

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 12/04/18 1:50 pm

Viewing: **SC-BA-BIOL : Biology, BA**

Last approved: 12/04/18 1:04 pm

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Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages [Biology, BA](#)
Using this Program

In Workflow

1. **BIOL Program Chair**
2. **SC Curriculum Committee**
3. SC Associate Dean
4. SC CAT Editor
5. Assoc Provost- Undergraduate
6. Registrar-Programs

Approval Path

1. 12/04/18 1:54 pm
Larry Rockwood (Irockwoo):
Approved for BIOL Program Chair

History

1. Oct 23, 2017 by cImig-jwehrheim
2. Mar 16, 2018 by Rebekah Zacharias (rzachari)
3. Dec 4, 2018 by Jennifer Bazaz (jbazaz)

Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?

Yes

Requestor:

Name	Extension	Email
Deborah Polayes	4543	dpolayes

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

Program Level: Undergraduate

Program Type: Bachelor's

Degree Type: Bachelor of Arts

Title: Biology, BA

Banner Title: **Biology, BA**

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SCHEV Status: Approved

Registrar's Office Use Only – Program Start Term

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SCHEV Letter

Concentration(s):

Registrar/IRR Use Only – Concentration CIP Code

College/School: College of Science

Department / Academic Unit: Biology

Jointly Owned Program? No

Justification - Replacing BIOL 310 & 330 with BIOL 300 and adjusting credit totals accordingly.

Total Credits Required: Total credits: minimum 120

Registrar's Office Use Only - Program Code: SC-BA-BIOL

Registrar/IRR Use Only – Program CIP Code

Admission Requirements:

Admissions

University-wide admissions policies can be found in the [Undergraduate Admissions Policies](#) section of this catalog.

To apply for this program, please complete the [George Mason University Admissions Application](#).

Program-Specific Policies:

Policies

Students must fulfill all [Requirements for Bachelor's Degrees](#), including the [Mason Core](#). Students in this bachelor's program must also complete the additional College Requirements for the BA Degree (see [Requirements](#)).

The writing intensive requirement is fulfilled by [BIOL 308](#) Foundations of Ecology and Evolution.

Important information and departmental policies are listed with the [Department of Biology](#).

For policies governing all undergraduate programs, see [AP.5 Undergraduate Policies](#).

Important Program Requirements

Students must complete the degree requirements with:

- A minimum GPA of 2.00 in the BIOL courses listed in the degree program
- A minimum GPA of 2.00 in the supporting courses listed in the degree program

Additionally:

- Students may apply no more than 4 credits of [BIOL 103](#) Introductory Biology I ([Mason Core](#)) or [BIOL 107](#) Intro Biology II Lecture ([Mason Core](#)) and [BIOL 106](#) Introductory Biology II Laboratory ([Mason Core](#)) toward elective credit (or equivalent transfer credit at the 100 to 200-level) if taken before the successful completion of [BIOL 213](#) Cell Structure and Function ([Mason Core](#)).
- Biology majors must earn a minimum grade of 'C' in all of the biology core courses. A grade of 'C' or better must be earned in [BIOL 213](#) Cell Structure and Function ([Mason Core](#)) in order to advance to other core requirements.
- Students may repeat [BIOL 213](#) Cell Structure and Function ([Mason Core](#)) once, but a second time only with permission of the [Department of Biology](#).
- Students may **not** count [BIOL 124](#) Human Anatomy and Physiology and/or [BIOL 125](#) Human Anatomy and Physiology toward any biology major requirement.
- Students who take [BIOL 310](#) Biodiversity and [BIOL 330](#) Biodiversity Lab and Recitation may **not** count [BIOL 303](#) Animal Biology and/or [BIOL 304](#) Plant Biology toward any biology major requirement.
- [BIOL 308](#) Foundations of Ecology and Evolution meets the writing intensive requirement for this major. Transfer students who have transferred in BIOL 308 but did not meet the writing intensive requirement may take [MLAB 300](#) Science Writing to meet the writing intensive requirement.
- [BIOL 493](#) Honors Research in Biology, [BIOL 495](#) Directed Studies in Biology, and [BIOL 497](#) Special Problems in Biology do not satisfy the requirements of the BA degree which state that students must complete at least one upper division course that includes a laboratory. The courses do, however, count as non-laboratory electives.

Teacher Licensure

Students majoring in biology who wish to pursue a career teaching secondary school may consider applying for the [Curriculum and Instruction Undergraduate Certificate](#) offered by the [College of Education and Human Development](#) as an option in seeking an initial Virginia teaching license.

Other routes to licensure include the [Biology, BA or BS/Curriculum and Instruction, Accelerated MEd](#) (Secondary Education Biology Concentration) or select traditional Master's programs. Please contact the undergraduate advisor in the [College of Education and Human Development](#) for more information.

Degree Requirements:

Students should refer to the [Admissions & Policies](#) tab for specific policies related to this program.

Biology Core Courses

Code	Course List	Title	Credits
BIOL 213	Cell Structure and Function (Mason Core)		4
BIOL 214	Biostatistics for Biology Majors		4
BIOL 300	BioDiversity		4
BIOL 308	Foundations of Ecology and Evolution 1		5
BIOL 310 & BIOL 330	Biodiversity and Biodiversity Lab and Recitation		5
BIOL 311	General Genetics		4
Total Credits			21

¹Fulfills the writing intensive requirement.

Transfer students who have transferred in BIOL 308 but did not meet the writing intensive requirement may take [MLAB 300](#) Science Writing to meet the writing intensive requirement.

Biology Electives

Code	Course List	Title	Credits
Complete 10 credits of additional biology courses ¹			10
Complete 11 credits of additional biology courses ¹			11

¹ Of which, at least 6 credits must be upper division, and at least one of these upper division courses must include a laboratory.

Chemistry

Code	Course List Title	Credits
CHEM 211 & CHEM 213	General Chemistry I (Mason Core) and General Chemistry Laboratory I (Mason Core) (Natural Science course)	4
CHEM 212 & CHEM 214	General Chemistry II (Mason Core) and General Chemistry Laboratory II (Mason Core) (Natural Science course)	4
Total Credits		8

Math

Code	Course List Title	Credits
Select one from the following:		3-6
MATH 111	Linear Mathematical Modeling (Mason Core) (Quantitative Reasoning courses)	
or MATH 113	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (Mason Core)	
MATH 123 & MATH 124	Calculus with Algebra/Trigonometry, Part A and Calculus with Algebra/Trigonometry, Part B (Mason Core)	
Total Credits		3-6

Computer Science

Code	Course List Title	Credits
Select one from the following:		3
CDS 130	Computing for Scientists (Mason Core) 1	
Any course(s) that fulfills the Mason Core: Information Technology requirement		
Total Credits		3
1	Recommended by the Department of Biology	

Natural Science

Code	Course List Title	Credits
Select 6-8 credits from the following Mason Core: Natural Science courses:		6-8
ASTR 103	Astronomy (Mason Core)	
ASTR 111	Introductory Astronomy: The Solar System (Mason Core)	
ASTR 113	Introductory Astronomy: Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe (Mason Core)	
GEOL 101	Introductory Geology I (Mason Core)	
GEOL 102	Introductory Geology II (Mason Core)	
PHYS 160	University Physics I (Mason Core)	
PHYS 243	College Physics I (Mason Core)	
PHYS 245	College Physics II (Mason Core)	
PHYS 260	University Physics II (Mason Core)	
Total Credits		6-8

Note for Students Expecting to Enter Graduate or Professional School

Students expecting to enter graduate or professional school are strongly encouraged to complete:

Code	Course List Title	Credits
MATH 113 & MATH 114	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (Mason Core) and Analytic Geometry and Calculus II	8
CHEM 313 & CHEM 315	Organic Chemistry I and Organic Chemistry Lab I	5
CHEM 314 & CHEM 318	Organic Chemistry II and Organic Chemistry Lab II	5
PHYS 243 & PHYS 244	College Physics I (Mason Core) and College Physics Lab (Mason Core)	4
PHYS 245 & PHYS 246	College Physics II (Mason Core) and College Physics Lab (Mason Core)	4

Retroactive
Requirements
Updates:

Plan of Study:

Honors
Information:

Honors in the Major

Admissions

Minimum requirements for invitation:

- GPA in biology courses must be 3.33 or better
- GPA in supporting requirements (math and other science) must be 3.00 or better
- Grade of 'B' or better in [BIOL 213](#) Cell Structure and Function ([Mason Core](#))

Students should apply for admission to the Honors Program during their first or second year at the university. Contact the [Department of Biology](#) for information on applying.

Retention Requirements

Students in honors biology must maintain a biology GPA of 3.33 or better and a supporting GPA of 3.00 or better from the time they have accumulated 30 hours and thereafter. Students who fall below this standard will be given a one semester probationary period in which to bring their GPA back up to the minimum standard.

Requirements to Graduate with Biology Honors

Students are required to take 6 to 8 credits in honors courses in BIOL including three semesters of [BIOL 494](#) Honors Seminar in Biology or two semesters of [BIOL 494](#) Honors Seminar in Biology and one semester of [BIOL 493](#) Honors Research in Biology. [BIOL 498](#) Research Seminar may count toward one of the semester requirements of [BIOL 494](#) Honors Seminar in Biology. The GPA requirements are as follows:

- Minimum 3.33 GPA in honors biology courses
- Minimum 3.33 GPA in biology requirements
- Minimum 3.00 GPA in supporting requirements
- Minimum 3.00 GPA overall

Additional Program Information

This information is required by the Office of Accreditation and Program Integrity.

Courses offered via
distance (if
applicable):

What is the
primary delivery
format for the
program? Face-to-Face Only

Does any portion of this program occur off-campus?
No

Are you working with a vendor / other collaborators to offer your program?
No

Related
Departments

Could this program prepare students for any type of professional licensure, in
Virginia or elsewhere?
No

Are you adding or removing a licensure component?
No

Additional SCHEV & SACSCOC Information

Are you changing the total number of credits required for this program?

Are you changing the delivery format in any way (e.g adding an online option)?

Are you adding/removing a licensure option which was approved by SCHEV?

Will any portion of this program be offered at an off-campus location?

Are you adding significant new content areas to the program?

Will this program change affect any specialized accreditation?

Green Leaf Program Designation

Is this a Green Leaf program? No

Does this program cover material which crosses into another department?

No

Additional Attachments

SCHEV Proposal

Executive Summary

Reviewer Comments

Additional Comments

Is this course required of all students in this degree program?

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