

LIFE SCIENCES >

BIOLOGY

Biology is the study of life and the foundation for understanding the natural world. Biologists get to explore living and breathing creatures, from the tiniest organisms and cellular processes to large mammals and ecosystems. In the Biology degree program at Wayne State, you'll get to do these things and more. A Biology degree can lead to a myriad of career paths. It is a field of endless discovery, with new breakthroughs and technologies constantly emerging. Whether you're drawn to a career in health care, research, or conservation, your experiences in the Biology degree program at Wayne State can provide you with valuable analytical and lab skills that are highly sought after in today's job market. A degree in Biology can help you make a meaningful difference in the world by addressing important global issues, such as disease outbreaks, climate change, and the preservation of endangered species. The living and breathing world is vast and open – and awaiting you to choose your path!

fast facts

Credit hours: 54-57

Students must also take 30 credit hours of General Studies courses. A total of 120 credit hours are needed to graduate from WSC. Additional majors or minors can be added to help meet graduation requirements.

Degree options: B.A. or B.S.

Department: Life Sciences

School: Science, Health, and Criminal Justice

Popular pairings: Chemistry, Environmental Studies, Exercise Science, Psychology, Public and Global Health

focus on results

Skills Learned

- Evolutionary processes
- Biological systems and structures
- Research, data collection, and analysis
- Modern lab techniques
- Observation
- Critical thinking and problem-solving
- Communication

Possible Careers

- Biologist
- Research scientist
- Microbiologist
- Lab technician
- Nature conservationist
- Botanist
- Genetic scientist
- Biomedical engineer

Types of Employers

- Conservation societies
- Government / federal agencies
- Laboratories
- National parks
- Environmental agencies
- Zoos and aquariums
- Schools, colleges, and universities
- Hospitals and medical clinics
- Medical research facilities
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Public utility companies

outside the classroom



Visit www.wsc.edu/clubs to learn more about clubs and organizations on campus.

Activities / Opportunities

- Conduct research projects
- Conferences and presentations
- Nebraska S-STEM Scholars Program
- Peer mentoring and tutoring
- Rural Health Opportunities Program (RHOP)
- Service-Learning
- Study Abroad

Clubs / Organizations

- Biology Club
- Health Science Club
- Pre-Physical Therapy / Pre-Occupational Therapy Club
- Wildlife Society

Courses and outcomes

2026-27 Academic Year

The following courses are required for the program of study described on this sheet. Every effort is made to ensure this information is current, but please be aware that some content may have changed. To develop a plan for registering and taking these courses, please consult the current academic catalog and your advisor.

Program courses

For CAT 3, take MAT 180 Applied Probability and Statistics.

Life Sciences Core Courses

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| BIO 110 Biology Concepts..... | 4 |
| CHE 106 General Chemistry I..... | 4 |
| PHY 321 Physics Laboratory I..... | 1 |
| Select one of the following..... | 3-4 |
| PHY 201 General Physics I (3) | |
| PHY 301 University Physics I (4) | |

Biology Concentration Courses

| | |
|---|-----|
| BIO 200 Zoology..... | 4 |
| BIO 210 Experimental Plant Science..... | 4 |
| BIO 301 Biology Seminar | 1 |
| BIO 320 Molecular Genetics..... | 4 |
| BIO 325 Ecology..... | 4 |
| BIO 370 Introduction to Research..... | 2 |
| BIO 425 Evolution..... | 3 |
| CHE 107 General Chemistry II..... | 4 |
| *Upper-level BIO electives..... | 5-6 |
| Select one of the following..... | 3-4 |
| BIO 345 Conservation Biology (3) | |
| BIO 415 Wildlife Management (4) | |
| Select two of the following..... | 6 |
| BIO 346 Animal Behavior (3) | |
| BIO 406 Great Plains Flora (3) | |
| BIO 430 Parasitology (3) | |
| Select one of the following..... | 1 |
| BIO 397 Internship (1) | |
| BIO 465 Continuing Research (1) | |
| Select one of the following..... | 1 |
| BIO 469 Senior Seminar in Biology (1) | |
| BIO 470 Research Project (1) | |

*Choose any upper-level BIO electives, excluding BIO 399 International Study and/or CHE 326 Biochemistry I, that are not repeat courses. BIO 301 may be taken up to two times for a maximum of 2 credit hours with no topic repeat.

Student learning outcomes

1. Students will be able to interpret core concepts in biology
2. Students will be able to apply concepts in biology to internships and/or student research
3. Students will be able to accurately communicate core concepts in biology

biology faculty



Visit www.wsc.edu/life-sciences-department to learn more about the Department of Life Sciences.

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