BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES COURSE LIST

Updated 9/01/2026

This document is a guide. Course offerings are subject to change.

Check with your advisor when planning your schedule. Email BioAdv@pitt.edu or schedule an appointment in Navigate.

Course Descriptions and Sample Syllabi can be found here

ABBREVIATIONS		
Pre-requisite: complete with grade of a C (not C-) or higher before taking the course for which it is required.		
(c) = Co-requisite: take either before or at the same time as the course for which they are required		
(HL) = Higher Level Course (has Foundations + additional BIOSC course as pre-req)	***(Lab)* =** Lab Course	
†even = Only offered on even years	**†odd =** Only offered on odd years	**†varies =** Years offered varies
PLE = a field course offered at the Pymatuning Lab of Ecology. Field courses may satisfy one and only one lab requirement.		
Writing (W): pre-req is ENGCMP 0200 / W's are restricted by major / W's with lab or seminar are 1 credit add-ons.		

NOTES

BIOSC 1010: pre-reqs are ENGCMP 0200; BIOSC 0350 or 0370 or 1000 or 1810 or 1130; Junior or Senior Level; BIOSC major only; >16 BIOSC credits

Repeat Notes:

1. BIOSC 1070 Human Physiology (Honors) and BIOSC 1250 (Human Physiology) are considered course repeats. You cannot take both. Choose either BIOSC 1070 or BIOSC 1250.
2. BIOSC 1440 (Animal Behavior) and BIOSC 1140 (Behavioral Ecology) are considered course repeats. You cannot take both for credit. Although BIOSC 1140 is a field course with an experimental component, both courses cover much of the same material.

Biochemistry: Biochemistry Majors are required to take BIOSC 1810+1820 and are not permitted to substitute BIOSC 1000 for this requirement. All other students may take either BIOSC 1000 or 1810+1820. BIOSC 1000 and 1810 are considered course repeats, and you cannot take both for credit. Biological Sciences, Computational Biology, or Microbiology Majors who elect to take BIOSC 1810+1820 instead of BIOSC 1000 can count BIOSC 1820 as an elective for their majors.

Other Department Electives: You may use ≤6 credits of the following as BIOSC electives:
NROSCI 1000; CHEM 1830 (HL)

BIOSC FALL TERM OFFERINGS

Number	Title	Cr	Term(s)	Pre-Req or Co-Req (c)
0350	Genetics	3	F, Sp, Sm	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0120
0357 (Lab)	*Molecular Genetics Lab*	2	F	BIOSC 0350, BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
0370	Ecology	3	F, Sp, Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160
0373	*Ecology Lab* (+1 cr. 0391 W, Fall only)	2	F, Sm @ PLE	(c)BIOSC 0370; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1000	Biochemistry	3	F, Sp, Sm	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0310
1010 *(W)*	Communicating in the Biological Sciences (W) **{BIOSC Majors only}**	2	F, Sp, Sm	See Notes
1120 (HL)	**Biostatistics**	3	F	BIOSC 0160, core BIOSC, STAT 1000
1130 (HL)	**Evolution**	3	F, Sp	BIOSC 0350
1200	Vertebrate Morphology	3	F	BIOSC 0160
1203 (Lab)	*Vertebrate Morphology Lab*	2	F	(c)BIO 1200; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1223 (Lab)	*Urban Ecological Field Studies*	2	F	BIOSC 0370, BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1250	Human Physiology (see notes)	3	F, Sp, Sm	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0120
1253 (Lab)	*Physiology Lab*	2	F, Sp, Sm	(c)BIOSC 1250 or 1070; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1275 (HL)	**Genomics**	3	F, Sp	BIOSC 0350
1350	Plant Biology	3	F†odd	BIOSC 0160
1405 (HL)	**Global Change**	3	F	BIOSC 0370
1445 (HL)	**Animal Communication**	3	F	BIOSC 0370
1500 (HL)	**Cell Biology**	3	F	BIOSC 1000 or 1810
1503 (Lab)	*Cell Biology Lab*	2	F	(c)BIOSC 1500 or 1050; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1515 (HL)	**Cancer Biology**	3	F	BIOSC 0350
1540	Computational Biology	3	F	BIOSC 0160
1630 *(W)*	Computational Biology Seminar (W**) {CB Majors only}**	2	F	BIOSC 1540
1810	Macromolecular Structure & Function	3	F	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0320
1850	Microbiology	3	F, Sp, Sm	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0120
1853 (Lab)	*Introduction to Microbiology Lab*	2	F, Sp, Sm	(c)BIOSC 1850; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1863 (Lab)	*Microbiology Lab* **{Micro Majors only}** (+1 cr. 1861 W)	3	F	(c)BIOSC 1850; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1865 (HL)	**Microbial Physiology**	3	F	BIOSC 1850; 1000 or 1810
1940 (HL)	**Molecular Biology**	3	F	BIOSC 1000 or 1810; 0350
1943 (Lab)	*Molecular Biology Lab Writing Practicum* (+1 cr. 1951 W) **{MolBio Majors only}**	3	F	(c)BIOSC 1940; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1999 (HL)	**Medical Microbiology**	3	F	BIOSC 1850

BIOSC SPRING TERM OFFERINGS				
Number	**Title**	**Cr**	**Term(s)**	**Pre- or Co-Req (c)**
0350	Genetics	3	F, Sp, Sm	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0120
0353 (Lab)	*Genetics Lab*	2	Sp	(c)BIOSC 0350; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
0370	Ecology	3	F, Sp, Sm@PLE	BIOSC 0160
1000	Biochemistry	3	F, Sp, Sm	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0310
1003 (Lab)	*Biochemistry Lab*	2	Sp†varies	(c)1000; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1010 *(W)*	Communicating in the Biological Sciences (W) **{BIOSC Majors only}**	2	Sp, Sm, F	See Notes
1050	Cell & Molecular Biology of Disease	3	Sp	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0120
1070	Human Physiology (Honors) (see notes)	4	Sp	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0120
1130 (HL)	**Evolution**	3	Sp, F	BIOSC 0350
1250	Human Physiology (see notes)	3	F, Sp, Sm	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0120
1253 (Lab)	*Physiology Lab*	2	F, Sp, Sm	(c)BIOSC 1250 or 1070; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1275 (HL)	**Genomics**	3	F, Sp	BIOSC 0350
1280 (HL)	**Microbial Genetics**	3	Sp	BIOSC 0350, 1850
0359 (Lab)	*Genomics Lab*	2	Sp	BIOSC 0350, BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1857 (Lab)	*Microbial Genetics Lab*	2	Sp†varies	BIOSC 1850
1425	Sex and Gender in the Natural World	3	Sp	BIOSC 0160
1435 (HL)	**Environmental Physiology of Animals**	3	Sp	BIOSC 0370
1440 (HL)	**Animal Behavior**	3	Sp	BIOSC 0370
1455 (HL)	**Human Endocrinology**	3	Sp	BIOSC 1250
1470 (HL)	**Biophysical Chemistry**	3	Sp	BIOSC 1000 or 1810
1520 (HL)	**Developmental Biology**	3	Sp	BIOSC 0350
1523 (Lab)	*Developmental Biology Lab*	2	Sp	BIOSC 0350
1542 (HL)	**Computational Genomics**	3	Sp†even	BIOSC 1540, CS 0011
1544 (HL)	**Simulation and Modeling**	3	Sp†odd	BIOSC 1540, CS 0011
1550	Ecology & Evolution Seminar **{E&E Majors only}**	1	Sp	BIOSC 0350, 0370, 1130
1551 *(W)*	Ecology & Evolution Writing Practicum (W) **{E&E Majors only}**	1	Sp	(c) BIOSC 1550
1562	Molecular Bio Seminar **{MolBio Majors only}**	1	Sp	BIOSC 1940
1564 *(W)*	Molecular Bio Writing Practicum **{MolBio Majors only}**	1	Sp	(c) BIOSC 1562
1570	Microbiology Seminar **{Micro Majors only}**	1	Sp	BIOSC 1865 or 1280 or 1999
1571 *(W)*	Microbiology Writing Practicum (W) **{Micro Majors only}**	1	Sp	(c) BIOSC 1570
1580	Biochemistry Seminar **{Biochem Majors only}**	1	Sp	BIOSC 1820 and 1940
1581 *(W)*	Biochemistry Writing Practicum (W) **{Biochem Majors only}**	1	Sp	(c) BIOSC 1580
1640	Computational Biology Research **{CB Majors Only}**	3	Sp	BIOSC 1540, CS 0011
1730 (HL)	**Virology**	3	Sp†even	BIOSC 0350,1000,1850 or instructor permission
1859 (Lab)	*Virology Lab* (+1 cr. 1741 W)	2	Sp	BIOSC 0350, 1853 or 1863
1760 (HL)	**Immunology**	3	Sp	BIOSC 0350 and 1850
1820 (HL)	**Metabolic Pathways & Regulation**	3	Sp	BIOSC 1810
1823 (Lab)	*Biochemistry Lab* (+1 cr. 1831 W) **{Biochem Majors only}**	3	Sp	(c) BIOSC 1820; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1850	Microbiology	3	F, Sp, Sm	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0120
1853 (Lab)	*Microbiology Lab*	2	F, Sp, Sm	(c)BIOSC 1850; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1945 (HL)	**Advanced Molecular Biology**	3	Sp	BIOSC 1940

SPECIAL ENROLLMENT: Credits count toward degree but NOT toward any major				
Number	**Title**	**Cr**	**Term(s)**	**Pre-Req or Co-Req (c)**
0047	Anatomy Lecture with Lab	4	F, Sm	
1690	Experience in Undergraduate Teaching	Variable	F, Sp, Sm	By arrangement only
1900	Biological Sciences Peer Advising	1	F, Sp	By arrangement only
1901	Independent Study	Variable	F, Sp, Sm	By arrangement only
1903	Undergraduate Research	Variable	F, Sp, Sm	By arrangement only
1904	Department Honors Undergraduate Research	Variable	F, Sp, Sm	By arrangement only
1909	ASBMB Degree Certification Exam Preparation	1	Sp	(c)1562, 1580; Biochem/Molec majors

Scroll for more classes

BIOSC SUMMER TERM OFFERINGS: ON PITTSBURGH CAMPUS				
0350	Genetics	3	F, Sp, Sm	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0120
1000	Biochemistry	3	F, Sp, Sm	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0310
1010 *(W)*	Communicating in the Biological Sciences (W) **{BIOSC Majors only}**	2	F, Sp, Sm	See Notes
1250	Human Physiology (see notes)	3	F, Sp, Sm	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0120
1253 (Lab)	*Physiology Lab*	2	F, Sp, Sm	(c)BIOSC 1250 or 1070; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267
1850	Microbiology	3	F, Sp, Sm	BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0120
1853 (Lab)	*Microbiology Lab*	2	F, Sp, Sm	(c)BIOSC 1850; BIOSC 006X or 0157 or 0267

BIOSC SUMMER TERM OFFERINGS: PYMATUNING LAB OF ECOLOGY ***Note: Class offerings vary from year to year*** ***https://www.ple.pitt.edu/courses***				
0377	Field Ecological Studies	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1140	Field Behavioral Ecology	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1160	Field Forest Ecology	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1170	Field Freshwater Ecology	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1180	Field Ecology of Amphibians and Reptiles	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1230	Field Ornithology (Ecology of Birds)	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1270	Field Ecology of Fish	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1310	Field Wetland Ecology and Management	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1330	Field Botany	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1340	Field Entomology	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1390	Field Techniques in Ecology & Conservation	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1400 (HL)	**Field Disease Ecology**	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0370
1415	Field Mammalogy	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1420	Field Wildlife Ecology and Management	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641
1610	Field Conservation Biology	3	Sm @ PLE	BIOSC 0160 or BIOSC 0835 or GEOL 1641

BIOSC SUMMER TERM OFFERINGS: Yellowstone (only in even Summers)				
1615	Ecology and Conservation in Yellowstone	3	Sm	GEOL 0055 AND BIOSC 0835 or BIOSC 0160