

SAMPLE Four-Year Plan

B.S. Biology - Pre-Biomedical Professions 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	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	PEGNRL 192 Personal Health and Fitness for Life	1
Total Credits	16	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	Spring Semester	Units
Biology 142 Introductory Biology II	5	Biology 251 Introduction to Genetics	4
Biology 190 Biology Forum	1	Biology 257 Introduction to Ecology	3
Chemistry 251 Organic Chemistry	3	Biology 200 Writing/Bio or PWP 371 Writing/Sciences	3
Gened CORE 140 Global or 120 Historical Perspectives	3	Chemistry 252, 261, 352, or 458	2-5
Communication 110 Intro to Human Communication	3	Gened CORE 110 World of the Arts	3
Total Credits	15	Total Credits	15-18

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: Undergraduate research is one option to fulfill the experiential learning requirement and is highly recommended for students who have an interest in attending graduate or professional 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.



University of Wisconsin
Whitewater

College of Letters
and Sciences

Department Contact Information

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www.edu/cls/departments/biology

Third Year

Fall Semester	Units
Biology 253 Introduction to Cell Biology	3
Biology 254 Biotechnology Laboratory Methods I	2
Biology 340 Vertebrate Anatomy or 361 Human Anatomy I	4
Chemistry 454 or Biology 456	3
Gened CORE 390 World of Ideas	3
Total Credits	14-17

Spring Semester	Units
Biology 311 Microbiology or Biology 363 Molecular Biology	3-4
Biology 303 Biostatistics or Psych 215 Stats Methods	3-4
Biology 345 Animal Physiology or 362 Human Anatomy II	4
Biology 493, 498, 498R or 491 Experiential Learning	0-3
U.S. Racial/Ethnic Diversity Course	3
Total Credits	13-18

Notes: Students work with their faculty academic advisors and pre-professional program advisors to determine which course options best fit with their future plans and meet the prerequisites for intended professional schools. This major is flexible enough for students interested in various medical professions to include medical doctor, veterinarian, physician assistant, physical therapist, optometrist, and more. Students who plan to take the MCAT, DAT, or OAT are encouraged to complete the physics sequence prior to taking any of those exams. Courses in the third year on this plan can be completed in the fourth year for students needing to complete physics in the third year. An advisor will help you determine the sequence that will best meet your goals.

Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Units
Biology 493, 498, 498R or 491 Experiential Learning	1-3
Physics 140 Principles of Physics I	5
Biology electives (if needed in major)	0-6
General Education elective	3
Total Credits	12-18

Spring Semester	Units
Biology elective (if needed in major)	1-4
Physics 141 Principles of Physics II	5
General Education elective	3
Electives to total 120 (if needed)	0-10
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.



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