

Biology Major (BA)

Total Major hours: 50
Suggested hours per semester: 16-18

Major Academic Plan (MAP) for Catalog Year 2025-2026

The College Catalog is the final authority on course requirements for graduation. This MAP is only a tool for course planning purposes. Course sequencing may vary from this MAP; students are strongly encouraged to seek guidance from their faculty advisor regarding their course schedule and possible studies off-campus.

Fall Semester 1 BIOL 241 Organization of Life ^{F,1} CHEM 231 General Chemistry ^{F,2} <i>CORE 101: First Year Seminar</i> <i>CORE 131: Holistic Human Flourishing (1)</i> <i>Core Competency Course(s)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COMM 101: Oral Comm (2) ▪ ENGW 103: First-Year Writing ▪ Language 	Spring Semester 1 Major Elective(s) ³ <i>Core Competency Course(s)</i> BITH 211/ARCH 211: Old Testament	Summer 1 Consider study (eg. Wheaton In programs), internship or research options
Fall Semester 2 BHS 252 Intro to Biological & Health Science Research ^{*5,7} <i>Core Competency Course(s)</i> BITH 213/ARCH 213: New Testament	Spring Semester 2 Major Elective(s) ³ BIOL cluster 1, 2 or 3 ⁵ <i>Thematic Core Course(s)</i> BITH 315: Christian Thought*	Summer 2 Consider study (eg. Wheaton In programs), internship or research options
Fall Semester 3 BIOL cluster 1, 2, 3 ⁵ BIOL 356 Genetics ^{*F} <i>Thematic Core Course(s)</i>	Spring Semester 3 Major Elective(s) ³ BIOL cluster 1, 2, or 3 ⁴ <i>Advanced Integrative Seminar*</i> <i>Thematic Core Course(s)</i>	Summer 3 Consider study (eg. Wheaton In programs), internship or research options
Fall Semester 4 Major Elective(s) ³ <i>Thematic Core Course(s)</i>	Spring Semester 4 BHS 494 Integrated Biological & Health Scientist (2) ^{*5,6,7} Major Elective(s) ³ <i>Thematic Core Course(s)</i>	Summer 4

Notes or Special Guidance:

*Course has prerequisite

^F Fall only course

^S Spring only course

[#] Offered every other year

¹ Meets a CATC Thematic Core tag (SP)a

²Students may decide, with their advisor's guidance, to postpone beginning Chemistry requirement until their Sophomore year.

³Major Electives: 20 credits. Students may take any additional 300- or 400-level Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (BMB), Biology (BIOL), Conservation and Ecological Health (CEH), Health Science (HS), or Neuroscience (NEUR) courses to fulfill their elective credit hours. Only 4 credits of 495-499 courses may be counted towards Major Elective credits.

⁴Take at least one course from each of the three biology clusters for the Biology Major Core Courses(see College Catalog).

⁵Course may be taken in either Fall or Spring.

⁶Students can take BHS 494, BMB 494 or NEUR 494 to complete the capstone requirement.

⁷Highly recommended to take in the second year or later.

Please review general information about MAPs to see how your path and suggested hours per semester may differ: <https://www.wheaton.edu/academics/services/academic-advising-office/major-academic-plans-maps/>