

Analyze the evidence found at a crime scene and help the medical examiner uncover clues left on a body to solve a mystery. Question, diagnose, and propose treatment and care for patients in a family medical practice. Track down the source of a mysterious outbreak at a local hospital. Access and stabilize a patient during an emergency and prepare for medical surge and mobile medical care. Collaborate with professionals in other fields to innovate and design solutions to local and global medical problems.

Whether seeking a career in medicine or healthcare or simply looking to for the challenge of real-world problems, students in Principles of Biomedical Science will practice how to think creatively and critically to innovate in science and will gain practical experience with experimental design and the design process.

Principles of Biomedical Science (PBS) is a full-year high school course in the PLTW Biomedical Science Program. This course serves to provide foundational knowledge and skills in fields such as biology, anatomy & physiology, genetics, microbiology, and epidemiology as well as engage students in how this content can be applied to real-world situations, cases, and problems.

Through both individual and collaborative team activities, projects, and problems, students will tackle real-world challenges faced by biomedical professionals in the field. They will work with the same tools and equipment used in hospitals and labs as they engage in relevant hands-on work. Students will develop skill in technical documentation to represent and communicate experimental findings and solutions to problems. In addition, students will explore how connections to other disciplines such as computer science and engineering shape the future of medicine and practice collaboration techniques that will help them connect with professionals across any field.

Following is a summary of the units of study included in the course for the 2020-2021 academic year. Alignment with NGSS, Common Core, National Consortium for Health Science Education, and other standards will be available through the PLTW Alignment web-based tool. Activities, projects, and problems are provided to the teacher through an online delivery system, PLTW Courses.

The course requires a rigorous pace, and it is likely to contain more material than a skilled teacher new to the course will be able to complete in the first iteration. Building enthusiasm for and a real understanding of the role, impact, and practice of biomedical scientists is a primary goal of the course.

Unit 1: Medical Investigation

In Unit 1 students engage in forensic science and medical examination investigations in order to: a.) explore biological and forensic science careers; b.) gain experience in experimental design and data analysis; c.) learn about biomolecules and their role in determining identity; d.) learn about human anatomy and physiology and causes of death; e.) practice synthesizing multiple forms of data to draw conclusions; and f.) work to develop professional communication skills.

Medical Investigation

Lesson 1.1	Investigating the Scene
Lesson 1.2	Master the Morgue
Lesson 1.3	Open Investigation

Unit 2: Clinical Care

Students assume the role of different medical professionals working through the schedule of patients in a family care clinic in order to: a.) explore medical careers; b.) practice professional communication; c.) gain experience collecting, recording, and interpreting physiological data; d.) learn how to perform routine medical tests and evaluate results; e.) learn about cutting edge technologies revolutionizing healthcare; f.) understand the interconnectedness between body systems; and g.) explore the various causations and inheritance of disease.

Clinical Care

Lesson 2.1	Talk to Your Doc
Lesson 2.2	Decoding a Diagnosis
Lesson 2.3	New to the Practice

Unit 3: Outbreaks & Emergencies

Working as public health officials and then as emergency responders, students are presented with a series of events they must address while exploring: a.) careers in public health, epidemiology, microbiology and emergency medicine; b.) professional communication and presentation; c.) data analysis; d.) processes by which critical medical decisions are made and acted upon; e.) processes by which patients are diagnosed with a contagious disease and by which a causative agent is identified.

Outbreaks and Emergencies

Lesson 3.1	Nonsocomial Nightmare
Lesson 3.2	Emergency Response
Lesson 3.3	Information Sharing

Unit 4: Innovation, Inc.

Welcome to PLTW Innovation, Inc. – an incubator for innovation where some of the best minds in science and engineering endeavor to solve some of the world’s most pressing biomedical challenges. Students tour Innovation, Inc. labs and engage in experiences designed to: a.) build their engineering and experimental design process skills, b.) challenge them to design solutions to current and emerging issues both on and off this world, c.) tangibly highlight that solutions to biomedical science problems rely on collaboration between professions, d.) build their computer science skills by using computer aided design (CAD) and geographic information system (GIS) to innovate the future of medicine, and e.) explore career fields on the forefront of medicine.

Innovation, Inc.

Lesson 4.1	Designing the Future
Lesson 4.2	New Frontier
Lesson 4.3	Invitation to Innovation