Western Michigan University Biology Curriculum Guide

Pre biology requirements:

- The following courses are the prerequisites for biology, biomedical sciences, and biology-secondary education (high school level) majors;
- This major is also a good choice for students going into graduate programs and professional schools such as physician assistant, physical therapy, and medical, dental and veterinary schools;
- A minimum of 15 credits of biology must be earned at WMU for the major;
- Only departmental courses in which a grade of “C” or better is obtained may be counted toward a major or minor in Biological Sciences.

WMU courses | ACC courses
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BIOS 1610 | BIO 161
BIOS 1600 | BIO 162
BIOS 2020 | BIO 210 (not for Biomed majors)
BIOS 2030 | BIO 211 (not for Biomed Majors)
BIOS 2110 | BIO 201
BIOS 2300 | BIO 217
CHEM 1100/1110 | CEM 121
CHEM 1120/1130 | CEM 122
CHEM 3750/3760 | CEM 221
CHEM 3770/3780 | CEM 222
PHYS 1130/1140 | PHY 121
PHYS 1150/1160 | PHY 122
MATH 1220 or 2000 | MTH 131 or 130
STAT 3660 | MTH 223

General education requirements:

- Please see the [general education program transfer guide](#);
All students graduating from the College of Arts & Sciences must meet the world language proficiency by completing two semesters (6-8 hours) of the same foreign language or American Sign Language, or passing WMU’s proficiency by exam. Please contact the College of Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Advising Office at (269) 387-4366 with any questions. Neither the MACRAO Agreement nor the MTA satisfy the world language requirement.

- If the student’s first language is not English, then the student is exempt from this requirement. Determination of eligibility for this exemption is based on whether the student was required to take the TOEFL test for admission, and can be verified through the WMU departments of Spanish or World Language and Literatures.

The College of Arts & Sciences also requires a critical thinking course, to be chosen from Proficiency 4c. See the general education transfer guide cited above. MACRAO nor the MTA will cover this requirement.

Important notes:

- The chemistry, physics, and mathematics courses are called “cognate” requirements for biology department majors and may not be waived;
- The physics and chemistry courses have a minimum prerequisite of successful completion of high school advanced algebra (MTH 113 at ACC);
- For questions about general education requirements please contact the WMU College of Arts & Sciences advisors at the email address given below;
- Prior to enrolling in WMU courses, students should consult the biology department advisor listed below.

Approved by:
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