

BIOLOGY MAJOR

2021-22 USEFUL TIPS FOR NEW STUDENTS INTERESTED IN THE MAJOR

RECOMMENDED COURSE OF STUDY FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN BIOLOGY:

FALL TERM– two lecture/lab courses

CHEM 101/101L or CHEM 105/105L (determined by placement exam)
and **BIOL 207/207L Ecology**

ECOLOGY Lecture and Lab must be from SAME Instructor

<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Lecture</u>	<u>Lab</u>
Godard	MWF 9:10-10:10 CRN 95326	M 1:30-4:30 (CRN 95330) T 1:30-4:30 (CRN 95332)
Gleim	TTH 8:50-10:20 CRN 95328	W 1:30-4:30 (CRN 95334) Th 1:30-4:30 (CRN 95336)
Allison	MWF 9:10-10:10 CRN TBA	T 1:30-4:30 (CRN TBA)

SPRING TERM– two lecture/lab courses

CHEM 102/102L or CHEM 214/214L

BIOL 220/220L Human Physiology*

**CHEM 101/101L or 105/105L is a required prerequisite*

PHYSIOLOGY Lecture and Lab must be from SAME Instructor

<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Lecture</u>	<u>Lab</u>
Wilson	MWF 9:10-10:10 CRN 25191	M 1:30-4:30 (CRN 25196) T 1:30-4:30 (CRN 25198)
Carmichael	TTH 8:50-10:20 CRN 25193	W 1:30-4:30 (CRN 25200)

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: *What if I am **NOT confident beginning with Biology AND Chemistry** in my first semester?*

You have two options: you could start with CHEM 101/101L and not Biology courses. If all goes well in the fall, then take CHEM 102/102L and BIOL 220/220L in the spring. Alternatively you could take BIOL 207/207L in your fall semester and then begin your Chemistry sequence in your sophomore year (but **please note that you will not be able to take BIOL 220/220L during the spring semester without the pre-requisite chemistry course**). If you plan on a B.A. degree, delaying should not cause problems; however, if you plan on a B.S. degree, then it requires some juggling and makes going abroad more difficult.

Q: *I am interested in **veterinary medicine**, are there special courses I need to take?*

Vet schools require 2 semesters of both organic chemistry and general physics; thus, students interested in vet school should pursue a B.S. In addition, vet schools will have different required biology courses (e.g. biochemistry, microbiology, genetics, vertebrate anatomy); thus, you will need to visit www.aavmc.org, or consult with one of the Biology faculty to plan your upper level elective courses.

Q: *I am interested in majoring in Biology and becoming an **M.D. or D.O.** Are there special courses I need to take for **medical school**?*

Students interested in medical school will need to take **2 semesters of organic chemistry and general physics;** thus, students interested in med school should pursue a B.S. degree. In addition, you will need to take an introductory courses in Psychology or Sociology, an introductory course in statistics, and have a full year of English (or writing intensive courses). Math requirements vary among medical schools, so it is strongly recommended that you consult the medical schools you are interested in for specific requirements (visit www.aamc.org). See the premed advisor (Dr. Brian Gentry), for more information.

Q: *I am interested in **other health professions** (e.g. **physical therapy, occupational therapy, physician's assistant, nursing**), what do I need to do to be able to apply to these programs?*

For students interested in other health professions, the requirements do vary by school and program. However, most programs will require at least one year of chemistry and many require a semester of human anatomy, so you should begin with a core courses in biology and introductory chemistry in your first semester. Please consult specific graduate programs of interest and visit the premed advisor, Dr. Brian Gentry.

Q: *I am interested in **graduate school and research**, what do I need to do to be able to apply to these programs?*

The course requirements for entry into a graduate program in Biology vary widely depending upon the specific field. In general, pursuing the B.S. degree is a good idea and you should discuss research opportunities with your advisor by your junior year.

Q: ***Can I go abroad** and still major in Biology?*

YES you can, and we encourage you to do so! There are a number of opportunities to study abroad and take Biology courses toward the major. Specifically, we have reciprocal agreements with the **University of Limerick** (which offers many Biology and equine courses) and the **School for Field Studies** (which offers semester field programs in Costa Rica, Kenya or Tanzania, Panama, Turks & Caicos Islands, Bhutan, Australia, Peru, Patagonia, and Cambodia/Vietnam). With careful planning you can attend other non-Biology related abroad programs (e.g. London). There is also a biology J-term research course to the Caribbean you should explore (see Drs. Godard and Wilson).

Q: *Should I pursue a **B.S. or B.A.** degree?*

If you are pre-health, pre-vet, or interested in graduate school, you should pursue a B.S. Beyond that, the degree path depends more on your career interests.

Q: *I think I only want to **MINOR in Biology**. What should I do?*

You will need to take 2 of the 3 core courses as well as 3 upper level elective courses (including laboratories, if applicable) that are at the 200 level or higher.