Glossary

Bioengineering	Use of engineering to solve problems in medicine and biology
Cell	Basic unit of any living organism
Chromosome	Long strand of DNA that is bundled in the nucleus of a cell
DNA	Also known as deoxyribonucleic acid, it is found inside the nucleus of a cell and contains all genetic information
Enzyme	A protein that encourages a biochemical reaction, usually speeding it up
Forensic science	Use of science to answer questions for the legal system
Gene	Unit of heredity from DNA passed from parent to child
Gene therapy	A technique used to treat inherited disease
Genetics	Study of inheritance patterns of specific traits
Genome	Complete set of genes
Genomics	Study of genes and their function
Human Genome Project	International research project to map each human gene and to completely sequence human DNA
Nucleus	Central cell structure that contains chromosomes
Odontology	The scientific study of teeth. In forensics, it is often used to identify a victim by his/her teeth or a suspect by his/her bitemark
Protein	A large complex molecule made up of amino acids that performs a variety of activities in the cell
Stem cell	Unspecialized cell that has the ability to renew itself for a long period of time and is able to turn into a specialized cell when given the appropriate signal