

BIOLOGY, B.S. (CALs)

FOUR-YEAR PLAN

Four-year plans for the biology major are designed to support biological science major exploration. The four-year plan is a tool to assist you and your advisor in planning your academic career. Use it along with your DARS report and Course Search & Enroll. Your specific program of study could, and probably will, look different. You should customize your own four-year plan to fit your unique path at UW–Madison. Consult with your advisor about the best path for you.

FOUR-YEAR PLAN SAMPLE BIOLOGY MAJOR—NO OPTION FOUR-YEAR PLAN

Freshman

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
CHEM 103 or 109	4-5	CHEM 104	5
Math Course ¹	3-5	Math or Statistics	3-4
Communication A or Breadth Courses	6	Communication A or Breadth Courses	5-7
First Year Seminar ²	1		
14-17		13-16	

Total Credits 27-33

Sophomore

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
CHEM 343	3	CHEM 344	2
Math or Statistics (if needed)	3-4	CHEM 345	3
Intro Biology Courses ³	3-5	Intro Biology Courses ³	3-5
Breadth Course	3	Breadth Courses	4-6
12-15		12-16	

Total Credits 24-31

Junior

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
PHYSICS 103 or 207	4-5	PHYSICS 104 or 208	4-5
Foundational or Biocore	3	Biocore or Upper-Level Breadth in the Major ⁴	3-5
Elective Courses	5-8	Elective Courses	5-8
12-16		12-18	

Total Credits 24-34

Senior

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Upper-Level Breadth in the Major ⁴	3-5	Upper-Level Breadth in the Major ⁴	3-5
Capstone or Research Course	2-3	Capstone or Research Course	2-3

Elective Courses	7-10 Elective Courses	7-10
12-18		12-18

Total Credits 24-36

1

Math determined by placement scores. Biology majors must complete MATH 171/MATH 217 or MATH 221 plus one additional math/stats course.

2

See CALS requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/#requirementstext>) for a list of approved First-Year Seminar courses.

3

Students may complete BIOLOGY/BOTANY/ZOOLOGY 151-BIOLOGY/BOTANY/ZOOLOGY 152 & a foundational course or BIOLOGY/ZOOLOGY 101-BIOLOGY/ZOOLOGY 102, BIOLOGY/BOTANY 130 & a foundational course or BIOCORE (three lectures and two labs required).

4

See Requirements tab for Upper-Level Breadth in the Major course lists.

SAMPLE BIOLOGY FOUR-YEAR PLAN— EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY OPTION

Freshman

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
CHEM 103 or 109	4-5	CHEM 104	5
Math Course ¹	3-5	Math or Statistics	3-4
Communication A or Breadth Courses	6	Communication A or Breadth Courses	6
First Year Seminar ²	1		
14-17		14-15	

Total Credits 28-32

Sophomore

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
CHEM 343	3	CHEM 345	3
Math or Statistics (if needed)	3-5	CHEM 344	2
Intro Biology Course ³	5	Intro Biology Course ³	5
Breadth Course	3	Breadth Courses	4-6
14-16		14-16	

Total Credits 28-32

Junior

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
PHYSICS 103 or 207	4-5	PHYSICS 104 or 208	4-5
Foundation Course or Biocore	3-5	ANTHRO/BOTANY/ZOOLOGY 410	3
Electives	5	BIOLOGY/GENETICS 522	2-3
		Electives	5
12-15		14-16	

Total Credits 26-31

Senior

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Upper-Level Breadth in the Major ⁴		5 Upper-Level Breadth in the Major ⁴	5
Capstone or Research Course		2-3 Capstone or Research	2-3
Elective Courses		5-8 Elective Courses	5-8
		12-16	12-16

Total Credits 24-32

1

Math determined by placement scores. Students in the Evolutionary Biology Named Option must complete MATH 171/MATH 217 or MATH 221 plus STAT 301 or STAT 371.

2

See CALS requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/#requirementstext>) for a list of approved First-Year Seminar courses.

3

Students may complete BIOLOGY/BOTANY/ZOOLOGY 151-BIOLOGY/BOTANY/ZOOLOGY 152 & a foundational course or BIOLOGY/ZOOLOGY 101-BIOLOGY/ZOOLOGY 102, BIOLOGY/BOTANY 130 & a foundational course or BIOCORE (three lectures and two labs required).

4

See Requirements tab for Upper-Level Breadth in the Major course lists.

SAMPLE BIOLOGY FOUR-YEAR PLAN—PLANT BIOLOGY OPTION**Freshman**

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
CHEM 103 or 109		4-5 CHEM 104	5
Math ¹		3-5 Math or Statistics	3-5
Communication A or Breadth		6 Communication A or Breadth	5-6
First Year Seminar ²		1	
		14-17	13-16

Total Credits 27-33**Sophomore**

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
CHEM 343		3 CHEM 345	3
Math or Statistics (if needed)		3-5 CHEM 344	2
Intro Biology Course ³		3-5 Intro Biology Course ³	3-5
Breadth Course		3 Breadth Course	4-6
		12-16	12-16

Total Credits 24-32**Junior**

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
PHYSICS 103 or 207		4-5 PHYSICS 104 or 208	4-5
Foundation Course or Biocore		3-5 Biocore or Upper-Level Breadth in the Major ⁴	3-5
Electives		5-6 Plant Science Seminar	1

Electives		5
		12-16
		13-16

Total Credits 25-32**Senior**

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Upper-Level Breadth in the Major ⁴		5 Upper-Level Breadth in the Major ⁴	5
Capstone or Research		2-3 Capstone or Research	2-3
Plant Science Seminar (if needed)		1 Plant Science Seminar (if needed)	1
Electives		5-8 Electives	5-8
		13-17	13-17

Total Credits 26-34

1

Math determined by placement scores. Biology majors must complete MATH 171/MATH 217 or MATH 221 plus one additional math/stats course.

Stats recommended.

2

See CALS requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/#requirementstext>) for a list of approved First-Year Seminar courses.

3

Students may complete BIOLOGY/BOTANY/ZOOLOGY 151-BIOLOGY/BOTANY/ZOOLOGY 152 & a foundational course or (**recommended**) BIOLOGY/ZOOLOGY 101-BIOLOGY/ZOOLOGY 102, BIOLOGY/BOTANY 130 & a foundational course or BIOCORE (three lectures and two labs required).

4

See Requirements tab for Upper-Level Breadth in the Major course lists.