BIOLOGY
Subject Code – 044
Classes XI - XII (2025-26)

The present curriculum provides the students with updated concepts along with an extended exposure to contemporary areas of the subject. The curriculum also aims at emphasizing the underlying principles that are common to animals, plants and microorganisms as well as highlighting the relationship of Biology with other areas of knowledge. The format allows a simple, clear, sequential flow of concepts. It links the discoveries and innovations in biology to everyday life such as environment, industry, health and agriculture. The Biology curriculum is expected to enable the students to:

- develop capacities for observation, experimentation, documentation, and familiarity with quantitative reasoning and multi-disciplinary approaches.
- engender sensitivity towards biological issues (environment, health) in their surroundings and be aware of how citizens can contribute to their local communities and to science.
- be aware of bioethical concerns that arise in biology today.
- understand the integration of different fields of biology and highlight the interconnections between these fields.
- be exposed to diverse careers in the life sciences.

This curriculum of Biology will help in achieving the following curricular goals and competencies delineated in the National Curriculum Framework for School Education 2023:

CG-3 Explores the structure and function of the living world at the cellular level	C-3.1 Explains the role of cellular components (nucleus, mitochondria, endoplasmic reticulum, vacuoles, chloroplast, cell wall), including the semi permeability of cell membrane in making cell the structural basis of living organisms and functional basis of life processes C-3.2 Analyses similarities and differences in the life processes involved in nutrition (photosynthesis in plants; absorption of nutrients in fungi; digestion in animals), transport (transport of water in plants; circulation in animals), exchange of materials (respiration and excretion), and reproduction C-3.3 Describes mechanisms of heredity (in terms of DNA, genes, chromosomes) and variation (as changes in the sequence of DNA)
CG-4 Explores interconnectedness between organisms and their	C-4.1 Applies the knowledge of cellular diversity in organisms along with the ecological role organisms play (autotrophic/ heterotrophic nutrition) to classify them into five-kingdoms

environment	C-4.2 Illustrates different levels of organisations of living organisms (from molecules to organisms) C-4.3 Analyses different levels of biological organisation from organisms to ecosystems and biomes along with interactions that take place at each level C-4.4 Analyses patterns of inheritance of traits in terms of Mendel's laws and its consequences at a population level (using models and/or simulations) C-4.5 Analyses evidences of biological evolution demonstrating the consequences of the process of natural selection in terms of changes — in allele frequency in population, structure, and function of organisms
CG-5 Draws linkages between scientific knowledge and knowledge across other curricular areas	C-5.3 Applies scientific principles to explain phenomena in other subjects (sound pitch, octave, and amplitude in music; use of muscles in dance form and sports)
CG-6 Understands and appreciates the contribution of India through history and the present times to the overall field of Science, including the disciplines that constitute it	C-6.1 Knows and explains the significant contributions of India to all matters (concepts, explanations, methods) that are studied within the curriculum in an integrated manner
CG-7 Develops awareness of the most current discoveries, ideas, and frontiers in all areas of scientific knowledge in order to appreciate that Science is ever evolving, and that there are still many unanswered questions	C-7.1 States concepts that represent the most current understanding of the matter being studied — ranging from mere familiarity to conceptual understanding of the matter as appropriate to the developmental stage of the students C-7.2 States questions related to matters in the curriculum for which current scientific understanding is well-recognised to be inadequate
CG-8 Explores the nature of Science by doing Science	C-8.1 Develops accurate and appropriate models (including geometric, mathematical, graphical) to represent real-life events and phenomena using scientific principles and use these models to manipulate variables and predict results C-8.2 Designs and implements a plan for scientific inquiry (formulates hypotheses, makes predictions, identifies variables, accurately uses scientific instruments, represents data — primary and secondary — in multiple modes, draws inferences based on data and understanding of scientific concepts, theories, laws, and principles, communicates findings using scientific terminology)

It is expected that the students would get an exposure to various branches of Biology in the curriculum in a more contextual and systematic manner as they study its various units.

(NCFSE-2023)

Attainment of the competencies shall be done through transaction of the curriculum using appropriate pedagogy; these shall be assessed through an integrated evaluation scheme.

COURSE STRUCTURE
CLASS XI (2025-26)
(THEORY)

Time: 03 Hours **Max. Marks: 70**

Unit	Title	Marks
I	Diversity of Living Organisms	15
II	Structural Organization in Plants and Animals	10
III	Cell: Structure and Function	15
IV	Plant Physiology	12
V	Human Physiology	18
	Total	**70**

Unit-I Diversity of Living Organisms

Chapter-1: The Living World

Biodiversity; Need for classification; three domains of life; taxonomy and systematics; concept of species and taxonomical hierarchy; binomial nomenclature

Chapter-2: Biological Classification

Five kingdom classification; Salient features and classification of Monera, Protista and Fungi into major groups; Lichens, Viruses and Viroids.

Chapter-3: Plant Kingdom

Classification of plants into major groups; Salient and distinguishing features and a few examples of Algae, Bryophyta, Pteridophyta, Gymnospermae and Angiosperms.

Chapter-4: Animal Kingdom

Salient features and classification of animals, non-chordates up to phyla level and chordates upto class level (salient features and at a few examples of each category).

(No live animals or specimen should be displayed.)

Unit-II Structural Organization in Plants and Animals

Chapter-5: Morphology of Flowering Plants

Morphology of different parts of flowering plants: root, stem, leaf, inflorescence, flower, fruit and seed. Description of family Solanaceae

Chapter-6: Anatomy of Flowering Plants

Anatomy and functions of tissue systems in dicots and monocots.

Chapter-7: Structural Organisation in Animals

Morphology, Anatomy and functions of different systems (digestive, circulatory, respiratory, nervous and reproductive) of frog.

Unit-III Cell: Structure and Function

Chapter-8: Cell-The Unit of Life

Cell theory and cell as the basic unit of life, structure of prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells; Plant cell and animal cell; cell envelope; cell membrane, cell wall; cell organelles - structure and function; endomembrane system, endoplasmic reticulum, golgi bodies, lysosomes, vacuoles, mitochondria, ribosomes, plastids, microbodies; cytoskeleton, cilia, flagella, centrioles (ultrastructure and function); nucleus.

Chapter-9: Biomolecules

Chemical constituents of living cells: biomolecules, structure and function of proteins, carbohydrates, lipids, and nucleic acids; Enzyme - types, properties, enzyme action. (Topics excluded: Nature of Bond Linking Monomers in a Polymer, Dynamic State of Body Constituents Concept of Metabolism, Metabolic Basis of Living, The Living State)

Chapter-10: Cell Cycle and Cell Division

Cell cycle, mitosis, meiosis and their significance

Unit-IV Plant Physiology

Chapter-11: Photosynthesis in Higher Plants

Photosynthesis as a means of autotrophic nutrition; site of photosynthesis, pigments involved in photosynthesis (elementary idea); photochemical and biosynthetic phases of photosynthesis; cyclic and non-cyclic photophosphorylation; chemiosmotic hypothesis; photorespiration; C3 and C4 pathways; factors affecting photosynthesis.

Chapter-12: Respiration in Plants

Exchange of gases; cellular respiration - glycolysis, fermentation (anaerobic), TCA cycle and electron transport system (aerobic); energy relations - number of ATP molecules generated; amphibolic pathways; respiratory quotient.

Chapter-13: Plant - Growth and Development

Seed germination; phases of plant growth and plant growth rate; conditions of growth; differentiation, dedifferentiation and redifferentiation; sequence of developmental processes

in a plant cell; plant growth regulators - auxin, gibberellin, cytokinin, ethylene, ABA.

Unit-V Human Physiology

Chapter-14: Breathing and Exchange of Gases

Respiratory organs in animals (recall only); Respiratory system in humans; mechanism of breathing and its regulation in humans - exchange of gases, transport of gases and regulation of respiration, respiratory volume; disorders related to respiration - asthma, emphysema, occupational respiratory disorders.

Chapter-15: Body Fluids and Circulation

Composition of blood, blood groups, coagulation of blood; composition of lymph and its function; human circulatory system - Structure of human heart and blood vessels; cardiac cycle, cardiac output, ECG; double circulation; regulation of cardiac activity; disorders of circulatory system - hypertension, coronary artery disease, angina pectoris, heart failure.

Chapter-16: Excretory Products and their Elimination

Modes of excretion - ammonotelism, ureotelism, uricotelism; human excretory system – structure and function; urine formation, osmoregulation; regulation of kidney function - renin - angiotensin, atrial natriuretic factor, ADH and diabetes insipidus; role of other organs in excretion; disorders - uremia, renal failure, renal calculi, nephritis; dialysis and artificial kidney, kidney transplant.

Chapter-17: Locomotion and Movement

Types of movement - ciliary, flagellar, muscular; skeletal muscle, contractile proteins and muscle contraction; skeletal system and its functions; joints; disorders of muscular and skeletal systems - myasthenia gravis, tetany, muscular dystrophy, arthritis, osteoporosis, gout.

Chapter-18: Neural Control and Coordination

Neuron and nerves; Nervous system in humans - central nervous system; peripheral nervous system and visceral nervous system; generation and conduction of nerve impulse

Chapter- 19: Chemical Coordination and Integration

Endocrine glands and hormones; human endocrine system - hypothalamus, pituitary, pineal, thyroid, parathyroid, adrenal, pancreas, gonads; mechanism of hormone action (elementary idea); role of hormones as messengers and regulators, hypo - and hyperactivity and related disorders; dwarfism, acromegaly, cretinism, goiter, exophthalmic goitre, diabetes, Addison's disease.

The following topics are included in the syllabus but will be assessed only formatively to reinforce understanding without adding to summative assessments. The reduces academic stress while ensuring meaningful learning. Schools can integrate these with existing chapters as they align well. Relevant NCERT textual material is enclosed for reference.

Digestion and Absorption (Please Refer to CBSE Reading Material)

Alimentary canal and digestive glands, role of digestive enzymes and gastrointestinal hormones; Peristalsis, digestion, absorption and assimilation of proteins, carbohydrates and fats; calorific values of proteins, carbohydrates and fats; egestion; nutritional and digestive disorders - PEM, indigestion, constipation, vomiting, jaundice, diarrhoea.

PRACTICALS

Time: 03 Hours **Max. Marks: 30**

Evaluation Scheme		Marks
One Major Experiment Part A (Experiment No- 1,3,7,8)		5 Marks
One Minor Experiment Part A (Experiment No- 6,9,10,11,12,13)		4 Marks
Slide Preparation Part A (Experiment No- 2,4,5)		5 Marks
Spotting Part B		7 Marks
Practical Record + Viva Voce	(Credit to the student's work over the academic session may be given)	4 Marks
Project Record + Viva Voce		5 Marks
Total		30 Marks

A: List of Experiments

1. Study and describe locally available common flowering plants, from family Solanaceae (Poaceae, Asteraceae or Brassicaceae can be substituted in case of particular geographical location) including dissection and display of floral whorls, anther and ovary to show number of chambers (floral formulae and floral diagrams), type of root (tap and adventitious); type of stem (herbaceous and woody); leaf (arrangement, shape, venation, simple and compound).
2. Preparation and study of T.S. of dicot and monocot roots and stems (primary).
3. Study of osmosis by potato osmometer.
4. Study of plasmolysis in epidermal peels (e.g. Rhoeo/lily leaves or flashy scale leaves of onion bulb).
5. Study of distribution of stomata on the upper and lower surfaces of leaves.

6. Comparative study of the rates of transpiration in the upper and lower surfaces of leaves.
7. Test for the presence of sugar, starch, proteins and fats in suitable plant and animal materials.
8. Separation of plant pigments through paper chromatography.
9. Study of the rate of respiration in flower buds/leaf tissue and germinating seeds.
10. Test for presence of urea in urine.
11. Test for presence of sugar in urine.
12. Test for presence of albumin in urine.
13. Test for presence of bile salts in urine.

B. Study and Observe the following (spotting):

1. Parts of a compound microscope.
2. Specimens/slides/models and identification with reasons - Bacteria, *Oscillatoria, Spirogyra, Rhizopus*, mushroom, yeast, liverwort, moss, fern, pine, one monocotyledonous plant, one dicotyledonous plant and one lichen.
3. Virtual specimens/slides/models and identifying features of - *Amoeba, Hydra,* liver fluke, *Ascaris*, leech, earthworm, prawn, silkworm, honey bee, snail, starfish, shark, rohu, frog, lizard, pigeon and rabbit.
4. Mitosis in onion root tip cells and animal's cells (grasshopper) from permanent slides.
5. Types of inflorescence (cymose and racemose).
6. Human skeleton and different types of joints with the help of virtual images/models only.

Practical Examination for Visually Impaired Students Class XI

Note: The 'Evaluation schemes' and 'General Guidelines' for visually impaired students as given for Class XII may be followed.

A. Items for Identification/Familiarity with the apparatus /equipment /animal and plant material / chemicals for assessment in practicals (All experiments)

B. Equipment - compound microscope, test tube, petri dish, chromatography paper, chromatography chamber, beaker, scalpel

Chemical – alcohol

Models – Model of Human skeleton to show – Ball and socket joints of girdles and limbs, Rib cage, Honeycomb, Mollusc shell, Pigeon and Star fish, cockroach

Specimen/Fresh Material – mushroom, succulents such as *Aloe vera*/ kalenchoe, raisins, potatoes, seeds of monocot and dicot- maize and gram or any other plant, plants of Solanaceae - Brinjal, Petunia, any other

C. List of Practicals

1. Study locally available common flowering plants of the family – Solanaceae and identify type of stem (Herbaceous or Woody), type of leaves (Compound or Simple).
2. Study the parts of a compound microscope- eye piece and objective lens, mirror, stage, coarse and fine adjustment knobs.
3. Differentiate between monocot and dicot plants on the basis of venation patterns.
4. Study the following parts of human skeleton (Model): Ball and socket joints of thigh and shoulder
5. Rib cage
6. Study honeybee/butterfly, snail/sheik snail through shell, Starfish, Pigeon (through models).
7. Identify the given specimen of a fungus – mushroom, gymnosperm-pine cone.
8. Identify and relate the experimental set up with the aim of experiment: For Potato Osmometer/endosmosis in raisins.

Note: The above practicals may be carried out in an experiential manner rather than only recording observations.

Prescribed Books:

1. Biology Class-XI, Published by NCERT
2. Other related books and manuals brought out by NCERT (including multimedia).
3. Biology supplementary Material (Revised). Available on CBSE Website.
4. Reading Material Biology Class XI.

COURSE STRUCTURE

CLASS XII (2025 - 26)

(THEORY)

Time: 03 Hours **Max. Marks: 70**

Unit	Title	Marks
VI	Reproduction	**16**
VII	Genetics and Evolution	**20**
VIII	Biology and Human Welfare	**12**
IX	Biotechnology and its Applications	**12**
X	Ecology and Environment	**10**
	Total	**70**

Unit-VI Reproduction

Chapter-1: Sexual Reproduction in Flowering Plants

Flower structure; development of male and female gametophytes; pollination - types, agencies and examples; out breeding devices; pollen-pistil interaction; double fertilization; post fertilization events - development of endosperm and embryo, development of seed and formation of fruit; special modes- apomixis, parthenocarpy, polyembryony; Significance of seed dispersal and fruit formation.

Chapter-2: Human Reproduction

Male and female reproductive systems; microscopic anatomy of testis and ovary; gametogenesis -spermatogenesis and oogenesis; menstrual cycle; fertilisation, embryo development upto blastocyst formation, implantation; pregnancy and placenta formation (elementary idea); parturition (elementary idea); lactation (elementary idea).

Chapter-3: Reproductive Health

Need for reproductive health and prevention of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs); birth control - need and methods, contraception and medical termination of pregnancy (MTP); amniocentesis; infertility and assisted reproductive technologies - IVF, ZIFT, GIFT (elementary idea for general awareness).

Unit-VII Genetics and Evolution

Chapter-4: Principles of Inheritance and Variation

Heredity and variation: Mendelian inheritance; deviations from Mendelism – incomplete dominance, co-dominance, multiple alleles and inheritance of blood groups, pleiotropy; elementary idea of polygenic inheritance; chromosome theory of inheritance; chromosomes and genes; Sex determination - in humans, birds and honey bee; linkage and crossing over; sex linked inheritance - haemophilia, colour blindness; Mendelian disorders in humans - thalassemia; chromosomal disorders in humans; Down's syndrome, Turner's and Klinefelter's syndromes.

Chapter-5: Molecular Basis of Inheritance

Search for genetic material and DNA as genetic material; Structure of DNA and RNA; DNA packaging; DNA replication; Central Dogma; transcription, genetic code, translation; gene expression and regulation - lac operon; Genome, Human and rice genome projects; DNA fingerprinting.

Chapter-6: Evolution

Origin of life; biological evolution and evidences for biological evolution (paleontology, comparative anatomy, embryology and molecular evidences); Darwin's contribution, modern synthetic theory of evolution; mechanism of evolution - variation (mutation and recombination) and natural selection with examples, types of natural selection; Gene flow and genetic drift; Hardy- Weinberg's principle; adaptive radiation; human evolution.

Unit-VIII: Biology and Human Welfare

Chapter-7: Human Health and Diseases

Pathogens; parasites causing human diseases (malaria, dengue, chikungunya, filariasis, ascariasis, typhoid, pneumonia, common cold, amoebiasis, ring worm) and their control; Basic concepts of immunology - vaccines; cancer, HIV and AIDS; Adolescence - drug and alcohol abuse.

Chapter-8: Microbes in Human Welfare

Microbes in food processing, industrial production, sewage treatment, energy generation and microbes as bio-control agents and bio-fertilizers. Antibiotics; production and judicious use.

Unit-IX Biotechnology and its Applications

Chapter-9: Biotechnology - Principles and Processes

Genetic Engineering (Recombinant DNA Technology).

Chapter-10: Biotechnology and its Applications

Application of biotechnology in health and agriculture: Human insulin and vaccine production, stem cell technology, gene therapy; genetically modified organisms - Bt crops; transgenic animals; biosafety issues, biopiracy and patents.

Unit-X Ecology and Environment

Chapter-11: Organisms and Populations

Population interactions - mutualism, competition, predation, parasitism; population attributes - growth, birth rate and death rate, age distribution.

Chapter-12: Ecosystem

Ecosystems: Patterns, components; productivity and decomposition; energy flow; pyramids of number, biomass, energy.

Chapter-13: Biodiversity and its Conservation

Biodiversity-Concept, patterns, importance; loss of biodiversity; biodiversity conservation; hotspots, endangered organisms, extinction, Red Data Book, Sacred Groves, biosphere reserves, national parks, wildlife, sanctuaries and Ramsar sites.

PRACTICALS

Time allowed: 3 Hours **Max. Marks: 30**

<table>
<tr><th colspan="3">Evaluation Scheme</th><th>Marks</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">One Major Experiment</td><td>5</td><td>5</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">One Minor Experiment</td><td>2 & 3</td><td>4</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Slide Preparation</td><td>1 & 4</td><td>5</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Spotting</td><td>7</td></tr>
<tr><td>Practical Record + Viva Voce</td><td rowspan="2">(Credit to the student's work over the academic session may be given)</td><td></td><td>4</td></tr>
<tr><td>Investigatory Project and its Project Record + Viva Voce</td><td></td><td>5</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Total</td><td>30</td></tr>
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A. List of Experiments

1. Prepare a temporary mount to observe pollen germination.
2. Study the plant population density by quadrat method.
3. Study the plant population frequency by quadrat method.
4. Prepare a temporary mount of onion root tip to study mitosis.
5. Isolate DNA from available plant material such as spinach, green pea seeds, papaya, banana etc.

B. Study and observe the following (Spotting):

1. Flowers adapted to pollination by different agencies (wind, insects, birds).
2. Pollen germination on stigma through a permanent slide or scanning electron micrograph.
3. Identification of stages of gamete development, i.e., T.S. of testis and T.S. of ovary through permanent slides (from grasshopper/mice).
4. Meiosis in onion bud cell or grasshopper testis through permanent slides.
5. T.S. of blastula through permanent slides (Mammalian).
6. Mendelian inheritance using seeds of different colour/sizes of any plant.
7. Prepared pedigree charts of any one of the genetic traits such as rolling of tongue, blood groups, ear lobes, widow's peak and colour blindness.
8. Controlled pollination - emasculation, tagging and bagging.
9. Common disease causing organisms like *Ascaris, Entamoeba, Plasmodium*, any fungus causing ringworm through permanent slides, models or virtual images or specimens. Comment on symptoms of diseases that they cause.
10. Models specimens showing symbiotic association in lichens, root nodules of leguminous plants, and parasitic mode of nutrition shown by Cuscuta on host.
11. Flash cards / models showing examples of homologous and analogous organs.

Practical Examination for Visually Impaired Students of Classes XI and XII

Evaluation Scheme

Time: 02 Hours **Max. Marks: 30**

Topic	Marks
Identification/Familiarity with the apparatus	5
Written test (Based on given / prescribed practicals)	10
Practical Records	5
Viva	10
Total	**30**

General Guidelines

- The practical examination will be of two-hour duration. A separate list of ten experiments is included here.
- The written examination in practicals for these students will be conducted at the time of practical examination of all other students.

- The written test will be of 30 minutes duration.
- The question paper given to the students should be legibly typed. It should contain a total of 15 practical skill based very short answer type questions. A student would be required to answer any 10 questions.
- A writer may be allowed to such students as per CBSE examination rules.
- All questions included in the question paper should be related to the listed practicals. Every question should require about two minutes to be answered.
- These students are also required to maintain a practical file. A student is expected to record at least five of the listed experiments as per the specific instructions for each subject. These practicals should be duly checked and signed by the internal examiner.
- The format of writing any experiment in the practical file should include aim, apparatus required, simple theory, procedure, related practical skills, precautions etc.
- Questions may be generated jointly by the external/internal examiners and used for assessment.
- The viva questions may include questions based on basic theory / principle / concept, apparatus / materials / chemicals required, procedure, precautions, sources of error etc.

Class XII

A. Items for Identification/ familiarity with the apparatus for assessment in practicals (All experiments) Beaker, flask, petriplates, soil from different sites - sandy, clayey, loamy, small potted plants, aluminium foil, paint brush, test tubes, starch solution, iodine, ice cubes, Bunsen burner/spirit lamp/water bath, large flowers, Maize inflorescence, model of developmental stages highlighting morula and blastula of frog, beads/seeds of different shapes/size/texture *Ascaris*, Cactus/*Opuntia* (model).

B. List of Practicals

1. Study of flowers adapted to pollination by different agencies (wind, insects).
2. Identification of T.S of morula or blastula of frog (Model).
3. Study of Mendelian inheritance pattern using beads/seeds of different sizes/texture.
4. Preparation of pedigree charts of genetic traits such as rolling of tongue, colour blindness.
5. Study of emasculation, tagging and bagging by trying out an exercise on controlled pollination.

6. Identify common disease causing organisms like *Ascaris* (model) and learn some common symptoms of the disease that they cause.
7. Comment upon the morphological adaptations of plants found in xerophytic conditions.

Note: The above practicals may be carried out in an experiential manner rather than recording observations.

Prescribed Books:

1. Biology, Class-XII, Published by NCERT.
2. Other related books and manuals brought out by NCERT (consider multimedia also).
3. Biology Supplementary Material (Revised). Available on CBSE website.

Question Paper Design (Theory)

Class XII (2025 -26)

Biology (044)

Competencies	Total
Demonstrate Knowledge and Understanding	50 %
Application of Knowledge / Concepts	30 %
Analyse, Evaluate and Create	20 %

Note:

- Typology of questions: VSA including MCQs, Assertion – Reasoning type questions; SA; LA-I; LA-II; Source-based/ Case-based/ Passage-based/ Integrated assessment questions.
- An internal choice of approximately 33% would be provided.

Suggestive verbs for various competencies

- **Demonstrate, Knowledge and Understanding**
  State, name, list, identify, define, suggest, describe, outline, summarize, etc.
- **Application of Knowledge/Concepts**
  Calculate, illustrate, show, adapt, explain, distinguish, etc.
- **Analyze, Evaluate and Create**
  Interpret, analyse, compare, contrast, examine, evaluate, discuss, construct, etc.