

BUILDING ENGLISH-LANGUAGE SOFT SKILLS IN BIOTECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

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In the modern world, biotechnology professionals must possess not only technical knowledge but also a high level of English-language communication skills, particularly soft skills. These competencies are essential for successful integration into the global scientific and professional community.

With the globalization of science and the internationalization of higher education, biotechnology professionals are increasingly involved in international projects, conferences, publications, and collaborations. English has become the dominant language of communication in the biotech field. However, mastering terminology alone is insufficient. Soft skills, especially those practiced in English, are vital for future specialists to effectively engage in teamwork, confidently present their ideas, and adapt to multicultural environments.

Key soft skills required for future biotechnologists include **Communication skills** – the ability to express ideas clearly, logically, and confidently in both spoken and written English. **Public speaking and presentations** – delivering scientific results at conferences, seminars, and professional meetings in English. **Academic writing skills** – writing research papers, abstracts, reports, and grant proposals in English. **Critical thinking and argumentation** – formulating arguments, asking questions, analyzing data, and engaging in evidence-based discussions. **Intercultural competence** – understanding cultural differences and effectively interacting in multicultural professional settings.

The development of English-language soft skills is an essential component of effective biotechnology education. This approach not only enhances students' language proficiency but also prepares them for real-world professional challenges in a globalized context. Integrating soft skills into English language instruction makes learning more relevant, engaging, and aligned with the current demands of the international labor market and scientific community.

Integrating English-language soft skills development into biotechnology curricula requires a well-structured pedagogical framework. Educators should employ interactive and student-centered methods such as project-based learning, case studies, role-playing, and collaborative research tasks conducted in English. These approaches simulate real professional situations and promote active communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. Furthermore, digital tools — including online scientific platforms, virtual conferences, and professional networking environments — can provide authentic contexts for students to practice their communication and collaboration skills. By combining linguistic training with practical applications relevant to biotechnology, universities can create a dynamic learning environment that fosters both professional competence and global employability.

REFERENCES

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