Neuroscience, BS

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 fifth semester begins: PHYS:1511 College Physics I or PHYS:1611 Introductory Physics I, PSY:2811 Research Methods and Data Analysis in Psychology I, PSY:2812 Research Methods and Data Analysis in Psychology II, and PSY:2975 Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience.

Before the seventh semester begins: BMB:3110 Biochemistry, or BMB:3120 Biochemistry and Molecular Biology I and BMB:3130 Biochemistry and Molecular Biology II; BIOL:3253 Neurobiology I; one of the four approved laboratory courses; and PHYS:1512 College Physics II or PHYS:1612 Introductory Physics II.

Before the eighth semester begins: two required neuroscience electives.

During the eighth semester: one required neuroscience elective, 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, see MyUI.

Neuroscience, BS

Course | Title | Hours
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Academic Career
Any Semester
GE CLAS Core: Sustainability a

First Year
Fall
PSY:1001 | Elementary Psychology b | 3
PSY:2701 | Introduction to Behavioral Neuroscience | 4
CHEM:1110 | Principles of Chemistry I c | 4
RHE:1030 or ENGL:1200 | Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature | 3 - 4
CSL:1600 | Success at Iowa | 2

Spring
BIOL:1411 | Foundations of Biology | 4
CHEM:1120 | Principles of Chemistry II | 4
MATH:1460 | Calculus for the Biological Sciences d | 4
ENGL:1200 or RHET:1030 | The Interpretation of Literature or Rhetoric | 3 - 4

Hours | 15-16
Second Year
Fall
PSY:2811 | Research Methods and Data Analysis in Psychology I | 3
PSY:2975 | Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience | 3
PHYS:1511 | College Physics I | 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course e | 4 - 5

Hours | 14-15
Spring
PSY:2812 | Research Methods and Data Analysis in Psychology II | 3
BMB:3120 or BMB:3110 | Biochemistry and Molecular Biology I or Biochemistry | 3
PHYS:1512 | College Physics II | 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course e | 4 - 5

Hours | 14-15
Third Year
Fall
BIOL:3253 | Neurobiology I | 4
BMB:3130 | Biochemistry and Molecular Biology II f | 3
Major: neuroscience elective I | 3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Third Level Proficiency or elective course e | 4 - 5

Hours | 14-16
Spring
BIOL:3254 | Neurobiology II | 4
Major: neuroscience elective II | 3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion g | 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course e | 4 - 5

Hours | 14-16
Fourth Year
Fall
Major: neuroscience elective III | 3 - 4
Major: neuroscience lab course or neuroscience elective IV | 3 - 5
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues g | 3
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture e | 3

Hours | 12-15
Spring
Major: neuroscience lab course or neuroscience elective IV | 3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives g | 3
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts g | 3
Elective course h | 3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall) i | 3

Hours | 12-13
Total Hours | 111-123

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 and Formal Reasoning; Social
Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Culture.
b It is strongly recommended that neuroscience majors take this course as their GE CLAS Core: Social Science requirement and that they do so in their first semester.
c Enrollment in chemistry courses requires completion of a placement exam.
d Enrollment in math courses requires completion of a placement exam.
e Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
f If BMB:3120 is taken, students will also have to complete BMB:3130 to meet this requirement.
g 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.
h Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
i Please see Academic Calendar, 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 Graduation Services.