SAMPLE Four-Year Plan

B.S. Biology - Marine Biology and Freshwater Ecology

FALL 2022 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
Biology 141 Introductory Biology I	5
Chemistry 102 General Chemistry I	5
Math 151 Trigonometry	3
Intrauniversity 104 New Student Seminar	1
Total Credits	**17**

Spring Semester	Units
English 102 Intro to College Writing, Reading, Research	3
Biology 142 Introductory Biology II	5
Chemistry 104 General Chemistry II	5
Gened CORE 130 Individual and Society	3
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). Students who are not able to take Biology 141 in the first semester due to math placement will need to take summer coursework to stay on track to graduate in four years. The Marine Biology and Freshwater Ecology major requires a year of study abroad at Deakin University in Australia. A 2.75 cumulative GPA is required for acceptance to the Deakin program.

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
Biology 257 Introduction to Ecology	3
Chemistry 251 Organic Chemistry I	3
Chemistry 261 Organic Chemistry Lab I	2
Gened CORE 140 Global or 120 Historical Perspectives	3
Communication 110 Intro to Human Communication	3
Total Credits	**15**

Spring Semester	Units
Biology 251 Introduction to Genetics	4
Biology 258 Field Experience	2
Biology 303 Biostatistics or Psych 215 Stats Methods	3-4
Gened CORE 110 World of the Arts	3
US Racial/Ethnic Diversity course	3
Total Credits	**15-16**

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.

Opportunities: While at UW-Whitewater, students take courses that focus on various aspects in the fields of Ecology, including Aquatic Ecology, Organismal Biology, and Evolution. Much like the Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior emphasis, many of the associated courses have indoor or outdoor laboratory components, which focus on the applied aspects of this profession. All students are required to take a Field Methods In Ecology course, which is team taught by Ecology Faculty and exposes students to various techniques used in ecological work. Available courses include Aquatic Toxicology, Water Resource Management and advanced Ecology courses. Students in this emphasis are not required to have a minor, as additional coursework is completed at Deakin University.

University of Wisconsin Whitewater
College of Letters and Sciences

Department Contact Information

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uww.edu/cls/departments/biology

Third Year

Fall Semester	Units
Biology 253 Introduction to Cell Biology	3
Biology 370 Aquatic Biology	4
Biology 190 Biology Forum	1
Chemistry electives	4
Gened CORE 390 World of Ideas	3
Total Credits	**15**

Spring Semester	Units
Biology 446 Organic Evolution	4
Biology 457 Wildlife or Biology 459 Community Ecology	4
Geography 323 Water Resources	3
Biology 200 Writing/Bio or PWP 371 Writing/Sciences	3
Total Credits	**14**

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.

Planning for the senior year at Deakin University in Warrnambool, Australia begins in the junior year. Students must meet with the program coordinator early in their final semester at UW-Whitewater to begin preparations for study at Deakin.

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.

Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Units
Additional units of Biology completed at Deakin University	12
Total Credits	**12**

Spring Semester	Units
Additional units of Biology completed at Deakin University	12
Total Credits	**12**

Notes: The bulk of the marine-oriented coursework in this program is completed at Deakin. In both semesters, students choose four elective classes (3 credit each) from topics such as: Marine and Coastal Ecosystems, Marine Pollution, Marine Ecotoxicology, Marine Invertebrates, Marine Botany, Marine Vertebrates, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Marine Environments.

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.

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