

# The Department of Biology

## Biology BA

Chair: Dennis D. Wykoff, Ph.D.  
Assistant Chair: Vik Iyengar, Ph.D  
Office Location: 147 Mendel Science Center  
Telephone: 610-519-4830  
[Website](#)

## About

Biology is a broad-based program designed for students interested in life sciences. The program fulfills entry requirements for medical and other allied health programs as well as for graduate work in many areas of biology and related fields. The program also provides excellent preparation for careers in health sciences, research, and/or education.

## Required Major Courses (50 credits)

The Biology BA major requires a minimum of 50 credits in biology and cognate courses with at least four biology laboratory courses at the 3000-level and higher.

### *Program Notes:*

- Research opportunities: Undergraduate majors may opt to work with faculty to complete undergraduate research either informally or more formally in a senior or honors thesis project. This work counts as BIO elective credit towards the major.

<b>Course</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
BIO 2105	General Biology I	4
BIO 2106	General Biology II	4
BIO 3351	Genetics	4
BIO 5300	Biology Capstone	3
	Organismal Biology Elective	4
	Ecology/Evolutionary/Population Biology Elective	4
	Cellular/Molecular Biology Elective	4
	Upper-Level BIO Lab Elective for BA	4
	Additional BIO Electives for BA	6

## Required Cognate Courses:

Course	Title	Credits
CHM 1151	General Chemistry I	4
CHM 1103	General Chemistry Lab I	1
CHM 1152	General Chemistry II	4
CHM 1104	General Chemistry Lab II	1
	Biology Math Elective for BA	3

## Core Curriculum Requirements (33 credits)

Biology Majors meet the following core requirements in the major and therefore are omitted from the summary below:

- Core Math (3 cr)
- Natural Science (8 cr)

Course	Title	Credits
ACS 1000	Ancients	3
ACS 1001	Moderns	3
THL 1000	Faith, Reason, and Culture	3
PHI 1000	Knowledge, Reality, Self	3
ETH 2050	The Good Life:Eth & Cont Prob	3
	Literature and Writing Seminar (1 course)	3
	History (1 course)	3
	Social Sciences (2 courses)	6
	Fine Arts (1 course)	3
	Upper-Level Theology (1 course)	3
	Language Requirement	
	Diversity Requirement (2 courses)	

## Free Elective Requirement (39 credits)

Students with a Biology BA primary major have thirty-nine (39) required free elective credits.

## Degree Credit Summary

- **Major Credits:** 50 credits
- **Core Credits:** 33 credits
- **Free Electives Credits:** 39 credits
- **Total Required Credits:** 122 Credits

*Note: The above credit totals are based on the minimum number of required credits in each degree area. The minimum number of required credits in each area listed above must be met. Credits taken beyond the required minimum for one area may not be applied to another area.*

## SECONDARY MAJOR

Students who declare Biology BA as a **secondary major** must complete the Required Major Courses to achieve this major. Students are able to count any eligible course taken in their primary major, the core curriculum, minors, concentrations, or free electives toward these requirements.