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

Requirement	Credits
Requirements for the Minor	18-20

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 (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).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better		
BIOL 110	Biology: Basic Concepts and Biodiversity	4
Additional Courses		
Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better		
Select 7-8 credits of the following:		7-8
BIOL 129	Mammalian Anatomy	
BIOL 141	Introduction to Human Physiology	
BIOL 142	Physiology Laboratory	
BIOL 161	Human Anatomy and Physiology I - Lecture	
BIOL 162	Human Anatomy and Physiology I - Laboratory	
BIOL 163	Human Anatomy and Physiology II - Lecture	
BIOL 164	Human Anatomy and Physiology II - Laboratory	
BIOL 220W	Biology: Populations and Communities	
BIOL 222	Genetics	
BIOL 230W	Biology: Molecules and Cells	
BIOL 240W	Biology: Function and Development of Organisms	
BIOL 322	Genetic Analysis	
Supporting Courses and Related Areas		
Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better		
Select 6-9 credits from 400-level Biology courses [1]		6-9

[1] BIOL 400, BIOL 496, and SC 495 credits may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/)

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