B.Sc (Hons.) Biomedical Science

Discipline Specific Core Course (BIOMED-DSCs)
SEMESTER- VI

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE -16 (BIOMED-DSC-16) BIOPHYSICS

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)	Department offering the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice			
Biophysics **BIOMED-DSC-16**	4	3	-	1	**Class XII Passed**	**Basic knowledge of Bio-physical Techniques**	**Biomedical Science**

Learning objectives

The Learning objectives of this course are as follows:

- The course will demonstrate the role of fundamentals of chemistry and physics in understanding the biological processes including the methods to study the structure and functions of macro molecules and the chemical reactions occurring in living cells.
- The students will be able to learn theoretical basis of various analytical and biomedical techniques including various spectroscopic techniques, hydrodynamic methods, molecular biophysics.
- The students will be introduced to various physical principles responsible for maintaining the basic cellular function and integrity of biological membranes including transport across them.

Learning outcomes

Having successfully completed this course, students shall be able to learn and appreciate:

- The interdisciplinary frontier of science in which the principles and techniques of physics are applied to understand biological problems at every level, from atoms and molecules to cells, organisms and environment and analyze the data generated through spectroscopic techniques such as UV-Visible, Infrared, Mass spectroscopy, NMR, etc.
- Understand the concepts of viscosity and sedimentation methods and their biological applications.
- Comprehend the thermodynamics of the structure of biomolecules and consequences of their structural instability and apply their biophysics knowledge to analyze the known experiments and to develop newer experimental methods for new biophysical applications.

- Understand the physical basis of transport across biological membranes. Additionally, they will be able to perform the experiments and demonstrate the interpretation of the data and further be able to deliver scientific conclusions. Further, they can apply their biophysics knowledge to analyze the known experiments and to develop newer experimental methods for new biophysical applications.

SYLLABUS OF BIOMED-DSC-16

Unit-I: Basic Spectroscopic Techniques (10 hrs)

Basic principles of electromagnetic radiation: Energy, wavelength, wave numbers and frequency, Review of electronic structure of molecules.

UV-visible spectrophotometry: Beer Lambert law, Light absorption and its transmittance, Factors affecting absorption properties of achromophore, Structural analyses of DNA/protein using absorption of UV light.

Fluorescence spectroscopy: Theory of fluorescence, Static and dynamic quenching, Resonance energy transfer, Fluorescent probes in the study of protein and nucleic acids.

Infra-red spectroscopy: Theory of IR, Identification of exchangeable hydrogen, Number of hydrogen bonds, Tautomeric forms, Biological significance of IR.

Unit II: Advanced Biophysical Techniques (10 hrs)

Optical rotatory dispersion and Circular dichroism: Principle of ORD and CD, Analysis of secondary structure of proteins (denatured and native form) and nucleic acids using CD.

Magnetic resonance spectroscopy: Basic theory of NMR, Chemical shift, Medical applications of NMR.

Mass Spectrometry (MALDI-TOF): Physical basis and uses of MS in the analysis of proteins/nucleic acids.

X-ray crystallography: Diffraction, Bragg's law and electron density maps (concept of R-factor and B-factor), Growing of crystals (Hanging drop method), Biological applications of X-ray crystallography.

Unit-III: Hydrodynamic Methods (10 hrs)

Viscosity: Methods of measurement of viscosity, Specific and intrinsic viscosity, Relationship between viscosity and molecular weight, Measurement of viscoelasticity of DNA.

Sedimentation: Physical basis of centrifugation, Svedberg equation, Differential and density gradient centrifugation, Preparative and analytical ultracentrifugation techniques, Fractionation of cellular components using centrifugation with examples.

Flow Cytometry: Basic principle of flow cytometry and cell sorting, Detection strategies in flow cytometry.

Unit-IV: Molecular Biophysics (7 hrs)

Basic thermodynamics: Concept of entropy, enthalpy, free energy change, heat capacity. Forces involved in biomolecular interactions with examples: Configuration versus conformation, Vander Waals interactions, Electrostatic interactions, Stacking interactions, Hydrogen bond and hydrophobic effect, Ramachandran plot.

Supercoiling of DNA: Linking number, twist and writhe.

Protein folding: Marginal stability of proteins, Thermodynamic and kinetic basis of protein folding.

Unit-V: Biological Membranes **(8 hrs)**

Biophysical basis of transport of solutes and ions, Fick's laws of diffusion, Transport equation, Membrane potential, an introduction to ionophores.

Practical **(30 hrs)**

(Wherever wet lab experiments are not possible the principles and concepts can be demonstrated through any other material or medium including videos/virtual labs etc.)

1. Effect of different solvents on UV absorption spectra of proteins.
2. Study of structural changes of proteins at different pH using UV spectrophotometry.
3. Study of structural changes of proteins at different temperature using UV-spectrophotometry.
4. Determination of melting temperature of DNA.
5. Study the effect of temperature on the viscosity of a macromolecule (Protein/DNA).
6. Use of viscometer in the study of ligand binding to DNA/protein.
7. Crystallization of enzyme lysozyme using hanging drop method.
8. Analysis, identification and comparison of various spectra (UV, NMR, MS, IR) of simple organic compounds.

Essential readings

- Skoog D.A., Holler, F.J. and Crouch, S.R. (2017). 7thEdition. Principles of Instrumental Analysis. Boston, USA: Cengage Learning. ISBN-13:978-1305577213.
- Sheehan, D. (2009). 2nd Edition. Physical biochemistry: Principles and applications. Oxford, UK: JohnWiley.ISBN-13:978-0470856031.
- Freifelder, 1983). 2nd Edition. Physical biochemistry: Applications to biochemistry and molecular biology. NewYork, USA: W.H. Freeman and Company. ISBN-13:978-0716714446.

Suggestive readings

- Hofmann, A. and Clokie, S. (2018). 8th Edition. Wilson and Walker's principles and techniques of biochemistry and molecular biology. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 978-1108716987.
- Watson, J.D., Baker T.A., Bell, S.P., Gann, A., Levine, M., Losick, R.(2013).7th Edition. Molecular Biology of the Gene. New York, USA: Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, ISBN-13:978-0321762436.
- Tinoco I., Sauer, K. Wang, J.C., Puglisi, J.D., Harbison, G. and Rovnyak, D. (2013). 5thEdition. Physical chemistry: Principles and applications in biological sciences Pearson, Prentice Hall. ISBN-13:978-0136056065.

- Kuriyan, J., Konforti, B. and Wemmer, D. (2012). 1st Edition. The molecules of life: Physical and chemical principles. New York, USA: Garland Science. ISBN-13: 978-0815341888.
- Frauen felder, H., Chan, S.S. and Chan, W.S. (2010). 1stEdition. The physics of proteins: An introduction to biological physics and molecular biophysics. NewYork, USA:Springer, ISBN-13: 978-1441910431.
- Rhodes, G. (2006). 3rd Edition. Crystallography made crystal clear: Guide for users of macro molecular models. Massachusetts, USA: Academic Press. ISBN-13:978-0125870733.
- Van Holde, K.E., Jhonson, W.C. and Shing Ho, P. (2005). 2nd Edition. Principles of physical biochemistry. NewJersey, USA: Prentice Hall Inc.ISBN-13:978-0130464279
- Branden, C. and Tooze, J. (1999). 2nd Edition. Introduction to protein structure. New York, USA: Garland Science, ISBN-13: 978-0815323051.
- Hoppe, W., Lohmann, W., Markl, H. and Ziegler, H.(1983). 1st Edition. Biophysics. Berlin, Germany: Springer-Verlag and Heidelberg GmbH & Co., ISBN-13:978-3540120834.
- Cantor, C.R. Schimmel, P.R. (1980). 1st Edition. Biophysical Chemistry. New York, USA: W.H. Freeman and Company. ISBN-13:9780716711889.