Biology Courses (BIOL)

This is a list of all biology courses. For more information, see Biology.

**BIOL:1000 First-Year Seminar** 1 s.h.
Small discussion class taught by a faculty member; topics chosen by instructor; may include outside activities (e.g., films, lectures, performances, readings, visits to research facilities, field trips). Requirements: first- or second-semester standing.

**BIOL:1060 Big Ideas: Origins of the Universe, Earth, and Life** 3 s.h.
Origin of the universe, the biochemistry of life, and the origin of life on Earth; for nonscience majors. Recommendations: first-year or sophomore standing. GE: Natural Sciences without Lab. Same as ASTR:1060, EES:1060.

**BIOL:1061 Big Ideas: Evolution of Life on Earth and the Search for Life in the Universe** 4 s.h.
Evolution of life on Earth, origins of plants and animals, origins of humans and humanity, and the search for life in the universe; for nonscience majors. GE: Natural Sciences with Lab. Same as ANTH:1061, ASTR:1061, EES:1061.

**BIOL:1140 Human Biology** 4 s.h.
Molecular and cellular basis of human life; integration of humans and the biosphere through photosynthesis, respiration, structure, function of human tissues, organs, organ systems; reproduction, genetics, impact of molecular biology and genetic engineering; lecture, laboratory. GE: Natural Sciences with Lab.

**BIOL:1141 Introductory Animal Biology** 4 s.h.
Fundamental principles: cells and macromolecules, energy metabolism, organismic physiology, genetics, development, ecology, and evolution. Requirements: one year of high school chemistry. Recommendations: CHEM:1070. GE: Natural Sciences without Lab.

**BIOL:1251 How the Brain Works (and Why it Doesn't)** 3-4 s.h.
Introductory survey of neuroscience; structure and function of the brain; nature of consciousness; brain function in mental illness and degenerative disorders; genes and the mind; perception, sensation, memory, and emotions. Requirements: non-biology major. GE: Natural Sciences without Lab.

**BIOL:1260 Plants and Human Affairs** 2-3 s.h.
How plants are useful to people: food, clothing, shelter, medicines, psychoactive agents; plants' social, economic, ecological significance. GE: Natural Sciences without Lab.

**BIOL:1261 Introduction to Botany** 4 s.h.
Biology of plant life; emphasis on structure, function, reproduction, inheritance, diversity, evolution. Requirements: one year of high school chemistry. GE: Natural Sciences with Lab.

**BIOL:1295 Career Preparation and Life Design for Biology Majors** 1 s.h.
Exploration of career paths, employers, graduate programs; preparation for life after college; development of practical skills in job searching, writing, interviewing, and networking; for students who are unsure what they can do after graduation with a bachelor's degree in biology. Requirements: junior or senior standing.

**BIOL:1311 Human Genetics in the Twenty-First Century** 3 s.h.
Organization and inheritance of human genes and genomes; genetic basis of simple and complex traits; genetic aspects of cancer; paleogenomics and tracing human migrations with DNA. GE: Natural Sciences without Lab. Same as ANTH:1310.

**BIOL:1370 Understanding Evolution** 3 s.h.
Evolution and diversity of living things, their patterns on Earth, their organization in ecological systems; dynamics of evolutionary processes. GE: Natural Sciences without Lab.

**BIOL:1411 Foundations of Biology** 4 s.h.
Unifying concepts of living systems; emphasis on common properties and processes; chemical and cellular basis of life, genetics, and evolution. Prerequisites: CHEM:1110 with a minimum grade of C- or CHEM:1070 with a minimum grade of A-. GE: Natural Sciences with Lab.

**BIOL:1412 Diversity of Form and Function** 4 s.h.
Underlying unifying concepts of life; emphasis on diversity of living systems; the tree of life, cellular evolution, prokaryotic and eukaryotic diversity, plant and animal form and function; interactions among diverse forms of life and their environment. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 with a minimum grade of C-. GE: Natural Sciences with Lab.

**BIOL:1808 Ways of Knowing Science** 1 s.h.
Science as a powerful way of knowing based on experimentation and observation of natural world; introduction to subdisciplines of scientific research; scope and methods of scientific research; questions that scientific research seek answers for; methods that scientists use to obtain answers to their questions; how science affects us personally and how it affects the rest of society; research seminars, discussion, and exploration.

**BIOL:2120 Good Genes Gone Bad: Genetic Disorders of Notable Celebrities** 3 s.h.
Introduction to a wide range of genetic disorders affecting notable celebrities; relevant genetic pathways in easy-to-understand language; exploration of mechanisms of disease and treatments. GE: Natural Sciences without Lab.

**BIOL:2211 Genes, Genomes, and the Human Condition** 3 s.h.
Organization, expression, and evolution of genes in context of genomes; focus on human genome; distribution and transmission of variation in human population. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411. Recommendations: BIOL:1412.

**BIOL:2246 Entomology Lab** 4 s.h.
Insects are the most species-rich and diverse of all animals; introduction to insect biology; emphasis on evolution, diversity, ecology, and morphology with some additional focus on physiology and behavior; students work in lab and field settings; memorization of entomological terms required; hands-on learning including how to employ various tools, techniques, and approaches used by professional entomologists, insect collecting and preservation, DNA extraction and sequencing, and analysis of evolutionary and ecological data. Prerequisites: BIOL:1412.

**BIOL:2254 Endocrinology** 3 s.h.
Production and effect of hormonal chemical messengers of secretory glands; emphasis on cell signaling in vertebrate systems; actions of hormones in regulating growth, physiology, and reproduction; organ to molecular levels. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 and (BIOL:1412 or HHP:3500 or PSY:2701). Recommendations: CHEM:2210.
**BIOL:2346 Vertebrate Zoology** 4 s.h.
Vertebrate diversity, success in relation to evolutionary history, and adaptive radiation of fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals; physiological, morphological, behavioral, life history adaptations; vertebrate zoogeography, systematics, patterns of reproduction, social systems. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 and BIOL:1412.

**BIOL:2374 Biogeography** 3 s.h.
Introduction to processes that lead to the patterns of plant and animal distributions we see across the globe; processes of focus include plate tectonics, climate, and human-ecological interactions; species management and conservation in relationship to climate and change in human patterns of environment. Prerequisites: BIOL:1141 or BIOL:1370 or BIOL:1261 or GEOG:1020 or BIOL:1412. Same as GEOG:2374.

**BIOL:2512 Fundamental Genetics** 4 s.h.
Nature, function of genetic material: classical, molecular, developmental aspects. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 with a minimum grade of C- and (BIOL:1412 with a minimum grade of C- or PSY:2701 with a minimum grade of C-) and CHEM:1110. Recommendations: CHEM:2210.

**BIOL:2603 Mechanisms of Aging** 3 s.h.
Evolutionary theories of aging, cellular and genetic basis of aging and repair, disruption of homeostasis in aging; focus on studies of biological and environmental causes of age-related diseases. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 and (BIOL:1412 or HHP:3500 or PSY:2701).

**BIOL:2673 Ecology** 3 s.h.
Adaptations of organisms to their physical and biological environments; organism-environment interactions; population biology; interactions between species; ecology of communities, ecosystems; human impact on ecosystems. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 and BIOL:1412. Recommendations: a basic statistics or calculus course. Same as ENVS:2673.

**BIOL:2723 Cell Biology** 3 s.h.
Structures of cells and organelles in relation to their functions at molecular, cellular levels; emphasis on higher eukaryotic cells. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 and (BIOL:1412 or HHP:3500 or PSY:2701) and CHEM:1120.

**BIOL:2753 Introduction to Neurobiology** 3 s.h.
Techniques of molecular biology, genomics, neuropharmacology, and functional brain imaging applied to understanding how the brain works. Prerequisites: (BIOL:1412 or HHP:3500) and BIOL:1411.

**BIOL:3172 Evolution** 4 s.h.

**BIOL:3233 Introduction to Developmental Biology** 3 s.h.
Fundamental mechanisms in differentiation, organogenesis, morphogenesis; and pattern formation; mechanistic approach at molecular, cellular, tissue levels of organizations. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 and CHEM:1120 and (BIOL:1412 with a minimum grade of C- or HHP:3500 with a minimum grade of C-). Recommendations: BIOL:2512.

**BIOL:3244 Animal Behavior** 3.5 s.h.
Genetics, sensory physiology, migration, development of behavior, circadian rhythms, foraging strategies, aggression, sexual and parental behavior, group selection, social behavior. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 and (BIOL:1412 or PSY:2701).

**BIOL:3253 Neurobiology** 4 s.h.
Neurobiology from molecular/cellular to systems levels including cell biology of the neuron; membrane electrophysiology; synaptic transmission and plasticity, functional neuroanatomy, sensory, motor and autonomic systems, emotion, memory, sleep, language, attention and cognition, neuronal development. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 and (PSY:2701 or BIOL:2753). Recommendations: BIOL:2723 and BIOL:3110 and PHYS:1512.

**BIOL:3314 Genomics** 3 s.h.
Major areas of genomics, including DNA and protein sequence analysis, structural diversity of whole genomes, microarray applications, proteomics; computer workshop experience in applying bioinformatics tools. Prerequisites: BIOL:2512 or BIOL:3120 or BIOC:3110. Same as IGPI:3314.

**BIOL:3343 Animal Physiology** 3 s.h.
Principles of cellular and systems physiology; emphasis on quantitative and experimental aspects. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 and CHEM:1110 and CHEM:1120 and (MATH:1380 or MATH:1460 or MATH:1550 or MATH:1850). Recommendations: (PHYS:1511 and PHYS:1512) or (PHYS:1611 and PHYS:1612).

**BIOL:3363 Plant Developmental Biology** 3 s.h.
Developmental processes throughout life cycle of vascular plants; current knowledge of mechanisms, control; emphasis on molecular and genetic approaches to studying development. Prerequisites: BIOL:2512.

**BIOL:3373 Human Population Genetics and Variation** 3 s.h.
Principles of evolutionary change of genes and genomes applied to human populations and to comparisons between humans and their closest primate relatives; emphasis on consequences of mutation, natural selection, and demographic changes. Prerequisites: BIOL:2512 with a minimum grade of C- or BIOL:2211 with a minimum grade of C-.

**BIOL:3383 Introduction to Systems Biology** 3 s.h.
Concepts and skills used to develop computer models that provide insight into the operation of cellular processes like metabolic pathways and genetic circuits. Prerequisites: BIOL:1412 and (MATH:1460 or MATH:1550 or MATH:1850).

**BIOL:3626 Cell Biology Laboratory** 4 s.h.
Conceptual understanding and technical skills in fluorescence microscopy and digital imaging, mammalian cell culture, tissue fractionation, centrifugation, electrophoresis, and expression of recombinant proteins. Prerequisites: BIOL:2723.

**BIOL:3653 Integrative Neurophysiology** 3 s.h.
Examination of quantitative, physical, and chemical principles underlying nervous system function; topics include electrical properties of cells, ionic homeostasis, action potential generation, synaptic transmission, and generation of activity patterns in neural circuits and systems. Prerequisites: BIOL:3253 and PHYS:1512.

**BIOL:3655 Neurogenetics Laboratory** 4 s.h.
Emphasis on project-oriented training to develop fundamental hands-on experimental manipulations and techniques, problem-solving skills, and data analysis methodology; students utilize modern genetic, behavioral, and electrophysiological methods to explore how gene and environment influence nervous system function and behavioral expression using genetic model organisms. Prerequisites: BIOL:2512 or BIOL:2211. Recommendations: BIOL:2753 or PSY:2701.
Biology Courses (BIOL)
BIOL:4806 Service Learning in Biology  arr.
Credit for community outreach and/or service; service learning projects involve more than just volunteering; preparation of a detailed plan summarizing project goals, activities, and audience; routine meetings with team members and faculty mentor; research and development of educational materials and/or activities focused on a biology topic; plan, promote, support, and assess an event that engages the targeted community.

BIOL:4897 Teaching Internship in Biology  2-3 s.h.
Training and practical experiences in the teaching of biology; includes a weekly training session with a Ph.D. instructor or course supervisor, active assistance of the primary instructor in one or more class meetings each week, and/or providing constructive written feedback on laboratory or classroom exercises; additional experiences may include leading a training session, co-teaching or lead-teaching one or more lab or classroom exercises, and assisting with the development of classroom activities or resources; specific experiences will vary depending on the course and supervisor needs. Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 with a minimum grade of B and BIOL:1412 with a minimum grade of B. Requirements: third- or fourth-year standing and interview with instructor.

BIOL:4898 Communicating Research  1 s.h.
Independent, investigative research experience; research process and communication—establishing goals and expectations with a mentor, developing and framing a research hypothesis or question, communicating results in written and oral form to scientist and nonscientist audiences; supportive learning environment to share research experiences and develop identities as scientists, learn skills to become effective independent researchers and science communicators. Corequisites: BIOL:3994 or BIOL:4999.

BIOL:4995 Honors Research in Neuroscience  arr.
Independent scientific research related to the field of neuroscience. Requirements: honors standing in neuroscience, UI g.p.a. of at least 3.33, and neuroscience g.p.a. of at least 3.33. Same as PSY:4995.

BIOL:4998 Honors Seminar in Biology  2 s.h.
Prerequisites: BIOL:1411 and BIOL:1412. Requirements: honors standing.

BIOL:4999 Honors Research in Biology  arr.
Independent scientific research related to the field of biology. Requirements: honors standing in biology, UI g.p.a. of at least 3.33, and biology g.p.a. of at least 3.33.

BIOL:5117 Topics in Molecular Genetics  0-2 s.h.
Prerequisites: BIOL:2512 with a minimum grade of B-.

BIOL:5199 Critical Readings in Biology  arr.

BIOL:5211 Genes, Genomes, and the Human Condition Graduate Lecture  3 s.h.
Organization, expression, and evolution of genes in context of genomes; focus on human genome; distribution and transmission of variation in human population. Recommendations: BIOL:1411 highly recommended. Same as IGPI:5211.

BIOL:5218 Microscopy for Biomedical Research  arr.
Basic microscopy methods for research including optics, preparation, and analysis of biomedical specimens; light, fluorescence, confocal, transmitting electron, scanning electron, atomic force microscopes, elemental analysis; immunochemistry and stereology techniques; individualized laboratory instruction. Prerequisites: BIOL:2723. Same as ACB:5218, MICR:5218.

BIOL:5286 Monoclonal Antibody Technologies  2 s.h.
Provides knowledge of screening and characterization methods for monoclonal antibodies, a powerful tool in molecular cytology, immunohistochemistry, and studies of gene regulation; methods include screening for monoclonal antibodies (mAbs), fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS) analysis, enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), Southern blot hybridization, cytochemistry, histochemistry, and induced polarization (IP).

BIOL:5320 Computational Genomics  3 s.h.
Introduction to computational methods used in genome analysis and functional genomics; biological sequence analysis, sequence database search, microarray data analysis, biological network analysis; in-depth coverage of principal genome science challenges and recent solutions. Prerequisites: (BIOS:4120 or STAT:3510) and BME:5320 and (CS:5110 or ENGR:1300). Same as BME:5330, ECE:5220, GENE:5173, IGPI:5330.

BIOL:5412 Fundamental Genetics - Graduate Lecture  3 s.h.

BIOL:5512 Fundamental Genetics - Graduate Discussion  1 s.h.
Critical evaluation of classic genetics papers. Requirements: biology graduate standing.

BIOL:5653 Fundamental Neurobiology  3 s.h.
Neurobiology from molecular/cellular to systems levels, including cell biology of the neuron; membrane electrophysiology; synaptic transmission and plasticity, functional neuroanatomy, peripheral and CNS sensory systems, peripheral and CNS motor systems, autonomic systems, emotion, memory, sleep, language, attention and cognition, neuronal development. Same as NSCI:5653, PSY:5203.

BIOL:5658 Fundamental Neurobiology Discussion  1 s.h.
Discussion of selected papers, including classics from neurobiology literature; coordinated with BIOL:5653 lecture material. Same as NSCI:5658, PSY:5204.

BIOL:5753 Developmental Neuroscience  1 s.h.
Neural induction and nervous system patterning; neurogenesis, axon, and dendrite outgrowth and targeting; synapse formation, specificity, refinement; mechanisms of neuronal cell death; myelination; neural stem cells; introduction to cellular, molecular, and genetic techniques in studies of neural development. Prerequisites: BIOL:5653.

BIOL:6188 Seminar: Writing in Natural Sciences  2 s.h.
Writing and critiquing skills in the natural sciences.

BIOL:6199 Research: Biology  arr.

BIOL:6265 Neuroscience Seminar  0-1 s.h.
Research presentations. Same as ACB:6265, MPB:6265, NSCI:6265, PSY:6265.

Analysis and presentation of primary research on central biological questions utilizing a full array of model and non-model organisms and analytical approaches; development of effective skills in public speaking, presentation, and scientific writing.

BIOL:6899 Independent Study in Biology  arr.
**BIOL:7270 Principles of Scholarly Integrity**  
1 s.h.  
Training in responsible conduct of research; student/mentor responsibilities; authorship and reviewing; plagiarism/falsification/fabrication of data; intellectual property; conflict of interest; fiscal, institutional, societal; treatment of human and animal subjects; data handling. Requirements: enrollment in graduate psychology or biology program. Same as PSY:7270.

**BIOL:7604 Principles of Scholarly Integrity**  
0 s.h.  
Training in responsible conduct of research and scholarly activities; student/mentor responsibilities; authorship; plagiarism/falsification/fabrication of data; intellectual property; conflict of interest; fiscal, institutional, societal; treatment of human and animal subjects; data handling. Requirements: postdoctoral standing in psychology or biology. Same as PSY:7604.