

SAMPLE Four-Year Plan

B.S. Biology - Ecology, Evolution and Behavior Emphasis

FALL 2023 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	Spring Semester	Units
English 101 Intro to College Writing and Reading	3	English 102 Intro to College Writing, Reading, Research	3
Math 142 College Algebra	4	Math 151 Trigonometry	3
Chemistry 102 General Chemistry I	5	Biology 141 Introductory Biology I	5
Gened CORE 130 Individual and Society	3	Chemistry 104 General Chemistry II	5
Intrauniversity 104 New Student Seminar	1		
Total Credits	16	Total Credits	16

Notes: The math and English courses you will take during your first year will depend on exam scores (ACT, SAT, or UW System placement exam). This four-year plan reflects the math and English courses most common for students in this major. All students are encouraged to provide test scores 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, and Students Allied for a Green Earth (SAGE).

Second Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Biology 142 Introductory Biology II	5	Biology 257 Introduction to Ecology	3
Biology 303 Biostatistics or Psych 215 Stats Methods	3-4	Biology 258 Field Experience or 254 Biotech Lab Methods	2
Gened CORE 140 Global or 120 Historical Perspectives	3	U.S. Racial/Ethnic Diversity course	3
Communication 110 Intro to Human Communication	3	Gened CORE 110 World of the Arts	3
PEGNRL 192 Personal Health and Fitness for Life	1	Minor course	3
Total Credits	15-16	Total Credits	14

Notes: Biology 258 Field Experience is taught as an 8-week course within the semester, the first 8-week session in the fall and the second 8-week session in the spring to maximize time outdoors when the weather is expected to be more temperate. 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. Students are encouraged to start thinking about selecting a minor in the second year. Common minors selected by computer science majors include: Environmental Studies, Chemistry, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). While these minors are common among Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior majors, you can choose from over 100 options that include Criminology, Spanish, Political Science, and more.



University of Wisconsin
Whitewater

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and Sciences

Department Contact Information

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www.edu/cls/departments/biology

Third Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Biology 251 Introduction to Genetics	4	Biology 446 Organic Evolution	4
Biology 315, 351, 353, 359, 375, 380, or 450	3	Applied Learning Biology 354, 451, 491, 493, 498, or 498R	0-6
Biology 200 Writing/Bio or PWP 371 Writing/Sciences	3	Gened CORE 390 World of Ideas	3
Chemistry course numbered above 200	3	Minor course	3
Biology 190 Biology Forum	1	Minor course	3
Total Credits	14	Total Credits	13-18

Notes: One of the options for applied learning is Biology 451 Natural History of Yellowstone National Park and the Upper Great Plains, a summer field course held at Yellowstone National Park and locations in route. Students get hands-on experience in a beautiful landscape, learn field methods, geology, ecology, and natural history.

Opportunities: Undergraduate research 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.

Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Ecology, Evolution, Behavior major elective	2-4	Biology elective(s) to reach 40 units in major	1-6
Ecology, Evolution, Behavior major elective	2-4	Minor course	3
Minor course	3	Minor course	3
Minor course	3	General Education elective	1-3
General Education elective (if needed)	3	Electives to total 120 (if needed)	0-6
Total Credits	13-17	Total Credits	12-18

Notes: There are several course options to choose from within the major to include: Invertebrate Zoology, Entomology, Wildlife Ecology, Community Ecology, Plant Taxonomy, Aquatic Plant Biology, and Environmental Toxicology. 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.

Curriculum effective date: Fall 2023



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