 hour seminar) Mentors (26 h seminars)

Required literature:

- Will be set by each individual student's mentor.
- Students are encouraged to independently search the literature on topics relevant to the course.

Course description:

The aim of the course is to allow students to further develop their soft skills including data collection and analysis, scientific writing and oral presentation. This will be done at the "Biotechnology for the Life Sciences" symposium. "Biotechnology for the Life Sciences" symposium is a half-day symposium, to which all staff and students of the Department of Biotechnology will be invited. At this symposium, second year students will present their research accomplished in the form of short (15 minute) oral presentations together with first year students that will present their research proposals in the form of poster presentations. This course will help students to:

- 1) Collect and analyse their research data
- 2) Designing a presentation for the symposium
- 3) Present their work at the symposium
- 4) Integrate suggestions obtained at the symposium into their final thesis writing

Learning outcomes:

Upon completion of the course program, students will be able to:

- collect their research data and summarize the results
- design the presentation in written and oral form (Powerpoint presentation + 15 minute talk)
- acquire confidence in sharing their work, through written and spoken forms of communication
- present their research proposal in the form of poster presentations
- get feedback on their proposal from other professors and students

Detailed course content:

This course should prepare students for the final phase of their research project that includes data collection, scientific writing and oral presentation. These achievements will be presented at the “Biotechnology for the Life Sciences” symposium.

“Biotechnology for the Life Sciences” symposium will be a half-day event, to which all staff and students of the Department of Biotechnology will be invited. Second year students will present their research accomplished in the form of oral presentations. The course leader and mentors will assist students during the preparation of the oral presentation. Grading will be assigned by a panel of professors. During the symposium students will also receive feedback from other students and staff, which will greatly help with writing their thesis.

B. Seminars (30 hours)

Students will, collectively, take part in two seminars focused on presentation skills and the structure of the final master’s thesis defense. Other seminars will occur individually with mentors, to help them prepare their presentations.

Requirements, methods of assessment and evaluation:**Examination deadlines:****Qualification and grades (according to *Pravilniku o studijima Sveučilišta u Rijeci*):***Assessment during the course (50%)*

Students will obtain score during the course, in the following areas:

Seminar work (50%): – Assessment of the PowerPoint (or equivalent) slides prepared for use in the presentation, to be submitted to the course leader prior to the final exam/symposium

Final exam (50%)

The final exam will be the presentation given at the research symposium, as well as questions asked by the audience and panel afterwards. Eligibility to sit the final exam will be based on scores achieved during the course (out of a maximum of 50%).

- Students scoring between 0 and 34.9% will not be allowed to take the final exam
- Students scoring 35% and above will be allowed to take the final exam

Final grades

The following grades will be awarded based on the final score:

Percentage score	ECTS grade	Numerical grade
90% to 100%	A	Excellent (5)
75% to 89.9%	B	Very good (4)
60% to 74.9%	C	Good (3)
50% to 59.9%	D	Satisfactory (2)
0% to 49.9%	F	Unsatisfactory (1)

The final grade is based on the sum of percentage points accumulated during the course and on the final exam. Passing grades are excellent (5), very good (4), good (3) and satisfactory (2).

To complete the course students must attain a passing mark for the entire course (50% or higher) as well as achieving at least 15% of the 30% available on the final exam.

Schedule of classes:

Date	Group	Time	Room*	Activity	Lecturer
19.05.26	All	10:00-11:00	O-268	S1	Toni Todorovski
21.05.26	All	11:00-12:00	O-268	S2	Nicholas Bradshaw
18.05.26 - 05.06.26	All			Seminars, be arranged with lectures and mentors	
08.06.26	All	10:00-12:00		S3	Toni Todorovski
09.06.26	All	10:00-15:00		Final exam	

Additional information:

Academic integrity

Students are required to respect the principles of academic integrity, and refer to the documents: *Ethical rules of the University of Rijeka* and *Ethical rules for students*.