

Major Progress Tracker: NEW Biological Sciences Major
(effective September 1, 2026)

Name		PS #		Date	
TARGET GRADUATION DATE:					

BIOSC COURSES			
Must complete a minimum of 35 credits			
You must earn a grade of <u>C or higher</u> in all Biology courses			
Core Courses	Cr	Grade	Notes
0150 Foundations Bio 1 (UHC0155)	3		
0157 Foundations Bio Lab 1&2	2		
0160 Foundations Bio 2 (UHC0165)	3		
0267 Intermediate Bio Lab	2		
0350 Genetics	3		
0370 Ecology or 0377 Field Ecology or 1130 Evolution	3		
1000* Biochemistry	3		
Electives^	Cr	Grade	Notes
	3		
	3		
	3		
(HL ♦ Elective)	3		
(Elective Lab #1)	2		
(Elective Lab #2°)	2		
Capstone and Writing	Cr	Grade	Notes
1010 Comm in Bio Sci (WRIT)*	2		

General Education Requirements (Fall 2018 & later)

Wrkshp Comp _____ Sem in Comp _____
 Writ #1 _____ Writ #2 (in BIOSC)
 Algebra _____ Quant Formal Reas. _____
 2nd Language _____
 Diversity Course _____
 The Diversity course may be used to fulfill another General Education Requirement.

Division Requirements (Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences)

Literature _____
 The Arts _____
 Creative Work _____
 Philosophical Thinking/Ethics _____
 Social Science _____
 Historical Analysis _____
 Natural Sciences Fulfilled by Major

Global Awareness & Cultural Understanding

Global Issues _____
 Geographic Region _____
 Cross-Cultural Awareness _____

CO-REQUISITE COURSES			
You must average a 2.000 GPA in your co-requisite courses			
CHEMISTRY	Cr	Grade	Notes
0110 Gen Chem 1 *	4		
0120 Gen Chem 2 *	4		
0310 Org Chem 1 OR 0350 Prin Org Chem	3		

* Must include lecture and lab for General Chemistry sequence

MATH/STAT	Cr	Grade	Notes
MATH 0220 Calc 1 *	4		
STAT 1000 Applied Statistics	4		

STAT 0200 is NOT useable for the major

*Approved alternatives for MATH 0220: [MATH 0120 (Business Calculus) + MATH 0205 (Bridge to Calculus)], MATH 0235 (Honors 1 Variable Calculus)

ADDITIONAL STEM LEC & LAB	Cr	Grade	Notes
STEM Co-requisite Lecture *	3 / 4		
STEM Co-requisite Lab *	1 / 2		

****See table on next page for approved STEM Lecture and Lab options***

NOTES	
* Biochemistry	Can substitute BIOSC 1810 + 1820. 1820 will count as HL elective. Cannot take 1000 and 1810/1820.
^ Electives	See next page for approved electives
* Higher Level Courses	See next page for information
° Elective Lab #2	Can use a Pymatuning Field Course to satisfy 2nd lab requirement.
+ BIOSC 1010 Pre-reqs	Students must complete 16 credits of BIOSC before taking BIOSC 1010.

120 TOTAL credits required for degree	Date	Co-req GPA	BIOSC GPA
See below for GPA calculation details			

<u>Approved ADDITIONAL STEM Co-requisites Table</u>		
	Lecture Options	Lab Options
Anthropology	ANTH 1602 Human Skeletal Analysis (satisfies lecture + lab)	ANTH 1602 Human Skeletal Analysis (satisfies lecture + lab)
	ANTH 1801 Himalayan Biodiversity	
Chemistry	CHEM 0250 Introduction to Analytical Chemistry	CHEM 0260 Introduction to Analytical Chemistry Lab (must take lecture)
	CHEM 0320 Organic Chemistry 2 (must take CHEM 0310)	CHEM 0330 Organic Chemistry 1 Laboratory (must take CHEM 0310 or 0350)
		CHEM 0345 Organic Chemistry Laboratory (must take CHEM 0320 as corequisite)
Computer Science	CMPINF 0401 Intermediate Programming (satisfies lecture + lab)	CMPINF 0401 Intermediate Programming (satisfies lecture + lab)
	CS 0011 Intro to Computing for Scientists (satisfies lecture + lab)	CS 0011 Intro to Computing for Scientists (satisfies lecture + lab)
Geology	GEOL 0800 Geology and GEOL 0055 Geology Lab (satisfies lecture + lab)	GEOL 0800 Geology and GEOL 0055 Geology Lab (satisfies lecture + lab)
	GEOL 0802 Geology of the National Parks and GEOL 0055 Geology Lab (satisfies lecture + lab)	GEOL 0802 Geology of the National Parks and GEOL 0055 Geology Lab (satisfies lecture + lab)
	GEOL 0820 Natural Disasters and GEOL 0055 Geology Lab (satisfies lecture + lab)	GEOL 0820 Natural Disasters and GEOL 0055 Geology Lab (satisfies lecture + lab)
	GEOL 0840 Environmental Science and GEOL 0055 Geology Lab (satisfies lecture + lab)	GEOL 0840 Environmental Science and GEOL 0055 Geology Lab (satisfies lecture + lab)
	GEOL 0860 Environmental Geology and GEOL 0055 Geology Lab (satisfies lecture + lab)	GEOL 0860 Environmental Geology and GEOL 0055 Geology Lab (satisfies lecture + lab)
	GEOL 0890 Oceanography	
	GEOL 1030 The Atmosphere, Oceans, and Climate	
	GEOL 1050 Surface Water Hydrology	
	GEOL 1203 Paleontology (satisfies lecture + lab)	GEOL 1203 Paleontology (satisfies lecture + lab)
	GEOL 1445 GIS, GPS, and Computer Methods	
	GEOL 1460 Remote Sensing	
	GEOL 1931 Yellowstone Geology Field Class	
Math/Statistics	MATH 0230 Calculus 2	
	MATH 0280 Introduction to Matrices and Linear Algebra	
	STAT 1201 Applied Nonparametric Statistics	
	STAT 1211 Appl Cat Data Analysis	
	STAT 1221 Appl Regression	
	STAT 1231 Applied Experimental Design	
	STAT 1241 Applied Sampling	
	STAT 1261 Principles of Data Science	
	STAT 1281 Data Science with Python	
	STAT 1301 Stat Packages	
Physics	PHYS 0110 Physics 1 (alg)	PHYS 0212 Physics lab (alg; must take both PHYS 0110 and 0111)
	PHYS 0174 Physics 1 (calc)	PHYS 0219 Physics lab (calc; must take both PHYS 0174 and 0175)

Grade and GPA Requirements:

- You must have** a grade of "C" or better in your 35-37 credits of Biology courses for the BIOSC major - this means no C- or lower in a BIOSC course will be allowed for the major. However, a C-, D+, D, D- can count towards your total 120 credits for the bachelor's degree, and is averaged into your BIOSC GPA.
- AND** an overall BIOSC GPA of 2.000 or better (35-37 plus any extra BIOSC credits)
- AND** your corequisite GPA (anth, chem, cs, geol, math, stat, and/or phys) must *average* to 2.000 or better. [Thus, a grade lower than C in Math, Chemistry or Physics can be used if the co-req GPA still averages to 2.000. See **exceptions** below.]
 - Exceptions:**
 - Students must earn a grade of C (not C-) or better in CHEM 0110 and CHEM 0120 for the major.
 - Students must earn a grade of C (not C-) or better in PHYS 0110/0174 to enroll in PHYS 0111/0175.
 - Students must earn a grade of C (not C-) or better in MATH 0220 to enroll in MATH 0230.

To receive the **chemistry minor**, you must earn at least a 2.000 average GPA in the corequisite chemistry courses and BIOSC 1000 or 1810, AND at least half of the chemistry credits must be earned at the Pittsburgh Campus. Only CHEM 0110 and CHEM 0120 can be taken on a S/NC basis, all other classes for the chemistry minor must be taken for a letter grade.

Calculating your GPA - The Bio advisors have a GPA calculator spreadsheet – ask and we'll send it to you.

Major Progress Tracker: **NEW Biological Sciences Major** (effective September 1, 2026)

Important Planning Note: This document is a helpful resource for academic planning. Please be aware that the biology curriculum is dynamic and will be updated to reflect changes in the scientific field. Please consult the [DSAS Majors website](#) for the definitive and current requirements and policies. In the event of any discrepancy, the DSAS website will take precedence. Consult the [Bio Course page](#) for example syllabi and current course offerings.

To complete elective, Higher Level elective, and lab elective credits for the BIOSC major, see below:

For BIOSC electives to complete major, see Biological Sciences Course List at: biology.pitt.edu/undergraduate/courses

BIOSC 1690 and 1900-1909 are not usable as elective credits for the major.

The following course pairs/groups are considered to be repeats due to the amount of overlapping learning outcomes.

Students may take **only one** course from each pair or group.

- BIOSC 0370 (Ecology) OR BIOSC 0377 (Field Ecology)
- BIOSC/NROSCI 1070 (UHC Human Physiology) OR BIOSC/NROSCI 1250 (Human Physiology)
- BIOSC 1010 (Communicating in the Biological Sciences) OR BIOSC 1550 (Ecology and Evolution Seminar) OR BIOSC 1562 (Molecular Biology Seminar) OR BIOSC 1570 (Microbiology Seminar) OR BIOSC 1580 (Biochemistry Seminar)
- BIOSC 1140 (Behavioral Ecology) OR BIOSC 1440 (Animal Behavior)

Some labs are restricted to specialty major students and are not open to Biological Sciences students. These include:

- BIOSC 1823: Biochemistry Lab. Biological Sciences alternative: BIOSC 1003: Intro to Biochemistry Lab.
- BIOSC 1863: Microbiology Lab. Biological Sciences alternative: BIOSC 1853: Intro to Microbiology Lab.
- BIOSC 1943: Molecular Genetics Lab. Biological Sciences alternative: BIOSC 0357: Intro to Molecular Genetics Lab.

Higher Level (HL) Electives

Courses that have a prerequisite of BIOSC 0150/0160 + an upper-division course.

Course offerings and timings may vary from year to year.

Check the Master Course List on [this page](#) for up-to-date info.

BIOSC #	Course Name	Pre-req	Cr
1120	Biostatistics	BIOSC 0350/0370/1000 + STAT 1000	3
1130	Evolution	BIOSC 0350	3
1275	Genomics	BIOSC 0350	3
1280	Microbial Genetics	BIOSC 0350 + 1850	3
1320	Population Biology	BIOSC 0370 or 0377	3
1400	Disease Ecology	BIOSC 0370 or 0377	3
1405	Global Change	BIOSC 0370 or 0377	3
1435	Environ. Phys. of Animals	BIOSC 0370 or 0377	3
1440	Animal Behavior	BIOSC 0370 or 0377	3
1445	Animal Communication	BIOSC 0370 or 0377	3
1455	Human Endocrinology	BIOSC 1250	3
1470	Biophysical Chemistry	BIOSC 1000 or 1810	3
1500	Cell Biology	BIOSC 1000 or 1810	3
1515	Cancer Biology	BIOSC 0350	3
1520	Developmental Biology	BIOSC 0350	3
1730	Virology	BIOSC 0350 + 1000 + 1850 or instructor permission	3
1760	Immunology	BIOSC 0350, suggest 1000	3
1820	Metabolic Pathways	BIOSC 1810	3
1865	Microbial Physiology	BIOSC 1850 + 1000/1810	3
1940	Molecular Biology	BIOSC 0350 + 1000/1810	3
1945	Adv. Molec. Biology	BIOSC 1940	3
1999	Medical Microbiology	BIOSC 1850	3