Biology, BA

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the university's Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

Before the third semester begins: MATH:1460 Calculus for the Biological Sciences or MATH:1850 Calculus I, CHEM:1110 Principles of Chemistry I, CHEM:1120 Principles of Chemistry II, and BIOL:1411 Foundations of Biology.

Before the fifth semester begins: BIOL:1412 Diversity of Form and Function, STAT:2010 Statistical Methods and Computing or STAT:3510 Biostatistics, and four other courses in the major.

Before the seventh semester begins: BIOL:2512 Fundamental Genetics, BIOL:2723 Cell Biology, BIOL:3172 Evolution, five or six more courses in the major, and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

Before the eighth semester begins: two or three more courses in the major.

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, visit MyUI.

Biology, BA

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
GE CLAS Core: Sustainability [a]		
Research: Iowa Lakeside Laboratory summer field courses [b]		
	Hours	**0**
First Year		
Fall		
CHEM:1110	Principles of Chemistry I [c]	4
MATH:1460	Calculus for the Biological Sciences [d]	4
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200	Rhetoric: Writing and Communication or Interpreting Literature	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences [e]		3
CSI:1600	Success at Iowa	1
	Hours	**15-16**
Spring		
BIOL:1411	Foundations of Biology	4
CHEM:1120	Principles of Chemistry II	4
ENGL:1200 or RHET:1030	Interpreting Literature or Rhetoric: Writing and Communication	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Understanding Cultural Perspectives [e]		3
	Hours	**14-15**
Second Year		
Fall		
BIOL:1412	Diversity of Form and Function	4
STAT:2010 or STAT:3510	Statistical Methods and Computing or Biostatistics	3
Major Elective: elective outside biology [f]		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course [g]		4 - 5
	Hours	**14-15**
Spring		
BIOL:2723	Cell Biology	3
Major Elective: elective outside biology [f]		3
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives [e]		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course [g]		4 - 5
Elective course [h]		3
	Hours	**16-17**
Third Year		
Fall		
BIOL:2512	Fundamental Genetics	4
Major Elective: elective outside biology [f]		3
Major Elective: elective outside biology [f]		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Third Level Proficiency or elective course [g]		4 - 5
Elective course [h]		3
	Hours	**17-18**
Spring		
BIOL:3172	Evolution	4
Major Elective: biological systems requirement I [i]		3
Major Elective: elective outside biology [f]		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course [g]		4 - 5
	Hours	**14-15**
Fourth Year		
Fall		
Major Elective: biological systems requirement II [i]		3
Major Elective: biology elective		3
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts [e]		3
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues [e]		3
Elective course [h]		3
	Hours	**15**
Spring		
Major Elective: course with a laboratory requirement [i]		4 - 6
Major Elective: genes and genomes requirement [i]		3
GE CLAS Core: Values and Society [e]		3
Elective course [h]		3
Elective course [h]		3

Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall) [j]	
Hours	**16-18**
Total Hours	**121-129**

a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative or Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Society.

b After completing BIOL:1412 Diversity of Form & Function, students are eligible to enroll in Lakeside Laboratory summer field courses. Registration for these courses is in winter of each year.

c Enrollment in chemistry courses requires completion of a placement exam.

d Enrollment in math courses requires completion of a placement exam.

e GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.

f Students complete 15 s.h. of coursework outside the Department of Biology by choosing courses from an approved list.

g Students who have completed four levels of a single language or two levels of two different languages in high school or college have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Students who have completed three levels of a single language may complete a fourth-level course in the same language or may choose an approved World Language and Cultural Exploration course. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course. Contact your academic advisor or CLAS Undergraduate Programs Office with questions concerning the World Languages requirement.

h Students may use elective courses to earn credit toward the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

i See General Catalog for list of approved courses.

j Please see Academic Calendar, on Office of the Registrar website, for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Degree Services.