



Biology at New College

First of all, many congratulations on obtaining a place to read Biology at New College. We are all very much looking forward to welcoming you here in October.

There is no formal reading list for biology students. The New College library is well-stocked with biology textbooks and you will also have access to all recommended texts through the Radcliffe Science Library. There is, therefore, no need to spend money on books when you get here. Nevertheless, we thought it might be useful to list a couple of books that are particularly useful in first year, in case you'd like to do some reading over the summer.

We run a "book club" tutorial at the start of Hilary term (January) on "The Ancestor's Tale" by Richard Dawkins, a kind of back-to-front crash course in the history of life on earth.

Probably one of the most heavily used text books across all three years of the course is the fourth edition of "An Introduction to Behavioural Ecology" by Davies, Krebs and West. It covers those parts of biology that the A-Level syllabus doesn't seem to reach and is very popular with the students.

We will meet again in fresher's week, when we will provide you with detailed information about our tutorial schedule and you will also have the chance to meet the other biology students in college. In the meantime, if you're sitting your exams, we wish you all the best, and have a good break over the summer.

With best wishes,

Ashleigh & Elena