

BIOLOGY, B.S. (SCIENCE)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2023-24 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/>) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (*Note: the archive only contains suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin*).

General Biology Option: Biology, B.S. at University Park Campus

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 110 ^{*#}	4 BIOL 230W ^{*#}	4
CHEM 110 ^{*#†}	3 CHEM 112 ^{*†}	3
CHEM 111 [†]	1 CHEM 113 [†]	1
ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15 [‡]	3 MATH 141B or 141 ^{††}	4
MATH 140B or 140 ^{*†#†}	4 General Education Course	3
PSU 16	1	
	16	15

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 220W ^{*#}	4 BIOL 240W ^{*#}	4
CHEM 210 or 202	3 CHEM 212 or 203	3
STAT 200, 240, or 250	3-4 CHEM 213W (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	2
General Education Course	3 CAS 100, CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C [‡]	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic advisor for options)	3
	16-17	15

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3

PHYS 250 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options) [†]	4 PHYS 251 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	4
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	16	16

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
ENGL 202C, 202A, 202B, or 202D	3 General Education Course	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	15	15

Total Credits 124-125

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Genetics and Development Option: Biology, B.S. at University Park Campus

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First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 110 ^{*#}	4 BIOL 230W ^{*#}	4
CHEM 110 ^{*#†}	3 CHEM 112 ^{*†}	3
CHEM 111 [†]	1 CHEM 113 [†]	1
ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15 [‡]	3 MATH 141B or 141 ^{††}	4
MATH 140B or 140 ^{*††}	4 General Education Course	3
PSU 16	1	
	16	15

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 220W ^{*#}	4 BIOL 240W ^{*#}	4
CHEM 210	3 CHEM 212	3
MICRB 201 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	3 CHEM 213W	2
General Education Course	3 CAS 100, CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C [‡]	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 322	3
	16	15

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 430	3 STAT 200, 240, or 250	3-4
BMB 401	3 BMB 402	3
PHYS 250 (consult with and academic adviser for alternative options) [†]	4 PHYS 251 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	4
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
General Education Course	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	16	16-17

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
ENGL 202A, 202B, or 202C	3 General Education Course	3
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3

Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	15	15

Total Credits 124-125

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

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All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Neuroscience Option: Biology, B.S. at University Park Campus

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First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 110 ^{*#}	4 BIOL 230W ^{*#}	4
CHEM 110 ^{*#†}	3 CHEM 112 ^{*†}	3
CHEM 111 [†]	1 CHEM 113 [†]	1
ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15 [‡]	3 MATH 141B or 141 ^{‡†}	4
MATH 140B or 140 ^{*#†}	4 General Education Course	3
PSU 16	1	
	16	15

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 220W ^{*#}	4 BIOL 240W [*]	4
CHEM 210	3 CHEM 212	3
STAT 200, 240, or 250	3-4 CHEM 213W	2
General Education Course	3 CAS 100, CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C [‡]	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	16-17	15

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 469 or BBH 469	3 BIOL 470 or BBH 470	3
BMB 401	3 BMB 402	3
PHYS 250 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options) [†]	4 PHYS 251 (consult with adviser)	4
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	16	16

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
ENGL 202C, 202A, 202B, or 202D [‡]	3 General Education Course	3

Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	15	15

Total Credits 124-125

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

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All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Plant Biology Option: Biology, B.S. at University Park Campus

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First Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
BIOL 110 ^{*#}	4	BIOL 230W ^{*#}	4
CHEM 110 ^{*#†}	3	CHEM 112 ^{*†}	3
CHEM 111 [†]	1	CHEM 113 [†]	1
ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15	3	MATH 141B or 141 ^{††}	4
MATH 140B or 140 ^{*†#†}	4	General Education Course	3
PSU 16	1		
16		15	

Second Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
BIOL 220W ^{*#}	4	BIOL 240W ^{*#}	4
CHEM 210	3	CHEM 212	3
STAT 200, 240, or 250	3-4	CHEM 213W	2
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3	CAS 100, CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C [‡]	3
General Education Course	3	Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
16-17		15	

Third Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits	Summer	Credits
BIOL 441	3	BIOL 407	3	BIOL 414	3
BMB 401	3	BMB 402	3		
PHYS 250 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options) [†]	4	PHYS 251 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	4		
General Education Course	3	General Education Course	3		

Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3	Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
16		16	
3			
Fourth Year			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3	BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3	General Education Course	3
General Education Course	3	General Education Course	3
ENGL 202C, 202A, 202B, or 202D	3	Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3		
15		12	
Total Credits 124-125			

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

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attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Vertebrate Physiology Option: Biology, B.S. at University Park Campus

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First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 110 ^{*#}	4 BIOL 230W ^{*#}	4
CHEM 110 ^{*#†}	3 CHEM 112 ^{*†}	3
CHEM 111 [†]	1 CHEM 113 [†]	1
ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15	3 MATH 141B or 141 ^{††}	4
MATH 140B or 140 ^{*††}	4 General Education Course	3
PSU 16	1	
	16	15

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 220W ^{*#}	4 BIOL 240W [#]	4
CHEM 210	3 CHEM 212	3
STAT 200, 240, or 250	3-4 CHEM 213W	2
General Education Course	3 CAS 100, CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C [‡]	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	16-17	15

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 472	3 BIOL 473	2
BMB 401	3 BMB 402	3
PHYS 250 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options) [†]	4 PHYS 251 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	4
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	16	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
ENGL 202C, 202A, 202B, or 202D	3 General Education Course	3

Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	Elective Course	1
	15	16

Total Credits 124-125

- * Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
- ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
- # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
- † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

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Ecology Option: Biology, B.S. at University Park Campus

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First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 110 ^{*#}	4 BIOL 230W ^{*#}	4
CHEM 110 ^{*#†}	3 CHEM 112 ^{*†}	3
CHEM 111 [†]	1 CHEM 113 [†]	1
ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15 [‡]	3 MATH 141B or 141 ^{‡†}	4
MATH 140B or 140 ^{*†#†}	4 General Education Course	3
PSU 16	1	
	16	15

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 220W ^{*#}	4 BIOL 240W ^{*#}	4
CHEM 202 (or Chem 210)	3 CHEM 203 (or Chem 212 and Chem 213)	3
STAT 200, 240, or 250	3-4 CAS 100, CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C [‡]	3
General Education Course	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	2
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	16-17	15

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
STAT 462 (see adviser for alternatives)	3 Elective Course	3
PHYS 250 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options) [†]	4 PHYS 251 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	4
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	16	16

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3

ENGL 202C, 202A, 202B, or 202D [‡]	3 General Education Course	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	15	15

Total Credits 124-125

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

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Biology, B.S. at Commonwealth Campuses

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First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 110 ^{*#}	4 BIOL 230W ^{*#}	4
CHEM 110 ^{*#†}	3 CHEM 112 ^{*†}	3
CHEM 111 [†]	1 CHEM 113 [†]	1
ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15	3 MATH 141B or 141 ^{††}	4
MATH 140B or 140 ^{*†#†}	4 General Education Course	3
	15	15

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 220W ^{*#}	4 BIOL 240W ^{*#}	4
CHEM 210 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	3 CHEM 212 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	3
STAT 200, 240, or 250	3-4 CHEM 213W (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	2
General Education Course	3 CAS 100, CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C [†]	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	16-17	15

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
PHYS 250 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options) [†]	4 PHYS 251 (consult with adviser for alternative)	4
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
	16	16

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 BIOL 400 Level Selection (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3

General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
ENGL 202C, 202A, 202B, or 202D	3 General Education Course	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
Supporting course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	1	
	16	15

Total Credits 124-125

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

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