

Biology - B.S.

College of Arts and Sciences

To address the breadth and depth essential to educating biologists, the biology major is structured to include both a broad foundation through core courses and opportunity for specialization within a biological subfield through biology electives. The major is designed to prepare the student for a post-baccalaureate profession in biology, for advanced professional training in the health sciences, or for graduate study in basic and applied areas of the biological sciences.

120 hours (minimum)

Any student earning a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree must complete a minimum of 60 hours in natural, physical, mathematical, and computer science. A complete description of College requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree, including a specific listing of courses applicable to the 60-hour requirement, is in the *Arts and Sciences* section of the 2023-2024 Undergraduate Catalog.

UK Core Requirements

See the *UK Core* section of the 2023-2024 Undergraduate Catalog for the complete UK Core requirements. The courses listed below are (a) recommended by the college, or (b) required courses that also fulfill UK Core areas. Students should work closely with their advisor to complete the UK Core requirements.

I. Intellectual Inquiry in Arts and Creativity Choose one course from approved list
II. Intellectual Inquiry in the Humanities Choose one course from approved list
III. Intellectual Inquiry in the Social Sciences Choose one course from approved list
IV. Intellectual Inquiry in the Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Science CHE 105 General College Chemistry I
V. Composition and Communication I CIS/WRD 110 Composition and Communication I
VI. Composition and Communication II CIS/WRD 111 Composition and Communication II
VII. Quantitative Foundations MA 113 Calculus I or
MA 137 Calculus I With Life Science Applications
VIII. Statistical Inferential Reasoning STA 296 Statistical Methods and Motivations
IX. Community, Culture and Citizenship in the USA Choose one course from approved list
X. Global Dynamics Choose one course from approved list

Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement (GCCR)

In order to meet the Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement (GCCR), students must successfully complete **both** BIO 425 to fulfill the oral communication requirement **and** one course from the list below to fulfill the written communication requirement. In order to receive GCCR credit a student must:

a. Earn an average grade of C or better on all GCCR assignments; and

Oral Communication Requirement

b. Have completed at least 30 credit hours of college-level course work prior to registering for the course.

BIO 425 Biology Seminar (Subtitle required)1
Written Communication Requirement Choose one course from the following 8 options: BIO 398 Research and Writing in Biology 1-3 BIO 404 Advanced Genetics 3 BIO 405 Human Genetics 3 BIO 418 Ecological Genetics 3 BIO 430G Plant Physiology 4 BIO 445 The Biology of Sex 3 WRD 305 Writing Public Science 3 WRD 310 Writing in the Natural Sciences 3
Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement hours (GCCR)2-5
College Requirements Humanities – one course
Premajor Requirements BIO 148 Introductory Biology I
or BIO 198 Scholars Biology Research
†CHE 105 General College Chemistry I 4 *CHE 111 General Chemistry I Laboratory 1 CHE 107 General College Chemistry II 3 CHE 113 General Chemistry II Laboratory 2
MA 137/138 Calculus I/II With Life Science Applications

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†The CHE 105 requirement can be satisfied with CHE 109 and CHE 110.

The University of Kentucky is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate, baccalaureate, masters, educational specialist, and doctorate degrees. The University of Kentucky also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of the University of Kentucky may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website (www.sacscoc.org).

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Major Requirements

Minimum major requirement for graduation is 54 credit hours in courses as detailed below. The minimum GPA of all major and premajor courses must be at least 2.0.

Major Core

First Tier Core
BIO 303 Introduction to Evolution4
BIO 304 Principles of Genetics4
Second Tier Core
To be taken after completion of First Tier Core.
BIO 315 Introduction to Cell Biology4
BIO 325 Ecology4
BIO 350 Animal Physiology
or
BIO 430G Plant Physiology4
STA 296 Statistical Methods and Motivations3
BIO 425 Biology Seminar (Subtitle required)
or
BIO 499 Biology Research Seminar1
Core hours:24
Other Course Work Required for the Major
From Outside the Major Department
CHE 230 Organic Chemistry I
CHE 231 Organic Chemistry Laboratory I
CHE 232 Organic Chemistry II
PHY 211 General Physics
or
PHY 231/241 General University Physics/Laboratory
AND
PHY 213 General Physics
Of DITY 222/242 C
PHY 232/242 General University Physics/Laboratory
Biology Electives
Choose 15 hours of acceptable biology electives
15 hours to be chosen from 300+ level BIO courses or the list below. At least 9 of
the 15 hours must be BIO courses. A maximum of 6 hours of Independent Research
*
course work from biological sciences departments may be counted within the 15 hour
course work from biological sciences departments may be counted within the 15 hour requirement. NOTE: ANA 209, BIO 208, BIO 209 and PGY 206 CANNOT be used for
course work from biological sciences departments may be counted within the 15 hour

Tracks

Complete one of the following tracks below to fulfill your 15 hours of Biology electives. If an alternative track is not declared, the default track will be General Biology.

Cellular, Molecular, and Developmental Biology Track

The Cellular, Molecular, and Developmental Track provides a broad background in biology, with a focus on the molecular, cellular, and integrative mechanisms by which organisms regulate life processes. Students will learn about the molecular and cellular mechanisms that provide the basis for biological structure, growth, evolution, embryonic development, and genetic inheritance. Students will understand how eukaryotic cells process information from their environment and initiate programs of gene expression leading to growth, development, and functional specification.

A degree in biology with an emphasis in Cellular, Molecular, and Development will prepare students for a career in the life sciences, whether they are interested in understanding the molecular mechanisms underlying cell growth, or the complex patterns of organismal development. This can help prepare students for a career in academic or industrial research, biotechnology, genetic engineering, or any of the health professions.

12 upper-level guided elective hours out of the required 13-15 hours of guided electives must be completed from the courses listed below. Of those 12 hours, a maximum of 3 hours can be independent research (BIO 394/395/397). The remaining 1-3 credit hours may come from the list of approved electives for the general biology track, which may include an additional 3 hours of independent research (BIO 394/395/397). A maximum of 6 credit hours of independent research can be counted toward the Biology degree. Of the 13-15 hours of total upper-level electives required, 9 credit hours must have a BIO prefix.

DVG 200 G 11/G 11/1
BIO 308 General Microbiology
BIO 309 Microbiology Laboratory2
BIO 429 Developmental Biology
BIO 494G Immunobiology
BIO 394/395/397 Research in Neuroscience/Biology/
Microbiology (maximum 3 credits toward track) 1-3
BIO 495G Bacterial Pathogenesis
BIO 502 Systems, Cellular and Molecular Physiology5
BIO 510 Recombinant DNA Techniques Laboratory4
BIO 520 Bioinformatics
BIO 527 Stem Cells, Tissue Engineering, and Regenerative Medicine
BIO 582 Virology
BIO 542 Histology5
BIO 410 Vertebrate Endocrinology
*BIO 380 Special Topics in Biology (Intermediate Level)
(Subtitle required)
Courses from Outside the Biology department:
BCH 401G Fundamentals of Biochemistry
CHE 233 Organic Chemistry Laboratory II1
0r
CHE 533 Advanced Organic Chemistry Laboratory2
CHE 550 Biological Chemistry I
CHE 552 Biological Chemistry II
CHE 532 Spectrometric Identification of Organic Molecules
MI/PAT 598 Clinical Microbiology
ANA 442 Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology

Other courses can be accepted by the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Biology on a case by case basis.

*Subtitle must be approved by Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Track

The Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Track focuses on the diversity of life on Earth, including diversity in genes, physiology, and behaviors. Students will learn about how this diversity emerged, as plants, animals, and microbes became adapted to the environment and to each other. A wide variety of scientific disciplines are integrated within the track, including ecology, organismal biology, physiology, genetics, evolution, conservation biology, and behavior. A degree in biology with an emphasis in Ecology and Evolution will prepare students for a career in the life sciences, whether they are interested in having a deep understanding of evolutionary process, or are interested in the interactions between organisms and their environment. This can help prepare students for careers in areas such as: 1. conservation and restoration biology addressing the impacts of climate change, developing plans for habitat conservation and wildlife protection, or other issues critical to maintaining a healthy planet; 2. working as a doctor or veterinarian; 3. science education - educating students and the public on the history and diversity of life on earth and the need to conserve it; 4. basic research in biology - helping to expand the frontiers of knowledge by studying the evolution of organisms and their ecosystems.

12 upper-level guided elective hours out of the required 13-15 hours of guided electives must be completed from the courses listed below. Of those 12 hours, a maximum of 3 hours can be independent research (BIO 394/395/397). The remaining 1-3 credit hours may come from the list of approved electives for the general biology track, which may include an additional 3 hours of independent research (BIO 394/395/397). A maximum of 6 credit hours of independent research can be counted toward the Biology degree. Of the 13-15 hours of total upper-level electives required, 9 credit hours must have a BIO prefix.

BIO 300 General Entomology	,
BIO 337 Mathematical Modeling in the Life Sciences	3
BIO 351 The History of Plants on Earth	3
BIO 375 Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology	3

DIO 200 C-----1 E------1----

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*BIO 430G Plant Physiology4	
BIO 440 Comparative and Functional Anatomy4	
BIO 445 The Biology of Sex	
BIO 461G Introduction to Population Genetics	
BIO 508 Evolution	
BIO 418 Ecological Genetics	
BIO 520 Bioinformatics	
BIO 525 Advanced Ecology	
BIO 530 Biogeography and Conservation	
BIO 555 Vertebrate Zoology	
BIO 559 Ornithology	
BIO 568 Insect Behavior	
**BIO 380 Special Topics in Biology (Intermediate Level) (Subtitle required) 1-4	ŀ
Courses from Outside the Biology department:	
CHE 565 Environmental Chemistry	3
EES 401G Invertebrate Paleobiology and Evolution	3
FOR 340 Forest Ecology4	ļ
PLS 450G Biogeochemistry	}
PLS 502 Ecology of Economic Plants	}
PGY 512 Evolutionary Medicine	
FOR 370 Wildlife Biology and Management4	
FOR 435 Conservation Biology	
FOR 510 Herpetology4	
FOR 530 Freshwater Ecology3	
Other courses can be accepted by the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Biology or	n
a case by case basis.	
*Only for students who do not use the course to fulfill the 2 nd Tier Core.	
**Subtitle must be approved by Director of Undergraduate Studies.	
General Biology Track	
This is the default option for students who do not declare another track.	
Choose 13-15 credit hours from the upper-level electives listed below.	
P'. I	
Biology	
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX	
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology	
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX	;
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 3 3 2 2
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 3 2 2 2
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 2 3 2 2 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 2 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 2 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 2 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 2 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 2 3 3 3 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 2 3 3 3 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	3 1 3 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33
BIO 3XX, BIO 4XX, BIO 5XX, BIO 6XX Anthropology ANT 332 Human Evolution	33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 33

Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
ABT/ENT 460 Introduction to Molecular Genetics
ASC 364 Reproductive Physiology of Farm Animals
ASC 378 Animal Nutrition
ENT 310 Insect Pests of Field Crops
ENT 320 Horticultural Entomology
ENT/FOR 502 Forest Entomology
ENT 561 Insects Affecting Human and Animal Health
ENT 564 Insect Taxonomy4
ENT 568 Insect Behavior
FOR 340 Forest Ecology4
FOR 370 Wildlife Biology and Management
FOR 435 Conservation Biology
FOR 530 Freshwater Ecology
FOR 510 Herpetology4
FSC 530 Food Microbiology and Safety5
HRT 320 Woody Horticultural Plants
NRE 420G Taxonomy of Vascular Plants
PLS 330 Herbaceous Horticultural Plants I
PLS 332 Herbaceous Horticultural Plants II
PLS 366 Fundamentals of Soil Science4
PLS 450G Biogeochemistry3
PLS 502 Ecology of Economic Plants
PLS 566 Soil Microbiology
PLS 567 Methods in Soil Microbiology
PPA 400G Principles of Plant Pathology
College of Medicine
ANA 410G Neurobiology of Brain and Spinal Cord Disorders
ANA 442 Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology3
ANA 511 Introduction to Human Anatomy5
ANA 512 Microscopy and Ultrastructure
ANA 516 Selected Topics in Advanced Neuroscience
Some other anatomy courses at the 500-level are acceptable, but they are usually
restricted to professional students.
BCH 401G Fundamentals of Biochemistry
MI/BIO 494G Immunobiology
MI 595 Immunobiology Laboratory
MI/PAT 598 Clinical Microbiology
PGY 412G Principles of Human Physiology4
PGY 412G is acceptable as an elective for upper level biology credit ONLY IF a student DOES NOT complete BIO 350. It DOES NOT substitute for BIO 350 or BIO 430G.
PGY 431 Introduction to Neuroendocrinology
PGY 417 Genomics and Epigenetics2
PGY 512 Evolutionary Medicine
PGY 560 Pathophysiology: Integrative Study in Physiology and Medicine
PGY 502 Systems, Cellular and Molecular Physiology5
TOX 509 Environmental and Regulatory Toxicology
Unacceptable courses often mistakenly thought to be acceptable. These courses are not acceptable electives for Biology majors:
ANA 209 Principles of Human Anatomy
PGY 206 Elementary Physiology3
Other courses may be accepted at the discretion of the Director of Undergraduate

Other courses may be accepted at the discretion of the Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Biology.

Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics Track

The Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics Track will provide guidance and structure to students with a desire to specialize in the study of inheritance and will formally recognize their chosen area of specialization in the description of their degree. The selected course offerings span the spectrum of studies within the area of inheritance, allowing students to select broadly from courses that provide sophisticated insight into genetic information and genetic analysis. The selected courses also allow students to dive deeply into different realms of genetics, including: emphasis on microbes (BIO 308, 309 and 510); emphasis on animals (BIO 404, 405, 429, 527); emphasis on analytical technology (BIO 337, 404, 461G, 510, 520, STA 579, ABT 460); emphasis on development (BIO 404, 405, 429, 445, 527, PGY 417); and emphasis on evolution (BIO 461G, 508).

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Students selecting this track will be able to demonstrate a clear understanding of the most important and fundamental theories and ideas in contemporary biology from a perspective that emphasizes inheritance, organization, and analysis of genetic information.

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BIO 308 General Microbiology
BIO 309 Microbiology Laboratory2
BIO 337 Mathematical Modeling in the Life Sciences
BIO 395/397 Research in Biology/Microbiology
(maximum 3 credits toward track)1-3
BIO 404 Advanced Genetics
BIO 405 Human Genetics
BIO 429 Developmental Biology
BIO 445 The Biology of Sex
BIO 461G Introduction to Population Genetics
BIO 508 Evolution
BIO 510 Recombinant DNA Techniques Laboratory4
BIO 418 Ecological Genetics
BIO 520 Bioinformatics
BIO 527 Stem Cells, Tissue Engineering, and Regenerative Medicine
*BIO 380 Special Topics in Biology (Intermediate Level)
(Subtitle required)
Courses from Outside the Biology department:
STA 570 Basic Statistical Analysis
STA 580 Biostatistics I
ABT/ENT 460 Introduction to Molecular Genetics
PGY 417 Genomics and Epigenetics

Other courses can be accepted by the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Biology on a case by case basis.

Physiology and Behavior Track

Physiology is the study of function of living organisms, primarily plants and animals. The field studies cells, tissues, organs, and the whole organism. To understand function, a mechanistic approach is used to integrate the cell level to the whole organism. The study of animal behavior and physiology go hand and hand in addressing the functional mechanisms which regulate behavior. This track will prepare pre-professionals in health science areas (MD, DO, DDS, and PT), researchers in the function of animals and plants (MS/PhD), and ecologists.

12 upper-level guided elective hours out of the required 13-15 hours of guided electives must be completed from the courses listed below. Of those 12 hours, a maximum of 3 hours can be independent research (BIO 394/395/397). The remaining 1-3 credit hours may come from the list of approved electives for the general biology track, which may include an additional 3 hours of independent research (BIO 394/395/397). A maximum of 6 credit hours of independent research can be counted toward the Biology degree. Of the 13-15 hours of total upper-level electives required, 9 credit hours must have a BIO prefix.

BIO 302 Introduction to Neuroscience
BIO 305 Introduction to Neuroscience Techniques
BIO 375 Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology
BIO 394/395/397 Research in Neuroscience/Biology/
Microbiology (maximum 3 credits toward track)
*BIO 430G Plant Physiology4
BIO 440 Comparative and Functional Anatomy4
BIO 445 The Biology of Sex
BIO 446 Neurophysiology Laboratory
BIO 494G Immunobiology
BIO 502 Systems, Cellular and Molecular Physiology5
BIO 507 Biology of Sleep and Circadian Rhythms
BIO 535 Comparative Neurobiology and Behavior

BIO 550 Advanced Physiology	3
*BIO 350 Animal Physiology	4
BIO 410 Vertebrate Endocrinology	
**BIO 380 Special Topics in Biology (Intermediate Level) (Subtitle required)	1-4
Courses from Outside the Biology department:	
ASC 364 Reproductive Physiology of Farm Animals	4
ENT 568 Insect Behavior	3
MI 595 Immunobiology Laboratory	2
PGY 560 Pathophysiology: Integrative Study in Physiology and Medicine	1
PSY 459 Neuropharmacology: Drugs and Behavior	3
ANA 410G Neurobiology of Brain and Spinal Cord Disorders	3
ANA 442 Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology	3
PGY 431 Introduction to Neuroendocrinology	

Other courses can be accepted by the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Biology on a case by case basis.

Plant Biology Track

The Plant Biology Track focuses on fundamental aspects of how plants function as organisms and interact with their environment. A wide variety of scientific disciplines are integrated within the track, including physiology, taxonomy, reproduction, and ecology.

A degree in biology with an emphasis in plant biology serves as an excellent launching point for a wide range of career options, including domestic and international opportunities in business, research, and teaching. The program is excellent preparation for students wishing to enter graduate or other professional schools. Plant biologists can work in the laboratory or field, forestry, botanical gardens and nurseries, agricultural companies, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, energy and chemical industries, or environmental protection.

12 upper-level guided elective hours out of the required 13-15 hours of guided electives must be completed from the courses listed below. Of those 12 hours, a maximum of 3 hours can be independent research (BIO 394/395/397). The remaining 1-3 credit hours may come from the list of approved electives for the general biology track, which may include an additional 3 hours of independent research (BIO 394/395/397). A maximum of 6 credit hours of independent research can be counted toward the Biology degree. Of the 13-15 hours of total upper-level electives required, 9 credit hours must have a BIO prefix.

BIO 310 The Life Processes of Plants
BIO 351 The History of Plants on Earth
BIO 394/395/397 Research in Neuroscience/Biology/
Microbiology (maximum 3 credits toward track)
BIO 420G Taxonomy of Vascular Plants4
*BIO 430G Plant Physiology4
BIO 525 Advanced Ecology
**BIO 380 Special Topics in Biology (Intermediate Level) (Subtitle required) 1-4
Courses Outside the Biology department:
ENT 310 Insect Pests of Field Crops

ENT 310 Insect Pests of Field Crops	3
ENT 320 Horticultural Entomology	3
FOR 340 Forest Ecology	4
ENT/ FOR 502 Forest Entomology	3
HRT 320 Woody Horticultural Plants	4
PLS 502 Ecology of Economic Plants	3
PLS 566 Soil Microbiology	3
PLS 567 Methods in Soil Microbiology	1
PPA 400G Principles of Plant Pathology	3
PLS 366 Fundamentals of Soil Science	4

Other courses can be accepted by the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Biology on a case by case basis.

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^{*}Subtitle must be approved by Director of Undergraduate Studies.

^{*}Only for students who do not use the course to fulfill the 2nd Tier Core.

^{**}Subtitle must be approved by Director of Undergraduate Studies.

^{*}Only for students who do not use the course to fulfill the 2nd Tier Core.

^{**}Subtitle must be approved by Director of Undergraduate Studies.

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Pre-Professional Track

The Pre-Professional Track in the biology major broadly explores organismal structure and function in the context of preparing students for health-related professional programs. The courses in this track give the students a broad view of both normal and abnormal organismal function, with courses specializing in neuroscience, physiology, microbiology, and molecular biology. Independent research in this track will be an opportunity for students to work with science professionals within their desired field. Through completion of this track, students can fulfill prerequisite and recommended courses for most pre-professional health programs. Students who excel in this track can go on to enroll in a variety of professional programs, including medical, dental, optometry, veterinary, and physician's assistant programs. A biology degree with a pre-professional health emphasis also prepares students for careers as research scientists, research lab technicians, microbiologists, genetic counselors, biology teachers, and many other general biology careers.

12 upper-level guided elective hours out of the required 13-15 hours of guided electives must be completed from the courses listed below. Of those 12 hours, a maximum of 3 hours can be independent research (BIO 394/395/397). The remaining 1-3 credit hours may come from the list of approved electives for the general biology track, which may include an additional 3 hours of independent research (BIO 394/395/397). A maximum of 6 credit hours of independent research can be counted toward the Biology degree. Of the 13-15 hours of total upper-level electives required, 9 credit hours must have a BIO prefix.

1	
BIO 302 Introduction to Neuroscience	3
BIO 305 Introduction to Neuroscience Techniques	4
BIO 308 General Microbiology	3
BIO 309 Microbiology Laboratory	2
BIO 394/395/397 Research in Neuroscience/Biology/	
Microbiology (maximum 3 credits toward track)	1-3
BIO 405 Human Genetics	3
BIO 410 Vertebrate Endocrinology	3
BIO 440 Comparative and Functional Anatomy	4
BIO 445 The Biology of Sex	3
BIO 446 Neurophysiology Laboratory	3
BIO 494G Immunobiology	3

BIO 495G Bacterial Pathogenesis	3
BIO 502 Systems, Cellular and Molecular Physiology	5
BIO 507 Biology of Sleep and Circadian Rhythms	
BIO 510 Recombinant DNA Techniques Laboratory	4
BIO 520 Bioinformatics	3
BIO 527 Stem Cells, Tissue Engineering, and Regenerative Medicine	3
BIO 429 Developmental Biology	3
BIO 535 Comparative Neurobiology and Behavior	3
BIO 550 Advanced Physiology	3
BIO 582 Virology	3
BIO 542 Histology	
*BIO 350 Animal Physiology	4
**BIO 380 Special Topics in Biology (Intermediate Level)	
(Subtitle required)	1-4
Courses from Outside the Biology department:	
ANA 410G Neurobiology of Brain and Spinal Cord Disorders	3
ANA 442 Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology	
BCH 401G Fundamentals of Biochemistry	
CHE 550 Biological Chemistry I	
CHE 552 Biological Chemistry II	
MI/PAT 598 Clinical Microbiology	
PGY 560 Pathophysiology: Integrative Study in Physiology and Medicine	
PSY 459 Neuropharmacology: Drugs and Behavior	
PGY 512 Evolutionary Medicine	
PGY 431 Introduction to Neuroendocrinology	3
Other courses can be accepted by the Director of Undergraduate Studies in a case by case basis.	Biology or
*Only for students who do not use the course to fulfill the 2 nd Tier Core.	
**Subtitle must be approved by Director of Undergraduate Studies.	
Total Track Hours	25-27
Total Minimum Hours Required for Degree	120