# **National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI)**

(Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Gov. of India) Sector-81, Knowledge City, Mohali-140306, Punjab (INDIA)

#### Advertisement No.NABI/6(59)/2019-Gen

#### PhD (Biotechnology) Program Admission 2019

National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI), Mohali invites applications from the motivated students for admission to the PhD degree program in Biotechnology starting July 2019 session. NABI is a recognized centre of Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB), Faridabad to conduct PhD (Biotechnology). The programme will be conducted at NABI and the degree will be awarded by RCB (<a href="www.rcb.res.in">www.rcb.res.in</a>), an institute of national importance created by an act of parliament.

**Duration of PhD course:** The duration is for 5 years and a maximum of 7 years.

**Area of PhD research work:** Agricultural biotechnology, Food Biotechnology, and Nutrition Biotechnology

**Number of Seats: 11** (Reservation of seats: as per GOI guidelines)

#### **Eligibility Criteria:**

- i) **Minimum qualification**: MSc/MTech in any area of life sciences/MPharma/ MVSc/MBBS or an equivalent degree.
- **ii) Qualifying marks:** 55% total marks or equivalent score in the qualifying degree (5% relaxation will be given to SC/ST/OBC/PD as per GOI norms)
- **iii**) In addition to above, the candidate for admission shall qualify a national level test for pursuing Doctor of Philosophy programme and such test include a doctoral fellowship or admission eligibility test conducted at the national level by the University Grants Commission (UGC), or Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), or Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR), or Department of Science and Technology (DST), or Department of Biotechnology (DBT), or any other Government recognised agency.

Candidates who have appeared, or will be appearing, in the qualifying degree examination (final year/final semester) and whose result is still awaited may also apply. However, the admission is pursuant to satisfactory fulfilment of the aforementioned criteria/ requirements at the time of joining.

**Fellowship:** The students admitted to the program will have to avail the fellowship offered to them from the different granting agencies as per their rules.

The details of Admission, Application Form, Ph.D. course work are available at NABI website (www.nabi.res.in). Eligible candidates may send their applications by post for admission to the Ph.D. program to Manager Administration, National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI), Sector-81, Knowledge City, Mohali- 140306 (Punjab) along with application fee of Rs. 500/- plus GST @ 18% i.e. Rs 590/-.

You are requested to deposit above mentioned application fees through Bank Transfer (Bank detail of the Institute mentioned below).

Name of Beneficiary Account

National Agri-food Biotechnology Institute

Beneficiary Account No. 00000031791059995
Bank Name: State Bank of India
Address of the bank SCO 35, Phase I, Mohali

Branch Code 1828

SWIFT Code SBININBB141 IFSC Code SBIN0001828

You are requested to take the print out of transaction ID/UTR No./acknowledgement regarding transfer of payment.

You must attach the above proof/ acknowledgement alongwith application form.

#### Last date of application submission: June 15, 2019.

The application received after the last date will not be considered.

#### Interview: July 10 (Wednesday), 2019

The interview will be conducted for short-listed candidates on July 10, 2019. The purpose of interview is to assess the student for his/her science aptitude and interest in a career in scientific research and development.

**CONTACT DETAIL FOR QUERIES: +91-172-5221300** 

# **PhD Course Work**

# PhD program in Biotechnology

# Under Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB), Faridabad

and

National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI), Mohali

# **PhD Course Work**

Rules and Regulation of PhD program are as per Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB) Regulation, 2017 (notified on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in The Gazette of India)

#### **OBJECTIVES OF PhD PROGRAMME**

The objective of the programme is to prepare students to conduct high quality research and disseminate it to scholarly and others and become think tanks.

#### **GOALS OF PhD PROGRAMME**

The goal of the Ph.D. programme is to train students at an advanced level in specific fields of study in order for them to assume positions of leadership in research, teaching, and service in industry, business, and government.

#### ADMISSION PROCESS

- (i) The minimum qualification for admission to the Doctor of Philosophy programme in NABI shall be a Master's degree from a recognised institution in any area of science and technology, or a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery degree, or an equivalent degree from a recognized University or institution with minimum of 55% marks. The 5% relaxation (50%) will be given to SC/ST/OBC candidates as per GOI guidelines.
- (ii) In addition to the qualification specified in (i), the candidate for admission shall qualify a national level test for pursuing Doctor of Philosophy programme and such test include a doctoral fellowship or admission eligibility test conducted at the national level by the University Grants Commission, or Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, or Indian Council for Medical Research, or Department of Science and Technology, or Department of Biotechnology, or any other Government recognised agency.
- (iii) The candidates, who possess qualifications specified in (i) and qualified the test specified in (ii) shall be admitted to the Doctor of Philosophy programme after an interview.
- (iv) Applications will be invited through NABI's website and various newspapers during may each year. Upon receiving applications short-listed candidates will be called for an interview in July each year. Candidates who have appeared, or will be appearing, in the qualifying degree examination (final year/final semester) and whose result is still awaited may also apply. However, the admission is pursuant to satisfactory fulfilment of the aforementioned criteria/ requirements at the time of joining.
- (v) The total number of PhD seats will be 11 in this year. The students should meet the desired criteria for selection. There shall be reservation of seats for students from the SC, ST, PD, and OBC categories as per the orders of the Govt. of India in this regard.

# All the academic rules will be as per the relevant RCB ordinances, statutes and regulations.

#### NATURE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME

The Doctor of Philosophy Programme at NABI shall consist of two components, namely:-

- (a) PhD course work and
- (b) Research work leading to the submission of a doctoral thesis.

#### HOSTEL FACILITIES

A hostel with shared boarding and lodging facilities is available on NABI campus. If rooms are available at the time of joining, it will be given to the admitted students on payment of prescribed fees.

#### **Fees Structure:-**

SR NO.	<u>PARTICULAR</u>	1ST SEMESTER FEE	2ND SEMESTER AND
		<u>(RS)</u>	ONWARD FEE
1	ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION	<u>5000/-</u>	<u>5000/-</u>
	<u>FEE</u>		
<u>2</u>	TUTION FEE	<u>6000/-</u>	
3	LABORATORY FEE	<u>6000/-</u>	<u>6000/-</u>
4	STUDENT AMENITIES	3000/-	<u>3000/-</u>
	(LIBRARY & INTERNET) FEE		
<u>5</u>	MEDICAL FEE	1000/-	<u>1000/-</u>

Caution money (Rs.5,000/-) is payable at the time of admission.

Ph.D. thesis examination fee (Rs.10,000/-) is payable at the time of Ph.D. thesis submission.

Hostel, hostel electricity, and the cooperative mess charges are as per the actuals.

The Fee may be revised during the course as per the provision in the RCB ordinance in this regards.

# **ACADEMIC CALENDAR**

Date/Month	Activity
May	Advertisement in newspapers and NABI's website
July	Interview of candidates
July	Commencement of PhD classes
July to December	PhD course work

Any changes in the Academic Calendar will be duly intimated to RCB and implemented following approval of the Academic Committee.

# **COURSE WORK**

The course work for the Doctor of Philosophy degree program at NABI, Mohali shall be as per the Regional Centre for Biotechnology Regulations, 2017

# **Course Content**

S.	Course	Code	Credit	Page
No.				
	Compulsory of	courses		
1	Research methodology NAB 401 4 5-6			5-6
2	Science Communication	NAB 402	1	7
3	Seminar	NAB 403	1	7
	<b>Elective courses</b>	(optional)		
1	Principles of Plant Biotechnology	NAB 301	3	8-9
2	Fundamentals of Molecular and Cell	NAB 302	3	10
	Biology			
3	Fundamentals of Genomics	NAB 303	3	11-12
4	Introduction to Bioinformatics	NAB 304	3	13
5	Genome Analysis and Computational	NAB 305	3	14
	Biology			
6	Basic Concepts of Food Science and	NAB 306	3	15-16
	Technology			
7	Nutritional Biochemistry	NAB 307	3	17
8	Bio-organic and Biophysical	NAB 308	3	18-19
	Chemistry			
9	Industrial Biotechnology	NAB 309	3	20

#### **Total credits: 12**

Students entering into the PhD Programme at NABI shall have to complete mandatory courses, NAB-401 (Research Methodology), NAB-402 (Science Communication) and NAB-403 (Seminar) and 02 Elective courses. Total 12 credits have to be completed in PhD course work.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

(Credit score: 4)

The course is designed to develop the theoretical and practical skills in area of research to plan, conduct, analyse, and present in oral, poster and written form a scientific assignment. It is also designed to help research scholar to learn ethics in manuscript writing. It also includes basic biostatistics and bioinformatics lectures to provide basic knowledge that can be used in data analysis. This course will provide a basic knowledge of modern analytical techniques used in genomics, metabolomics, and proteomics.

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

#### **General Principles of Research**

Importance of research, critical thinking, formulating hypothesis and development of research plan, review of literature, Interpretation of results and discussion.

#### **Scientific Writing**

Scientific writing, introduction of grammar and mechanics related to scientific writing, writing synopsis, research paper, poster preparation, oral presentations and dissertations, patent writing- protecting the innovation, Intellectual Property Right (IPR).

#### **Principles of Good Lab Practices**

Good laboratory practices, Biosafety for human health and environment. Biosafety issues for using cloned genes, biological containment and physical containment, biosafety levels, biohazard management; physical, chemical and biological hazards, Intellectual Property and regulatory Issues in Biotechnology

#### **Research Ethics**

Ethical theories, ethical considerations during research, data manipulations, plagiarism, subject consent, animal testing, animal rights

#### Writing Project Proposal for Grants to Funding Agencies

Designing grant proposal for funding on a given topic

#### **Basics Principles and Application of Advance Analytical Techniques**

Chromatographic techniques (gas chromatography and HPLC), mass spectrometric techniques (gas chromatography-mass spectrometry- GC-MS, Matrix Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization-MALDI and Electrospray Ionization Mass spectrometry-ESI-MS), Thermo-analytical technique (Differential Scanning Calorimetry-DSC, Thermal Gravimetric Analysis-TGA, Isothermal Calorimetry – ITC), Spectral Techniques (Circular Dichroism-CD, Nuclear magnetic resonance-NMR, Fourier Transform Infrared spectroscopy-FTIR, Dynamic Light Scattering-DLS, UV-Visible, Fluorescence-activated cell sorting-FACS), Microscopy Techniques- Fluorescence microscope, Transmission Electron Microscope, Scanning electron microscope, Confocal Microscopy, Atomic Force Microscopy; Basic principles and methods involved in proteomics and DNA sequencing instruments

#### **Basic Bioinformatics**

Bioinformatics: general introduction to databases (protein, DNA, SRA, mirBASE), database search, basic tools for sequence analysis (e.g. BLAST); algorithms for Local and Global alignment; gene prediction and annotation, identification of repeats and primer designing; large scale transcriptome analysis: data quality assessment, filtering of data, steps and tools to analyse transcriptome data; quantitative expression analysis.

#### **Basic Statistical Data Analysis**

Importance of statistics in biotechnology; experimental design; distinguish between exploratory and conclusive research; different techniques of sampling; basic statistics techniques for variation analysis; correlation and regression; multivariate analysis and presenting schemes; central tendency and their importance and different conditions to use; Type I and type II error; multiple test correction.

- 1. Modern Language Association, MLA Hand Book for writers of research papers (Seventh edition), 7<sup>th</sup> edition, (2009), Modern Language Association of America, 2009.
- 2. Eco, Umberto. How to Write a Thesis. Cambridge (MA): MIT Press. 2015.
- 3. Joel Bloch, Plagiarism, Intellectual Property and the Teaching of L2 Writing. Multilingual Matters, 2018
- 4. J. Xiong, Essential Bioinformatics, Cambridge University Press (2009).
- 5. A. D. Baxevanis and B. F. F. Ouellette (eds), Bioinformatics: A practical guide to the analysis of genes and proteins, 3rd Edn., Wiley-Interscience (2004).
- 6. D. E. Krane and M. L. Raymer, Fundamental concepts of Bioinformatics, 1st Edn., Pearson Education India (2003).
- 7. Johnson, R.A. & Bhattacharyya, G.K., Statistics: Principles and Methods, 2nd Edition. Wiley, 1992.
- 8. B. L. Agarwal, Basic Statistics, New Age International, 2006
- 9. Spectrometric Identification of Organic Compounds by Robert M. Silverstein
- 10. Organic Spectroscopy by William Kemp
- 11. Principles and Applications of Thermal Analysis by Paul Gabbott
- 12. Physical Principles of Electron Microscopy by Ray Egerton

# SCIENCE COMMUNICATION (Credit score: 1)

For a successful scientist, it is very important to effectively convey his work to both the technical and non-technical audience. This may be in the form of verbal and visual communication in the form of seminars and presentations, and written communication in the form of reports, manuscripts, and grant proposals. This course aims to encourage the students to inculcate these attributes by making presentations and writing reports.

Each student will be required to choose a recent high quality primary research publication and make a power point presentation to the class. The presentation should cover all the background literature of the chosen research area. Stress should be given to the objectives of the paper, logic of each experiment and the data analyses. In addition, they will be expected to highlight shortcomings and alternate approaches as appropriate. This endeavor would give them the exposure of what it takes to defend a scientific concept in an open audience. Additionally, students of this course will mandatorily attend all seminars conducted at NABI.

For developing the writing skills, the student will choose an area related to his research interest and write a 10-page review of the field providing a critique of the research opportunities. The area may be chosen in consultation with the guide who should help the student with the preparation of the report.

**NAB 403** 

SEMINAR (Credit score 1)

## PRINCIPLES OF PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY

(Credit score: 3)

The course aims to provide knowledge on basic and advances in biotechnological applications (such as tissue culture and genetic engineering). How plants can be genetically modified to have an altered nutrient content. The course also includes genetic techniques used in plant breeding, e.g. various molecular markers, genetic maps and even some studies of natural variation, molecular breeding work of various important crops. The social aspects of plant biotechnology will be discussed, for example, legislation of GMOs, patent legislation, risk assessment and ethical aspects of GMO plants, etc.

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

#### **Plant Tissue Culture**

History of plant tissue culture, major terminology and their description, different types of cell cultures, morphogenesis and somaclonal variation, protoplast culture and fusion, advantages and application of plant tissue culture in biotechnology.

#### **Plant Genetic Engineering**

Definition and scope, methods of plant genetic transformation, vectors for plant transformation, molecular analysis of transgenics, application of plant genetic engineering; functional analysis for plant gene, approaches to validate gene function, evolution of tools for genome editing

#### **Genetically Modified Plants**

Genesis, importance and benefits of GM plants, global commercial status of GM plants, setup required for development of GMOs; regulation of genome edited plants and their policy.

#### **Biosafety Regulations of Plant Genetic Engineering**

Containment and confined biosafety trials, type of containment facilities, application of containment trials, concerns to handling GM plants, monitoring and regulatory authorities for GM research in India, biosafety level, Status of GM plant research in India

#### **Basics of Genetics and Molecular Breeding**

Basic concept of nuclear and cytoplasmic inheritance, linkage and crossing over; allelic and non-allelic Interaction- test of allelism, complementation, and epistasis; types of mutation and chromosomal variation, chromosomal rearrangements, role of organellar genes, recombination, basic plant breeding methodologies; type and application of molecular markers; linkage maps, QTL mapping, association mapping, linkage disequilibrium mapping, population structure, genomic selection, genomics tools in breeding; marker-assisted breeding and marker assisted selection

- 1. Bhojwani SS, Razdan MK. Plant Tissue Culture: Theory and Practice, Volume 5. Elsevier Science, 1<sup>st</sup> edition (2003), Elsevier Science.
- 2. Parker & Harvey. Progress and Issues in Transgenic Plants (2015).
- 3. Stewart NC. Plant Biotechnology and Genetics: Principles, Techniques, and Applications: 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. (2016).
- 4. Watson, Ronald Ross. Genetically Modified Organisms in Food (2016). Elsevier.
- 5. Regulatory guidelines and SOPs for containment field trials in India.
- 6. http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/regulations/#
- 7. http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/9.-Guidelines-\_Handbook\_2011.pdf
- 8. Singh BD. Biotechnology: Expanding Horizon, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Kalyani Publisher (2015).
- 9. Gupta PK. Elements of Biotechnology, Rastogi Publications, 2010
- 10. Gupta PK. Genetics. Rastogi Publications, 2009
- 11. Gupta PK. Cytology, Cytogenetics and Evolution, 2005
- 12. Alberts B, Johnson A, Lewis J, Raff M, Roberts K and Walter P (2008) Molecular Biology of the Cell. Fifth Edition, Garland Science, NY, USA.
- 13. Brown TA (2007) Genomes. Third Edition, Garland Science, NY, USA.
- 14. Snustad DP and Simmons MJ (2012) Principles of Genetics. Sixth Edition, John Wiley & Sons, NY, USA.

# FUNDALMENTALS OF MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY

(Credit score: 3)

Fundamental knowledge of molecular biology and cell Biology is important to understand the molecular mechanism involved in biological system. Emphasis will be given to explain the topics giving relevant examples that might help Ph.D. students in designing their experiments and interpretation of their observations.

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

#### **Molecular Biology**

Historical development of molecular biology, genome organization of prokaryotes and eukaryotes, chemistry and structure of DNA and RNA, DNA replication and recombination, source of genetic variation (natural and induced), structural and numerical alterations of chromosomes, chromosomal rearrangements — deletion, duplication, inversion and translocation; gene expression- transcription, cis-acting elements and transcription factors, RNA editing and processing; gene regulation- prokaryote and eukaryote, epigenetic gene regulation, translational and post-translational modifications, protein targeting and trafficking: protein trafficking (classical and non-classical pathways), ER and Golgi dynamics, protein sorting and trafficking, dynamics of membrane-bound proteins, mechanism of protein secretion, genetic code.

#### **Cell Biology**

Constituents of plant cell- extracellular matrix, cytoskeleton (basic elements of the cytoskeleton of a cell, mechanisms of assembly, dynamic structure and regulation of actin and microtubules, cytoskeleton based molecular motors and their varieties) and organelles – structure and function; cell cycle regulation- phases of cell cycle, restriction and check point; cell division and cell growth, cell cycle progression and regulation; enzyme function; protein turnover: biosynthesis and degradation; plant response to starvation, biotic and abiotic stresses, signal transduction mechanism, trafficking of molecules.

- 1. Nelson DL and Cox MM (2008) Lehninger "Principles of Biochemistry". Fifth Edition, Freeman & Co Ltd., NY, USA.
- 2. Alberts B, Johnson A, Lewis J, Raff M, Roberts K and Walter P (2008) Molecular Biology of the Cell. Fifth Edition, Garland Science, NY, USA.
- 3. Voet D and Voet JG (2011) Biochemistry. Fourth Edition, John Wiley & Sons, NY, USA.
- 4. Lodish H, Berk A, Zipursky SL, Matsudaira P, Baltimore D and Darnell J (2012) Molecular Cell Biology. Seventh Edition, Taylor & Francis Publishers, NY, USA.
- 5. Krebs JE, Goldstein ES and Kilpatrick ST (2011) Lewin's Genes X. Tenth Edition, Jones & Bartlett Publishers, MA, USA.
- 6. Latchman DS (2007) Gene Regulation. Fifth Edition, Taylor & Francis Publishers, NY, USA.
- 7. Brown TA (2007) Genomes. Third Edition, Garland Science, NY, USA.
- 8. Snustad DP and Simmons MJ (2012) Principles of Genetics. Sixth Edition, John Wiley & Sons, NY, USA.

## **FUNDAMENTALS OF GENOMICS**

(Credit score: 3)

The main aim of this course is to familiarize students with basic knowledge and techniques for high throughput data generation and their analysis. This includes structural, functional, and comparative analysis of DNA, RNA, and protein. This also helps students to understand the latest in-silico genomics and proteomics tools and methodologies.

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

#### Genes, Genomes and Genomics

Basic concepts of genes and genomes, genomics and applications, physical mapping of genes and genomes, gene tagging and targeting, strategies to find gene function at genome-wide level, TILLING, Allele/gene mining

#### **Structural Genomics**

Classical sequencing methods, next generation sequencing methods and techniques, methods and tools of sequence assembly and gene annotation, gene prediction and annotation, repeat analysis and SNP/indels analysis.

#### **Functional Genomics**

Functional analysis of genes, differential gene expression profiling- methodology and analysis; microarray profiling, SAGE, yeast-two hybrid screening, gene expression and transcript profiling, lower eukaryotes as a tool for gene function, factors influencing design of vector and choice of promoters; importance and basics of virus induced gene silencing, RNA-mediated interference, genome editing tools, *in vivo* technologies for assessing gene expression, quantification of gene expression and choice of multiple internal controls; Proteomics- protein annotation, protein separation and 2D PAGE; mass spectroscopy, protein microarrays, protein interactive maps, structural proteomics including protein structure determination, prediction and threading.

#### **Comparative Genomics**

Phylogeny, synteny and comparative genomics, gene evolution, speciation and segmental duplication, molecular phylogenetics and applications; multiple sequence alignments and phylogenetic analysis; evolution of exon and introns, gene duplication, acquisition of new genes in non-coding regions, multigene families: neo-, pseudo-, and sub-functionalization; transposable elements and their role in genome evolution; peptide bond and structural basis of protein function; from sequence to structure and from structure to function.

- 1. Brown, T.A. Gene cloning and DNA analysis: an introduction, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, (2016), West Sussex: Wiley-Blackwell, NJ, USA.
- 2. Caetano-Anolles G. Evolutionary Genomics and Systems Biology, (2010), Wiley-Blackwell, Hoboken, NJ, USA.
- 3. Somers DJ, Langridge P, Gustafson JP. Plant Genomics: Methods and Protocols, Methods in Molecular Biology, 2009 edition, Humana Press Inc., NY, USA.
- 4. Pevsner J. Bioinformatics and Functional Genomics, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, (2012), Wiley-Blackwell, Hoboken, NJ, USA.
  5. Brown TA. Genomes, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, (2007), Garland Science, NY, USA.
- 6. Galperin MY & Koonin EV. Frontiers in Computational Genomics, (2003), Caister Academic Press, Norfolk, UK.
- 7. Primrose SB & Twyman R. Principles of Gene Manipulation and Genomics. 7<sup>th</sup> edition, (2006), Wiley-Blackwell, NJ, USA.
- 8. Xu Y. Molecular Plant Breeding, (2010), CABI International, Oxfordshire, UK.
- 9. Somers DJ, Langridge P & Gustafson JP. Plant Genomics: Methods and Protocols, 1st edition, (2011), Humana Press Inc., NY, USA.

### **INTRODUCTION TO BIOINFORMATICS**

(Credit score: 3)

This course intends to give an introduction to information storage and processing by biological macromolecules (DNA and protein sequences) and biochemical pathways in cellular processes. This is an interdisciplinary area in modern biology evolving through the past two decades with inputs from mathematics, statistics, physical sciences, computer science and several other engineering sciences, to understand how biological systems work.

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

#### **Biological Databases**

Nucleic acid and protein databases such as ENTREZ, Genbank, PDB. File formats of nucleotide and protein sequences such as FASTA, ASN.1, Genbank flatfile, PDB.

#### **DNA and Protein Sequence Analysis**

Data storage and compression, DNA sequence composition, primer design, Motif and pattern search methods, Sequence alignments (Pairwise and multiple sequence alignment), Local and global sequence alignments, different types of scoring matrices.

#### **Methods for Database Searching**

BLAST and FASTA. Significance of alignments, E-values. BLAST programs: BLASTp, BLASTn, BLASTx, tBLASTx, tBLASTx, PSI BLAST.Serial and parallel BLAST.

#### Phylogenetic Analysis

Concept of phylogenetic trees-Branches, nodes, internal nodes, rooted and unrooted trees. Distance matrix methods; Maximum parsimony methods; Maximum likelihood methods.

#### **Gene Prediction Annotation**

Prokaryotes versus eukaryotes. Promoters, splice sites. RNA secondary structure prediction. miRNA prediction; gene annotation methods and interpretation of results

#### **Structural Bioinformatics**

Introduction to protein tertirary structure analysis, Protein structure visualization, Protein structure classification and databases. Ramachandran map, Protein secondary structure prediction. Tertiary structure prediction: Homology modeling, Threading/Fold recognition, ab initio protein structure prediction. RMSD.

- 1. J. Xiong, Essential Bioinformatics, Cambridge University Press (2009).
- 2. A. D. Mount, Bioinformatics: Sequence and Genome Analysis, 2nd Edn., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press (2004).
- 3. A. D. Baxevanis and B. F. F. Ouellette (eds), Bioinformatics: A practical guide to the analysis of genes and proteins, 3rd Edn., Wiley-Interscience (2004).
- 4. D. E. Krane and M. L. Raymer, Fundamental concepts of Bioinformatics, 1st Edn., Pearson Education India (2003).

# **GENOME ANALYSIS AND COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY**

(Credit Score: 3)

This interdisciplinary course intends to give an advance understanding about information storage and processing by biological macromolecules (DNA and protein sequences) and biochemical pathways in cellular processes. It will help in understanding high throughput genome analysis using computational methods.

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

#### **High Throughput Genome Analysis**

History and evolution of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, Basic information theory and its application in biology, Cell as an information-processing system; data minning, prediction and association of traits with the sequence data, assembly of large genomes, genome finishing, gene ontology and its application

#### **Interactome Analysis**

Computation in network of genes, protein structure, protein-protein interactions, miRNA; Biochemical pathways and cellular processes: Models of regulation; Basics of metabolic control analysis; Network analysis of biochemical pathways; Introduction to some biological repositories of information and data mining.

Data bases, data analysis, Phylogeny

- 1. Ramsden J. Bioinformatics: An Introduction, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, (2015), Springer Publishers.
- 2. Lesk A. Introduction to Bioinformatics, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, (2014), Oxford University Press.
- 3. Bower JM & Bolouri H. Computational Modeling of Genetic and Biochemical Networks, (2004), MIT Press.
- 4. Collado-Vides J & Hofestdt R. Gene Regulation and Metabolism, (2004), MIT Press.

## BASIC CONCEPTS OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(Credit Score: 3)

This course will provide a broad knowledge of food science with emphasis on chemistry and analysis of foods. Further various aspects such as challenges associated with food production, microbiology, safety, quality, sensorial properties and health potentials of foods. This course would help to apply the knowledge obtained in manipulating the complex characteristics of foods.

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

#### Post-harvest Physiology and Technology

Improvement of processing, storage, preservation of agriculture and horticulture crops to retain (a) nutritional value and (b) shelf-life approaches to understand and eliminate post-harvest losses, diversification of foods and its role in nutrition, production of nutrient rich crops (for example, horticultural products, legumes, underutilized crops, and bio-fortified crops).

#### Food Processing, Fortification, Quality and Sensory Evaluation

Methods of food processing, Food fortification - definition, history, relevance, techniques, novel technologies associated to food fortification with reference to nanotechnology, microencapsulation, and success stories of food fortification, economics of food fortification, FAO/WHO food policies and programs, nanotechnology, Food flavors, food colors, development and marketing of nutraceuticals products: product development, packaging and safety evaluation.

#### **Basic Concepts of Food Safety and Security**

Isolation and identification of microorganisms from different types of food, source of outbreaks of food born disease and methods employed, and examples of biological interventions such as bacteriophages and their enzymes will be discussed and evaluated, biosafety issues related to genetically modified foods

#### **Functional Foods and Beneficial Microbes**

Introduction to Functional foods/ nutraceuticals, properties, structure and functions of various, Nutraceuticals, Food as remedies, Probiotics, Prebiotics, Dietary fibers, Antioxidants, food/dietary components and their health benefits.

- 1. Martirosyan DM. Introduction to Functional Food Science, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, (2017), Food Science Publisher.
- 2. Lang M, Pistone P, Schuch J, Staringer C & Storck A. Beneficial Ownership: Recent Trends
- 3. Tortora GJ, Funke BR & Case CL. Microbiology: An Introduction, 12<sup>th</sup> edition, Books a la Carte Edition.

- 4. Embuscado ME & Huber KC. Edible films and coatings for food applications, (2009 edition), Springer Publishers.
- Fellows PJ. Food Processing Technology, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, (2016), Woodhead Publishing.
   Rahman RS. Hand book of food preservation, (2016), Taylor & Francis Publisher.
- 7. Biliaderis CS. & Izydorczyk MS Functional food carbohydrates, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, (2006), CRC press.

# **NUTRITIONAL BIOCHEMISTRY**

(Credit Score: 3)

This course will emphasize on basic understanding about biochemical components of the human nutrition. Metabolic pathways are key for developing nutrition based interventions for improving human health. This course will provide deeper insights to understand about various nutrients, their molecular interactions in the host's tissues and gut, how it modulates immune system and gut ecology while contributing for health and well-being. Furthermore, students will be immensely benefitted to undertake cutting edge research in the frontier areas of nutrition research.

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

#### **Advanced Biochemistry and Cell Biology**

Basics of biophysical chemistry and analytical techniques, Major nutrients in the human diets and dietary sources, micro nutrients, human physiology, digestion and absorption, basic concepts in endocrinology, basic concepts of animal cell, cell organelles and functions, cell cycle and signal hypothesis, basic methods used for bioavailability studies of micronutrients and proteins

#### **Fundamentals of Human Nutrition**

Metabolism of carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, nucleic acids, vitamins, micronutrients; disorders associated with their metabolism; malnutrition, effects of insufficient, balanced and excessive intake, energy balance and methods to calculate energy needs to maintain healthy weight; connection between diet and the prevention and treatment of major diseases; intestinal health through nutrition, nutrition and epigenetics, immuno nutrition, public health; animal models for nutrition studies; nutraceuticals and personalized nutrition; nutrigenomics, nutrigenetics and their application

#### **Omics in nutrition**

Understanding use and application of genomics, functional genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics, and lipidomics in nutrition, microbiome analysis and implications

- 1. Berg JM, Tymoczko JL, & Stryer L. Biochemistry. 7<sup>th</sup> edition, (2011), Freeman.
- 2. Lodish H, Berk A, Zipursky SL, Matsudaira P, Baltimore D. & James Darnell J. Molecular Cell Biology, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, (2013), Freeman Publishers.
- 3. Alberts B, Johnson A, Lewis J, Raff M, Roberts K & Walter P. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, (2014), Garland Science.
- 4. Gibney MJ, Lanham-New SA, Cassidy A, Vorster HH, Introduction to Human Nutrition, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, (2009), Wiley-Blackwel.
- 5. Eastwood M A. Principles of Human Nutrition, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Springer Publisher.
- 6. Kuby. Immunology, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, (2013), W. H. Freeman.

## **BIO-ORGANIC AND BIOPHYSICAL CHEMISTRY**

(Credit Score: 3)

The objective of this course is to introduce students to the physical and chemical basis of biochemical reactions. The course is designed to develop an advanced understanding of the structure and function of natural organic compounds. Students will explore the principals of biological systems through an examination of their structures, synthesis and kinetics and data analysis. Course envisages exploration of both organic and non-biological molecules, with stress on their use in advance research. Emphasis will be given to create and improve products for human consumption; this may include studies on nanotechnology and polymers.

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

#### **Introduction to Bio-organic and Biophysical chemistry**

Atomic and Molecular Structure, Equilibria, Acids, and Bases, Structural elucidation of macromolecules including proteins, carbohydrates, lipids and nucleic acids using advanced analytical techniques like mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF, GC-MS, ESI-MS), HPLC, TLC, Dynamic light scattering (DLS), circular dichroism, NMR, PAGE and agarose gel electrophoresis, molecular basis of interactions between macromolecules (protein-protein, Protein-DNA/RNA, carbohydrates-proteins, lipids-proteins interactions) with emphasis on gene regulation and signal transduction.

#### **Biochemical Energetics**

Thermodynamics of biological systems, Enthalpy, entropy, free energy, .Biosynthesis of energy rich bonds, Glycolysis, TCA cycle, Gluconeogenesis, Glycogen metabolism, Pentose Phosphate Pathway, Lipid biosynthesis and catabolism, synthesis and degradation of nucleotides.

#### **Isotopes in Biochemistry**

Application of stable and radio-isotopes in primary and secondary metabolism, transcription, translation, post-translational modification, bio-transport of metals, drug metabolism. Isotopes and radioactive decay. Assays using radioactive substrate. Biological half-life (turnover). Radioisotopes used in diagnostic Imaging, medical treatments and in agriculture.

#### Nanoscience

Introduction to nanoscience, Characterization techniques for nanomaterials, biosafety of nanomaterials, Stability and Environmental effects of nanomaterials, application of nanoscience in agriculture, food and nutrition research.

- 1. Vranken DV, & Weiss GA. Introduction to Bioorganic Chemistry and Chemical Biology, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, (2012), Garland secience.
- 2. Segel IH. Biochemical Calculations 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, (2010), Wiley.
- 3. Dugas H. Bioorganic Chemistry: A Chemical Approach to Enzyme Action, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, (1999 edition), Springer Publishers.
- 4. Niemeyer CM & Mirkin CA, Nanobiotechnology: Concepts, Applications and Perspectives, Wiley VCH.

# INDUSTRIAL BIOTECHNOLOGY

(Credit Score: 3)

To provide insight into the industrial application of biotechnology and development of various products in mass scale for broad applications

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

#### Introduction

Introduction, scope and historical developments; Isolation, screening and genetic improvement (involving classical approaches) of industrially important organisms, screening methods, storage at reduced temperature, storage in dehydrated form, selection of induced mutants, use of auxotrophs, resistant mutants, revertant mutants, microorganisms in extreme environments (thermophiles, psychrophiles, alkaliphiles, acidophiles, halophiles, barophiles) and biotechnological potentials.

#### **Industrial Biotechnology Products**

Primary metabolism products, production of industrial ethanol as a case study, Secondary metabolites, bacterial antibiotics and non-ribosomal peptide antibiotics. Microbial enzymes, role in various industrial processes, production of fine chemicals for pharmaceutical industries. Bio-transformations, Bio-augmentation with production of vitamin C as a case study.

#### **Bioreactors**

Bioreactors, their design and types. Immobilized enzymes based bioreactors. Microencapsulation technologies for immobilization of microbial enzymes. Industrial biotechnology for pollution control, treatment of industrial and other wastes, biomass production involving single cell protein.

#### **Bioproducts**

Bio-remediation of soil. Production of eco-friendly agricultural chemicals, bio-pesticides, bio-herbicides, bio-fertilizers, bio-fuels, etc. Recombinant DNA technologies for microbial processes, recombinant products.

#### **Metabolic Engineering of Microbes**

Strategies for development of industrial microbial strains with scale up production capacities. Metabolic pathway engineering of microbes for production of novel product for industry.

#### **Fermentation systems**

Batch culture, continuous culture, Fed-batch culture, kinetics of growth and product formation; media for industrial fermentations, sterilization.

- 1. Flickinger MC. Encyclopedia of industrial Biotechnology, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, (2010), Wiley.
- 2. Demain AL, Devias JE. Manual of industrial Microbiology and Biotechnology, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, (2010), ASM Press.
- 3. Winsoetaert & Vandamme EJ. Industrial Biotechnology, (2010).
- 4. Mousdale DM. Biofuels: Biotechnology, Chemistry, and Sustainable Development, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, (2008), CRC Press.



# NATIONAL AGRI-FOOD BIOTECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE- RCB PhD Programme

# ACADEMIC CALENDAR (2019-2020)

## SEMESTER SCHEDULE

Semester Fee submission	15 <sup>th</sup> to 26 <sup>th</sup> July, 2019
Orientation Day & Student-Faculty Interaction	30 <sup>th</sup> July, 2019
Course Work Starts/Classes begin	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2019
Mid Term Exams	23 <sup>rd</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2019
Mid Semester Break	14 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> October, 2019
Final Exams	23 <sup>rd</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup> December, 2019
Declaration of Results	31 <sup>st</sup> December, 2019

## ACADEMIC SCHEDULE

PhD Admission Process	June –July, 2019
Program Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting	Last Week of September
Six monthly/ Annual Evaluation of PhD by	2 <sup>nd</sup> week of July/January
Advisory Committee	



# **NATIONAL AGRI-FOOD BIOTECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE (NABI)**

(Dept. of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India) Knowledge City, Sector 81, S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali 140306, Punjab, INDIA Website: <a href="https://www.nabi.res.in">www.nabi.res.in</a>

# <u>Application form for admission to Ph.D. (Biotechnology) Program</u> <u>2019</u>

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