

BIOLOGY (BS)

Bachelor of Science

The BS in biology provides a firm foundation in several different fields of science, including biology, chemistry, and mathematics. The BS degree in biology is recommended for students who are interested in pursuing a professional career in the biological sciences, attending graduate school or professional school, or who want a strong, broad-based degree in the natural sciences.

Biologists feel a sense of adventure in the search to understand the living world. The study of biology increases awareness and appreciation of the living world, enhances problem-solving abilities, introduces the practice of science, and forms the foundation for a challenging and rewarding career.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Required Biology Courses		
BIO-1210 & 1210Z	Biology of Cells and Biology of Cells Laboratory	4
BIO-1220 & 1220Z	Biology of Organisms and Biology of Organisms Laboratory	4
BIO-2300 & 2300Z	Introduction to Zoology and Introduction to Zoology Laboratory	4
BIO-2350 & 2350Z	Introduction to Botany and Introduction to Botany Laboratory	4
BIO-3400	Genetics	4
Support Courses		
CHM-1310 & 1310Z	General Chemistry I and General Chemistry I Laboratory	4
CHM-1320 & 1320Z	General Chemistry II and General Chemistry II Laboratory	4
Selected Courses		
Select 12 semester hours of the following:		12
BIO-3040	Immunology	
BIO-3100	Human Physiology	
BIO-3150	Invertebrate Zoology	
BIO-3250	Vertebrate Zoology	
BIO-3270	Plant Physiology	
BIO-3510	Ecology	
BIO-3520	Animal Behavior	
BIO-3530	Evolution	
BIO-3540	Biological Anthropology	
BIO-3555 & 3555Z	Biochemistry and Biochemistry Laboratory	
or CHM-3555 & 3555Z	Biochemistry and Biochemistry Laboratory	
BIO-3600	Molecular Biology	
Other courses that may be used up to a maximum of four semester hours from this group:		
BIO-3790	ACCA: Affiliated Course	
BIO-3830	Directed Study in Biology	
BIO-4830	Directed Study in Biology	
BIO-3940	Biology Internship	

BIO-4940	Biology Internship
BIO-3970	Research in Biology
BIO-3980	Independent Study in Biology
BIO-4980	Independent Study in Biology

Total Credits 40

Undergraduate Degree Requirements

A student who graduates from Aurora University with a baccalaureate degree will have met the following requirements:

- Completion of all requirements for an approved major (with no grades lower than "C").
- Overall completion of at least 120 semester hours of coursework with a GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale (a course may be utilized only once in application toward a degree requirement, unless otherwise noted in the academic regulations). The 120 semester hours of coursework must include:
 - At least 52 semester hours completed at a senior college.
 - Residency Requirement - At least 30 semester hours completed at Aurora University, including the last 24 semester hours in the degree, and including at least 18 semester hours in the major. (Portfolio assessment credit, life and vocational experience credit, off-campus experience credit, examination credit, participation credit, and block credit, shall not count toward the residency requirement).
 - Upper-Division Requirement - A minimum of 30 semester hours numbered 3000 or above. Of these 30 semester hours, 15 semester hours must lie within the major and 15 semester hours must be completed at Aurora University.
- Completion of all General Education requirements (with no grades lower than "C"), as follows:
 - Quantitative and Formal Reasoning competency requirement (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/regulations-policy-catalog/academic-regulations-procedures/general-education/#satisfy-quantitative-reasoning-requirement>)
 - ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing
 - IDS-1200 Discover What Matters or GWC-1000 or IDS-3040 Global Justice
 - IDS-1150 First Year Experience or GWC-4000 - *Not required for Transfer or AU Online students*)
 - Satisfactory participation in the junior-year mentoring and assessment process designed to guide students to successful completion of their degree and to encourage planning for next steps beyond graduation. (IDS-3500 Junior Mentoring Program I and IDS-3550 Junior Mentoring Program II - *Not required for ADC or AU Online students*)
 - Distribution Requirements
Students will complete one approved course¹ from each of the following categories:
 - Artistic Literacy
 - Cultural Literacy
 - Human Inquiry
 - Scientific Inquiry

In addition to the above, ADC and Online students will also complete one approved course¹ from the following category:

- Integration and Application

¹ Only courses that are approved to meet the distribution requirement can be used toward this requirement. See the list of approved courses (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/regulations-policy-catalog/academic-regulations-procedures/general-education/#approved-courses-gen-ed-distribution>) for available options. Courses taken to meet distribution requirements are 4 semester hours apiece, with the following exceptions:

- An approved transfer course of at least 2.50 semester hours can be used to satisfy a distribution requirement.
- Courses with co-requisite laboratory components may be used to satisfy a distribution requirement, provided that the student successfully complete both the three-credit-hour course and the single-credit-hour lab component.

Learning Outcomes

1. Content and Theories – Students should understand the major concepts, theories, and empirical findings in their discipline.
2. Research Methods – Students will use basic research methods, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.
3. Science and Society – Students will determine the responsibility of professionals in their field to themselves and society by applying ethical solutions within the context of societal challenges in their discipline.
4. Information Competence - Students should demonstrate information competence with traditional and computer-based library systems to facilitate the study of biology.
5. Professional Communication – Students will be able to communicate effectively in professional writing and oral presentation.