

LENScience Senior Biology Seminar Series Teacher Update Number 16 – August 15, 2011

Term 3 and 4 Seminar Schedule

Due to technical difficulties we will not be broadcasting any live seminars this term. However we have a range of six seminars ready for you to pick and choose from to help you your students match their learning programme to a range of areas in the curriculum.

Each seminar has its own home page where students can download the seminar paper and questions and watch the seminar. When they are ready, they can post their answers to the seminar challenge questions on the wiki and join in the learning community. We strongly recommend that this process is carried out in study groups or class groups to ensure that students are working collaboratively.



The seminars that are provided for this period explore aspects of the following concept areas in the curriculum:

- Gene Expression: [Feast or Famine?](#)
- Evolution (speciation): [Ancient Secrets of the Seaweed](#)
- Circadian Rhythms: [Keeping Time](#)
- Patterns of Inheritance: [Insight into blindness](#)
- Animal responses to the environment: [Magnetic Sense](#)
- Plant responses to the environment: [How do plants grow?](#)

Providing opportunities to use thinking skills and apply concept knowledge to new contexts.

A number of examiners reports in the past have noted that students entering the Biology Scholarship examination often struggle with questions where they are required to apply understanding of core concepts from the curriculum to new contexts. The seminar series challenge questions are designed to offer students the opportunity to apply their understanding and thinking to new contexts, and to have opportunities to interpret information presented in questions.

The LENScience team and the scientists involved in these seminars look forward to reading the student responses to the seminar challenge questions and assisting teachers to support students in the lead up to the end of year examinations. Also—don't forget to encourage your students to respond to the challenges from seminar 5. Many of you had exams that clashed with [Seminar 5](#), so the pages are still open and we look forward to your responses to the challenge questions.

