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Viewing: : **Biology, BS/Biology, Accelerated MS**

Last approved: 03/21/19 8:58 am

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Changes proposed by: jbazaz

**Catalog Pages  
Using this Program**

- [Biology, BS](#)
- [Biology, MS](#)

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

No

**Effective Catalog:** 2021-2022

**Program Level:** Undergraduate & Graduate (BAMs)

**Program Type:** Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's

**Title:**  
Biology, BS/Biology, Accelerated MS

**Registrar's Office  
Use Only –  
Program Start Term**

**Registrar/OAPI Use  
Only – SACSCOC  
Status**

**Concentration(s):**

**College/School:** College of Science

**Department /  
Academic Unit:** School of Systems Biology

**Jointly Owned  
Program?** Yes

**Participating  
Colleges**

	College
1	College of Science

**In Workflow**

1. Registrar-  
Programs:Workflow  
Review
2. SSB Program Chair
3. BIOL Program Chair
4. SC Curriculum  
Committee
5. SC Associate Dean
6. SC CAT Editor
7. Assoc Provost-  
Graduate
8. Assoc Provost-  
Undergraduate
9. Registrar-Programs:  
Duration
10. Registrar-Programs

**History**

1. Oct 30, 2017 by  
clmig-jwehrheim
2. Feb 16, 2018 by  
Rebekah Zacharias  
(rzachari)
3. Mar 7, 2019 by  
Jennifer Bazaz  
Gettys (jbazaz)
4. Mar 21, 2019 by  
Tory Sarro (vsarro)

**Participating  
Departments**

	Department
1	Biology

**Justification**

Updating this BAM pathway to accommodate the new policy revisions: 1. Ability to complete programs in 138 credits, 2. Admission into BAM program by at least 60 UG credits, 3. Waive GRE 4. Begin graduate coursework at 75 UG credits, 5. Allow 3-12 credits to be applied to the UG and GR degree, 6. Including a curated list of graduate courses. 7. Removing the completion of organic chemistry and genetics UG courses for admission as they are usually taken late in students' studies.

Inserting a college "template" for BAM entries so that the college has consistent and clear messaging.

Changed BIOL 310 to the updated number BIOL 300.

## Catalog Published Information

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Accelerated  
Description/Dual  
Degree  
Description:

# Biology, BS/Biology, Accelerated MS

## Overview

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**This bachelor's/accelerated master's degree program allows academically strong ~~Qualified~~ undergraduates with a commitment to advance their education to ~~may be admitted into an accelerated master's program and~~ obtain both the ~~a~~ [Biology, BS](#) and the ~~a~~ [Biology, MS](#) degrees within an accelerated timeframe. ~~within an accelerated time frame.~~ Upon completion of this 138 credit accelerated program, students will be exceptionally well prepared for entry into their careers or into a doctoral program in the field or in a related discipline.**

Students **are eligible** ~~admitted~~ to **apply for** this **accelerated** program **once they have earned at least 60** ~~may take graduate courses after completing 90~~ undergraduate **credits** ~~credits~~; and **can enroll in** up to **18 credits** ~~6 credits~~ of graduate **coursework after successfully completing 75** ~~work may be used in partial satisfaction of the requirements for the~~ undergraduate **credits.** ~~degree.~~ **This flexibility makes it possible for** ~~If~~ students **to complete** ~~earn at least a bachelor's and a 3.00 GPA in these classes, they are granted advanced standing in the~~ master's **in five years.** ~~program and must then complete an additional 24 credits to receive the master's degree.~~

~~All other master's degree requirements must be met, including a minimum of 18 credits taken for the master's after the bachelor's degree is complete.~~ For more detailed information, see [AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's](#)

**Degrees.** For policies governing all graduate **degrees, programs**, see [AP.6 Graduate Policies](#). **For more information on undergraduates enrolling in graduate courses, see [AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates](#).**

## Application Requirements

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Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in the [Graduate Admission Policies](#) section of this catalog.

**Important application** ~~Application~~ **information and processes** for this accelerated master's program can be found ~~here~~ [found on the School of Systems Biology's website](#).

**Students should seek out the graduate program's advisor who will aid in choosing the appropriate graduate courses and help prepare the student for graduate studies.**

~~Successful applicants will have an overall undergraduate GPA of at least 3.10. Additionally, they will have completed the following courses with a GPA of 3.00 or higher:~~ Three letters of recommendation, including one from a prospective thesis or project advisor, are required.

**GRE scores are not required for students in this accelerated program.**

**Successful applicants will have an overall undergraduate GPA of at least 3.10. Additionally, they will have completed the following courses with a GPA of 3.00 or higher:**

<del>BIOL 213</del>	Cell Structure and Function ( <a href="#">Mason Core</a> )	4
<del>BIOL 214</del>	Biostatistics for Biology Majors	4
<b>BIOL 300</b>	<b>BioDiversity</b>	<b>4</b>
<del>BIOL 308</del>	Foundations of Ecology and Evolution	5
<del>BIOL 310</del>	<del>Course BIOL 310 Not Found</del>	3
<del>BIOL 311</del>	<del>General Genetics</del>	4
<del>CHEM 313</del>	<del>Organic Chemistry I</del>	3
<del>CHEM 315</del>	<del>Organic Chemistry Lab I</del>	2

## Accelerated Option Requirements

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~~After~~ **At the completion** ~~beginning~~ **of 60** ~~the student's final~~ undergraduate **credits, semester**, students must submit a bachelor's/accelerated master's transition form (available from the [Office of the University Registrar](#)) to the College of Science's [Office of Academic and Student Affairs](#).

**At the completion of 75 undergraduate credits, students may begin completing up to 12 credits of graduate coursework that will count toward their bachelor's and master's.**

~~Students must begin their master's program in the semester immediately following conferral of the bachelor's degree.~~ Students must maintain an overall GPA of 3.00 or higher in graduate coursework and should consult with their faculty advisor to coordinate their academic goals.

~~**After completing 120 credits and all requirements for the bachelor's degree and filing the Graduation Intent Form, students are awarded a bachelor's degree. Accelerated master's students must then submit**~~

~~scores on the GRE to have the provisional qualifier removed. Ordinarily, students should receive a minimum combined score of 303 on the verbal and quantitative portions of the general test.~~ Reserve Graduate Credit

~~Accelerated master's students While still in undergraduate status, a maximum of 6 additional graduate credits may also take up be taken as reserve graduate credit and applied to 6 graduate credits as reserve graduate credits. the master's program. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree, but will reduce the master's degree by up to 6 credits. With 12 Reserve graduate credits counted toward the undergraduate degree plus the maximum 6 reserve graduate credits, the credits necessary for the graduate degree can be reduced by up to 18. credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree.~~

## Graduate Course Suggestions

The following list of suggested courses is provided for general reference. To ensure an efficient route to graduation and post-graduation readiness, students are strongly encouraged to meet with an advisor before registering for graduate-level courses.

<u>BIOL 508</u> Selected Topics in Animal Biology (When the topic is "Research and Development in a Biotechnological Company")	1-4
<u>BIOL 682</u> Advanced Eukaryotic Cell Biology	3
<u>BIOL 689</u> Interdisciplinary Tools in the Biosciences	3
<u>BIOL 690</u> Introduction to Graduate Studies in Biology	1-2
<u>BIOL 695</u> Seminar in Molecular, Microbial, and Cellular Biology	1

### Program Outcomes

#### OAPI Use Only – Determination of SACSCOC Impact

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Comments or Notes

Additional Attachments

Reviewer Comments

Additional Comments

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

%wi\_required.eshtml%

Key: 90