Requirements for the Biology Major
2017 and forward

College and University Requirements

Critical Thinking & Writing _______ _______
Ethics _______
Science Technology & Society _______
Cultures & Ideas _______ _______
Civic Engagement _______
Advanced Writing _______
Foreign Language _______
Diversity _______
Experiential Learning _______
Religious Theology & Culture _______ _______ Arts _______
Social Science _______
Pathways * _______ _______ _______ _______
* Can overlap other core or major requirements

Department Requirements

- BIOL 1A, 1B, and 1C
- CHEM 11, 12, 13, 31, and 32 (CHEM 33 suggested)
- PHYS 11, 12, 13 or PHYS 31, 32, 33
- MATH 35, 36 (suggested) or MATH 11, 12
- BIOL 101 Research Seminar
- Seven approved upper-division biology courses, including a minimum of five with a laboratory component

All Biology majors are required to complete BIOL 1A, 1B and 1C in sequence, with a C- or better, before proceeding to the upper-division. Students should note that these courses have general Chemistry pre-requisites. See student bulletin for details.

Upper Division Courses:

Students are advised to take at least one upper-division course each from one of five biological "concepts" categories identified by Vision and Change in Undergraduate Biology Education: Evolution, Information Flow, Structure-Function, Systems, and Transformations of Energy and Matter. Students are also advised to take at least one upper-division course that focuses on the use of modelling and simulation to solve biological problems. Approved upper division Biology courses, along with the categories they satisfy, are listed on the back page of this document.

Most faculty members involve students in their research programs. Qualified students can obtain course credit for research by enrolling in BIOL 195, and for major research projects by enrolling in BIOL 198. Directed readings, and internships supervised by non-SCU faculty may receive credit (BIOL 199) with prior approval of the project by a faculty member in Biology.

An overall GPA of 2.0 is required in all biology courses to meet graduation requirements.

Students are personally responsible for knowing all the academic regulations affecting their program of study and for completing all degree requirements as set forth by the University, their College or School, and academic department(s). Failure to understand these regulations and requirements does not relieve a student of responsibility. (Undergraduate Bulletin)

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