

Biology BS

The B.S. degree in biology is designed to prepare students for basic technical positions and graduate studies in the life sciences. Candidates for the degree have the same core courses and general education requirements as those seeking the Bachelor of Arts degree, as well as additional requirements in depth of study, laboratory experience, communication skills, and background in associated science areas. Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better in biology courses. Candidates must earn a minimum grade of C- in all core courses.

~~To fulfill the requirements for the B.S. degree a minimum of 45 hours, but not more than 50 hours, must be completed in appropriate biology coursework. To fulfill the requirements for the B.S. the coursework below must be completed.~~ A minimum of 22 hours of biology courses at or above the 2000 level, (including two laboratory) courses and one 4000 level course, must be taken in residence in the UMSL Department of Biology in order to receive a B.S. degree from the College of Arts and Sciences with a major in biology.

Lecture and Seminar Course Requirements

The following biology courses or their equivalents are required:

Core

BIOL 1800	Introduction to the Biology Major	1
BIOL 1821	Introductory Biology: Organisms and the Environment (MOTR BIOL 150LEC)	5
BIOL 1831	Introductory Biology: From Molecules to Organisms (MOTR BIOL 150L)	5
BIOL 2012	Genetics	3
BIOL 3302	Evolution	3
BIOL 3622	Cell Biology	3

Capstone	2-3
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Select one of the following:

BIOL 4889	Senior Seminar
SEC ED 4985	Curriculum and Methods of Teaching Life Sciences

Total Hours	22-23
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Elective Courses

Five additional biology lecture courses at the 2000 level or higher are required. They may be selected from any of the lecture or lecture-laboratory courses offered. Selection of these courses should reflect the career interest of the student and may be selected from optional academic tracks (see below). CHEM 4712 can also be used toward satisfying this requirement.

At least two biology lecture courses taken as electives must be at the 4000 level or higher **with at least one from the UMSL Department of Biology**. No more than one of these higher-level courses can be used to fulfill other requirements (e.g. statistics requirement or biochemistry option).

Laboratory Course Requirements

Four biology laboratory courses at the 2000 level or higher are required. They may be selected from any of the lecture-laboratory or laboratory courses offered. Two credit hours of BIOL 3699, BIOL 4905, or BIOL 4915 (no combination of these courses allowed) can be used to fulfill one laboratory requirement. Students may take CHEM 4733 to satisfy one of these laboratory course requirements, but students may not use both BIOL 4713 and CHEM 4733 to fulfill this requirement.

Communication Skills

Courses in both formal speaking and writing are required for development of the basic communication skills needed to transmit scientific information.

Formal Speaking

COMM 1040	Introduction to Public Speaking (MOTR COMM 110)	3
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Writing

ENGL 3160	Writing in the Sciences (strongly preferred)	3
or ENGL 3110	Junior-Level Writing for International Students	

Total Hours **6****Associated Science Areas**

The following courses or their equivalents must be successfully completed:

PHYSICS 1011	Basic Physics I	3
PHYSICS 1011L	Basic Physics I Laboratory	1
PHYSICS 1012	Basic Physics II	3
PHYSICS 1012L	Basic Physics II Laboratory	1
CHEM 1111	Introductory Chemistry I (MOTR CHEM 150L)	5
CHEM 1121	Introductory Chemistry II	5
CHEM 2612	Organic Chemistry I	3
CHEM 2622	Organic Chemistry II	3
or BIOL 4732	Principles of Biochemistry	
CHEM 2223	Quantitative Analysis in Chemistry	3
or CHEM 2633	Organic Chemistry Laboratory	
MATH 1030	College Algebra (MOTR MATH 130)	3
MATH 1100	Basic Calculus	3-5
or MATH 1800	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I	
BIOL 4122	Biostatistics	3
or MATH 1320	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	
PHIL 2256	Bioethics	3
or PHIL 3380	Philosophy of Science	

Justification for request:

We are doing 2 things here: 1. Adding the requirement for one 4000 level elective in Biology to be taken in residence from UMSL Department of Biology. We are adding this because we had a student transfer in all of her 4000 level bio classes and complete a degree without a 4000 level elective at UMSL. After discussion with faculty, we all agreed that we want our students to take at least one of our high level electives at UMSL. 2. We are removing credit hour minima. We have reorganized our requirements and curriculum such that if all the coursework is completed, the credit hour minimum is met. One reason for doing this is that transfer students often take equivalent lectures and labs that are one credit hour fewer than our versions. Hence, we are constantly requesting exceptions for credit hour requirements for most transfers. This will eliminate the need to request exceptions in these scenarios.