

SAMPLE Four-Year Plan

B.S. Biology - Cell Physiology Emphasis

FALL 2021 Requirements

The curriculum in the biology major is somewhat flexible in that there are some required sequences and it allows students to move through other coursework in many ways. This four-year plan illustrates one possible path a new freshman could take to complete a degree in four years. This is not an official document and is not the only way that a biology degree can be completed in four years. Current students should refer to their individual Academic Advising Report for specific graduation requirements. Courses in bold indicate major-based coursework that is completed in the first year.

First Year

Fall Semester	Units
English 101 Intro to College Writing and Reading	3
Math 142 College Algebra	4
Chemistry 102 General Chemistry I	5
Gened CORE 130 Individual and Society	3
Intrauniversity 104 New Student Seminar	1
Total Credits	16

Spring Semester	Units
English 102 Intro to College Writing, Reading, Research	3
Math 151 Trigonometry	3
Biology 141 Introductory Biology I	5
Chemistry 104 General Chemistry II	5
PEGNRL 192 Personal Health and Fitness for Life	1
Total Credits	17

Notes: The math and English courses you will take during your first year will depend on UW System placement exam scores. This four-year plan reflects the math and English courses most common for students in this major. All students are encouraged to complete placement testing prior to attending Warhawks SOAR (Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration).

Opportunities: Joining a university-sponsored club and actively participating is strongly encouraged. Involvement in a club or activity will help you develop interpersonal skills, give you the opportunity to learn and practice leadership skills, and adds to your resume. Some clubs that may be of particular interest to students with a Biology major include: Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecology Club, Helping Hands (pre-veterinary), Pre-Health Associates of Tomorrow (PHAT), Gardening Club, Marine Biology Society, and Students Allied for a Green Earth (SAGE).

Second Year

Fall Semester	Units
Biology 142 Introductory Biology II	5
Biology 190 Biology Forum	1
Chemistry 251 Organic Chemistry	3
Chemistry 261 Organic Chemistry Lab*	2
Gened CORE 140 Global or 120 Historical Perspectives	3
Total Credits	14

Spring Semester	Units
Biology 251 Introduction to Genetics	4
Biology 257 Introduction to Ecology	3
Chemistry 252 Organic Chemistry*	3
Gened CORE 110 World of the Arts	3
U.S. Racial/Ethnic Diversity Course	3
Total Credits	16

Notes: By completing the requirements of the Biology major, students complete the Bachelor of Science degree requirements. Students who place out of precalculus will need to earn credit in an additional math or computer science course to satisfy the BS degree requirements. While students can choose any approved minor, students in the Cell Physiology emphasis of the Biology major often choose to complete the chemistry minor as 16 chemistry credits are completed for the unique major requirements. This plan includes the requirements to complete a chemistry minor. Courses in the chemistry minor that are not required by this major are indicated with an asterisk (*).



University of Wisconsin
Whitewater

College of Letters
and Sciences

Biology Department Contact Information

Upham Hall Room 320 | 262-472-1092

www.edu/cls/departments/biology

Third Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Biology 253 Introduction to Cell Biology	3	Biology 303 Biostatistics or Psych 215 Stats Methods	3-4
Biology 254 Biotechnology Laboratory Methods I	2	Biology course from list (see notes)	3-4
Biology 200 Writing/Bio or English 371 Writing/Sciences	3	Chemistry 352 Quantitative Analysis*	5
Communication 110 Intro to Human Communication	3	Gened CORE 390 World of Ideas	3
General Education elective	3	Biology 493, 498, 498R or 491 Experiential Learning	1-3
Total Credits	14	Total Credits	15-17

Notes: Typically there will only be one or two sections of each advanced biology course in a given term so the semester in which students take each course is flexible to accommodate potential time conflicts. This major allows students to choose three biology courses as electives in the major from this list: Biology 301, 311, 340, 341, 345, 361, 362, 363, 364, 412, 425, 448, 458.

Opportunities: Undergraduate research is one option to fulfill the experiential learning requirement and is highly recommended for students who have an interest in attending graduate school in the future. Completing a directed research project with a faculty mentor has many benefits: it develops a student's critical thinking and writing abilities, signals to graduate school programs that a student is prepared for independent research of their own, and it can provide a student with financial support since many undergraduate research opportunities are paid. Experiential Learning courses are repeatable and many students will work on the same research project over multiple semesters.

Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Biology 311 Microbiology OR 363 Molecular Biology	3-4	Biology course from list (see notes)	3-4
Biology course from list (see notes)	3-4	Biology 493, 498, 498R or 491 Experiential Learning	1-3
Chemistry elective*	2-3	Biology elective (if needed)	3
Physics 140 Principles of Physics I (recommended)	5	Physics 141 Principles of Physics II (recommended)	5
		Electives to total 120 (if needed)	0-5
Total Credits	13-18	Total Credits	12-18

Notes: All students must earn 120 credits to earn a bachelor's degree and all requirements in this program can be completed in fewer than 120 credits. Most students have the opportunity to choose additional courses in the fourth year to expand skills, explore interests, or try something new.

Opportunities: LSINDP 399: Career Information in Letters and Sciences is a 1-credit course that focuses on career and graduate school opportunities; identifying skills, strengths, and work values; creating effective job search materials; developing a networking strategy; and planning for a successful post-graduation transition.

Planning for Graduation: Students are encouraged to apply for graduation one full semester prior to their intended graduation date. Information about commencement is on the Registrar's Office website (<http://www.uww.edu/registrar/graduation>) and the application for graduation is available to students in the WINS Student Information System.



University of Wisconsin
Whitewater

College of Letters
and Sciences