

**DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – (DSC-12)**  
**Gene Organization, Replication and Repair**

**CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE**

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
<b>Gene Organization, Replication and Repair (BCH-DSC-403)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2L</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2P</b>	<b>Class XII with Science and Biology</b>	<b>NIL</b>

### Learning Objectives

The objective of the course is to introduce to the students, the basic concepts of genome, DNA structure, genes, chromatin and chromosomes. It provides an understanding of DNA replication, recombination, mutations and repair processes in a way that students can apply this knowledge in understanding the life processes and develop an interest to pursue high quality research.

### Learning outcomes

After completion of this course, learners will be able to:

1. Analyse the structure of DNA and various forms of DNA and learn about organisation of genome in various life forms, supercoiling of DNA and its significance
2. Perform isolation of DNA and analyse the purity of isolated DNA sample
3. Evaluate the molecular basis of processes like DNA replication, recombination and transposition and demonstrate the significance of these processes
4. Perform various methods of DNA estimation
5. Discuss the various ways in which the DNA can be damaged leading to mutations, lesions and repair mechanisms

### SYLLABUS OF DSC-12

#### BCH-DSC-12 : GENE ORGANIZATION, REPLICATION AND REPAIR Semester – IV

### 2.2 Course Contents

#### Theory (2 Credits)

**Total Hours: 30  
(8 Hours)**

#### Unit I: Structure of DNA and genomic organization

Watson and Crick model of DNA, various forms of DNA, Supercoiling of DNA, linking number, Topoisomerases, Topoisomerase inhibitors and their clinical importance, Definition

of a gene, organization of genes in viruses, bacteria and eukaryotes, concept of split genes, introns, exons, satellite DNA, highly repetitive DNA.

## **Unit II: Replication of DNA**

**(10 Hours)**

The chemistry of DNA synthesis, DNA polymerase, the replication fork, enzymes and proteins in DNA replication, *E coli* DNA polymerases, stages of replication: initiation, elongation, origin of replication, relationship between replication and cell division, replication in eukaryotes, end replication problem, telomerases. Comparison of replication in prokaryotes and eukaryotes. Inhibitors of DNA replication and applications in medicine.

## **Unit III: Recombination and transposition of DNA**

**(6 Hours)**

Homologous recombination, enzymes in homologous recombination, site-specific recombination, recombinases. Transposition, DNA transposition by cut and paste and replicative mechanism.

## **Unit IV: Mutations and DNA Repair**

**(6 Hours)**

Importance of mutations in evolution of species, Types of mutations, DNA damage by hydrolysis, alkylation, oxidation and radiation. Mutations caused by base analogs and intercalating agents. Ames test. Replication errors and their repair, mismatch repair system. Repair of DNA damage-direct reversal of DNA damage, base excision repair, nucleotide excision repair, translesion DNA synthesis. DNA repair diseases.

### **2.3 Practical (2 Credits)**

**Total Hours: 60**

1. DNA estimation by DPA
2. Separation of nitrogenous bases by paper chromatography
3. To plot the ultraviolet absorption spectrum of DNA
4. Isolation of chromosomal DNA from *E coli* cells
5. Determination of DNA concentration and purity by UV absorption.
6. Determination of the melting temperature of DNA
7. Demonstration of the mechanism of Transposition and Recombination (Dry Lab)
8. Ames test
9. Exercise with *in silico* tools (NCBI, GenBank, EMBL, DDBJ, NBD, BLAST and Clustal omega)

### **2.4 Essential readings:**

- Lehninger: Principles of Biochemistry (7th ed.) (2017) Nelson, D.L. and Cox, M.M W.H. Freeman & Company (New York), ISBN:13: 9781464126116 / ISBN:10-1464126119.
- Molecular biology of the gene: (7th ed), (2014) Watson, J. D., Baker, T. A., Bell, S. P., Gann, A., Levine, M., & Losick, R. International). Pearson.

### **Suggested readings:**

- Genetics - A Conceptual Approach,) (6<sup>th</sup> ed). (2012), Pierce, B.A. W.H. Freeman & Co. (New York), ISBN:13:978-1-4292-7606-1 / ISBN:10:1-4292-7606-

- Lewin's Gene X (10<sup>th</sup> edition) (2018). Lewin, B., Krebs, J.E., Kilpatrick, S.T., Goldstein, E.S., Bartlett Learning publishers, LLC, ISBN: 978-0-7637-6632-0.
- The Cell: A Molecular Approach (7<sup>th</sup> ed.) (2009). Cooper, G.M. and Hausman, R.E. ASM Press & Sunderland (Washington DC), Sinauer Associates, MA. ISBN:978-0- 87893-3030.
- *Biochemistry* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.) (2016). Garrett, R. H., & Grisham, C. M. Brooks Cole. ISBN: 9781305882409

### 3. Keywords

DNA, Double helix, Supercoiling, Recombination, Transposition, DNA Repair

**Note:** Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.