BIOLOGY, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

This minor is designed for students in non-Life Science majors, who desire to obtain an in-depth and well-rounded knowledge of Biology – the science of life and living organisms. This minor is not intended for "Life Science" oriented majors, including Biological Anthropology, Premedicine, and Science, Life Science option. After taking an introductory survey course which exposes students to the basics of Biology, including the chemistry of life, cell structure, genetics, mechanisms of evolution and evolutionary history of biological diversity, plant and animal form and function, and ecology, students select additional courses based on their biological emphasis to account for a total of 18-20 credits. In conjunction with the student's major, the minor prepares students for entry to graduate school or professional school programs, as well as for technical or research careers with governmental agencies or industry. Majors complemented by this minor would include but not be limited to other life and physical sciences, engineering, and business.

What is Biology?

Biology is the scientific study of life: the diversity and organization of organisms, from single-celled bacteria to multi-cellular plants and animals, including humans. These different levels of biological organization range from the molecules and cells that compose an organism, to the interacting organisms that make up an ecosystem.

You Might Like this Program If...

• You want to complement your major by acquiring additional knowledge and skills in biology.
• You have an interest in learning more about biology, but do not have enough time to complete the major.

Program Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Minor</td>
<td>18-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 ([senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10](https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10)). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student's major(s).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 110</td>
<td>Biology: Basic Concepts and Biodiversity</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Courses

Select 7-8 credits of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 129</td>
<td>Mammalian Anatomy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 141</td>
<td>Introduction to Human Physiology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
lkp3@psu.edu

**Berks**

Maureen Dunbar  
Program Coordinator, Associate Professor  
Luerssen 101H  
Reading, PA 19610  
640-396-6328  
BKBiology@psu.edu

**Brandywine**

Mick Yoder  
Assistant Professor of Biology  
25 Yearsley Mill Road  
Media, PA 19063  
610-892-1462  
mdy103@psu.edu

**Erie**

Adam Simpson, Ph.D.  
Assistant Teaching Professor of Biology  
180 Benson  
Erie, PA 16563  
814-898-6544  
am1122@psu.edu

**Harrisburg**

Sairam V. Rudrabhatla, Ph.D.  
Program Chair  
Science and Technology Building, TL 174  
Middletown, PA 17057  
717-948-6560  
svr11@psu.edu

**Scranton**

Dale Holen  
Associate Professor  
Dawson 207  
Dunmore, PA 18512  
570-963-2579  
dah13@psu.edu

**York**

Anne Vardo-Zalik  
Associate Professor of Biology  
1 Elias Science Building  
York, PA 17403  
717-718-6705  
amv12@psu.edu

**Contact**

**University Park**

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY  
228 Ritenour Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-865-2329  
https://science.psu.edu/bio/contact-us (https://science.psu.edu/bio/contact-us/)

**Abington**

DIVISION OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING  
1600 Woodland Road  
Abington, PA 19001  
215-881-7300  
epi1@psu.edu  
http://abington.psu.edu/biology (http://abington.psu.edu/biology/)

**Altoona**

DIVISION OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES  
Hawthorn Building 109  
3000 Ivyside Park  
Altoona, PA 16601  
814-949-5205  
lkp3@psu.edu  
http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/biology/request-information (http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/biology/request-information/)

**Berks**

DIVISION OF SCIENCE  
Luerssen Science Building  
Reading, PA 19610  
610-396-6328  
BKBiology@psu.edu

**Brandywine**

http://brandywine.psu.edu/biology-minor (http://brandywine.psu.edu/biology-minor/)

**Erie**

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE  
1 Prischak  
4205 College Drive  
Erie, PA 16563  
814-898-6105  
behrend-science@psu.edu  
https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-science (https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-science/) 

**Harrisburg**

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND TECHNOLOGY  
Science & Tech Building, TL 177  
Middletown, PA 17057  
717-948-4387  
mrr53@psu.edu

**Scranton**

Dawson 211  
120 Ridge View Drive  
Dunmore, PA 18512  
570-963-2529  
mih10@psu.edu