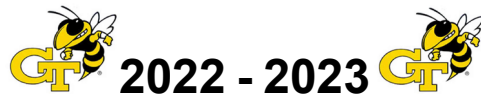




# Georgia Institute of Technology

## HANDBOOK FOR BIOLOGY MAJORS

SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES



LAST REVISION: JUNE 29, 2022

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## INTRODUCTION

The School of Biological Sciences has approximately 350 undergraduate majors, the largest enrollment of any of the majors in the College of Sciences. With upwards of 60 faculty, Biosciences faculty members work hard to treat every student as a unique individual. Faculty and students together constitute a mutually supportive intellectual community. All biology majors are encouraged to know and to become known by their professors. The names, academic interests, and phone numbers of all faculty members are listed on the Biosciences website at [www.biosci.gatech.edu/people](http://www.biosci.gatech.edu/people).

This handbook is intended for the use of undergraduate Biology majors in the School of Biological Sciences. Its purpose is to provide information supplementary to that contained in the "General Catalog" ([www.catalog.gatech.edu](http://www.catalog.gatech.edu)) and the "Rules and Regulations" ([catalog.gatech.edu/rules/](http://catalog.gatech.edu/rules/)) in matters that pertain specifically to the School of Biological Sciences. The School of Biological Sciences website at [www.biosci.gatech.edu](http://www.biosci.gatech.edu) provides an additional resource. Information for registering for classes, advisor contact information, FAQs, etc., can be found on the Undergraduate Program page of the Biological Sciences website at [www.biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/undergraduate-current-students](http://www.biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/undergraduate-current-students). This handbook and the Biological Sciences website are not intended to supersede the "General Catalog" or the "Rules and Regulations." In the case of any conflicts, these latter documents will prevail.

## SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES ORGANIZATION

- I. **School Chair:** Dr. J. Todd Streelman, Professor, Room 2015 Engineered Biosystems Building. The Chair of the School of Biological Sciences is responsible for the overall operation of the School.
- II. **Associate Chair for Undergraduate Affairs:** Dr. Chrissy Spencer, Boggs 1-76A. The Associate Chair of Undergraduate Affairs works directly with the School of Biological Sciences Academic Office to ensure smooth operation of the Undergraduate Program.
- III. **Academic Office:**
  - Academic Advisors: Dr. Onur Birol, 325 Cherry Emerson  
Dr. Mirjana Brockett, 323 Cherry Emerson  
Dr. Shana Kerr, Boggs 1-76B  
Dr. Chrissy Spencer, Boggs 1-76A  
Dr. Emily Weigel, 474E Clough Commons
  - Academic Program Coordinator: Ms. Benita Black, 385A Clough Commons

The main functions of the Academic Office are to:

1. Organize undergraduate academic activities in the School.
2. Act as liaison to other schools and units on campus on matters relating to undergraduate education.
3. Coordinate an active and responsive academic advising program.
4. Provide advice and direction to students about academic programs and careers.

## THE LONG-TERM GOAL: EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION AFTER GRADUATION

To discover what some former students are doing with their B.S. in Biology, visit our School of Biological Sciences Alumni website at [biosciences.gatech.edu/undergrad/alumni](http://biosciences.gatech.edu/undergrad/alumni).

**Job Placement:** The most frequently asked question is “What can I do with a B.S. in Biology?” You will be pleased to learn that there are excellent employment opportunities for those trained in the life sciences with a BS degree. The School of Biological Sciences assists students in obtaining internships during their time at Tech, and the Center for Career Discovery and Development ([careerdiscovery.gatech.edu](http://careerdiscovery.gatech.edu)) provides additional internships as well as career placement and job searching services. Alumni networks built through programs like MentorJackets help biology majors to connect with careers and available positions.

**Graduate School:** A degree in biology gives you flexibility to pursue diverse fields of study in graduate programs focusing on topics such as bioinformatics, molecular biology, physiology, microbiology, conservation biology, public health, marine biology, engineering, business, education, and a myriad of other options.

**Professional School:** Georgia Tech biology graduates are regularly accepted into schools of medicine, dentistry, optometry, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine, among others. To find out more about these and other pre-health options, contact the Pre-Health Advising Office and the School of Biological Sciences chapter of the American Medical Student Association (AMSA) premedical society.

## THE SHORT-TERM GOAL: B.S. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A Bachelor of Science in Biology requires a minimum of 122 credit hours. All courses must be taken for a letter grade, except for Free Electives which can include pass/fail courses. All letter grades of D and higher are accepted in the Biology degree.

### **Required Biology Core Courses**

BIOS 1207	Majors Biological Principles (credit also accepted for BIOS 1107)
BIOS 1207L	Biological Principles Project Lab (credit also accepted for BIOS 1107L)
BIOS 1208	Majors Organismal Biology (credit also accepted for BIOS 1108)
BIOS 1208L	Organismal Biology Project Lab (credit also accepted for BIOS 1108L)
BIOS 2300 or 2310	Ecology or Problem-Based Ecology
BIOS 2600 or 2610	Genetics or Integrative Genetics
BIOS 3450	Cell and Molecular Biology
BIOS 3600	Evolutionary Biology
BIOS 4460	Communicating Biological Research

Two of these three labs: Ecology or Problem-Based Ecology Lab (BIOS 2301 or 2311); Genetics or Integrative Genetics Lab (BIOS 2601 or 2611); or Cell and Molecular Biology Lab (BIOS 3451). Each lab should be taken concurrently with the associated lecture course when possible.

### **Required Quantitative Biology Course**

One of the following:

BIOS 3400	Mathematical Models in Biology
BIOS 4150	Genomics & Applied Bioinformatics
BIOS 4401	Experimental Design & Statistical Methods

Other advanced quantitative courses may be appropriate depending on your interests and strengths. If you wish to enroll in a course other than BIOS 3400, BIOS 4401, or BIOS 4150 to fulfill your quantitative requirement, you must discuss with your advisor to petition for approval from the School of Biological Sciences Undergraduate Committee.

### **Required Senior Research Experience**

One of the following:

BIOS 4590                      Research Project Lab  
BIOS 4690                      Independent Research Project

### **Required Non-Biology Science Courses**

CHEM 1211K                      Chemical Principles I  
CHEM 1212K                      Chemical Principles II  
CHEM 2311                      Organic Chem I, Principles (sections P and higher)  
CHEM 2312                      Organic Chem II  
CHEM 2380                      Synthesis Lab  
MATH 1551                      Differential Calculus  
MATH 1552                      Integral Calculus  
MATH 1553                      Linear Algebra  
PHYS 2211                      Intro Physics I for Life Sciences (section LS or C)  
PHYS 2212                      Intro Physics II for Life Sciences (section LS or C)

**Biology Electives:** Students are required to complete 21 credits of Biology electives defined as follows: 12 "depth" credit hours must be courses with a "BIOS" prefix, excluding BIOS 4694-BIOS 4699. Biology Elective courses that are cross-listed with other departments are included in these 12 depth credit hours. The remaining 9 "breadth" credit hours can be selected from: other BIOS 3000-level and higher courses, , BIOS 4695, BIOS 4697, BIOS 4699, VIP courses with a Biological Sciences instructor, and the list of approved courses offered in the other departments (See Appendix.)

**Humanities and Social Sciences Electives:** See "Core Curriculum," Information for Undergraduate Students on the Registrar's website (<http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/academics/undergraduate/core-curriculum/>) for approved courses and caveats. All students are required to take a total of 12 hours of Social Sciences and 6 hours of Humanities, in addition to ENGL 1101\* and 1102\*.

\*Timing: Students must complete a MATH course<sup>†</sup> and ENGL 1101 and 1102 courses within their first 30 credit hours as part of the state's required Communication and Quantitative Outcomes. After reaching 30 credit hours, a student must enroll in the next course necessary to make progress toward completing this requirement in every semester in which they take classes.

<sup>†</sup>Consult the registrar's website and your academic advisor for the exact MATH sequence required by the 30 credit hour mark.

**Computing Requirement:** Students must complete CS 1301, CS 1315, CS 1371, or CS 13X1 (transfer course).

**Wellness Requirement:** Georgia Tech requires students to complete APPH 1040 or APPH 1050 or APPH 1060.

**Free Electives:** The remaining 11 credits beyond those listed above are free electives, which may be taken for letter grade or pass/fail.

**US and Georgia Constitution and History Requirements:** See “[Core Curriculum](#),” and the [Catalog](#) for and more information. Beginning with the 2022-2023 catalog year, all students must satisfy four legislative requirements to graduate. Requirements must be fulfilled before completing 90 or more credit hours:

1. United States history: fulfilled by HIST 2111, HIST 2112, equivalent transfer/AP/IB credit (see the transfer equivalency catalog to confirm), or passing the [United States History Module Examination](#). Note that the examination does not carry any academic credit.
2. United States Constitution: fulfilled by: INTA 1200, POL 1101, PUBP 3000, equivalent transfer/AP/IB credit, equivalent transfer/AP/IB credit (see the transfer equivalency catalog to confirm), or passing the [United States Constitution Module Examination](#). Note that the examination does not carry any academic credit.
3. Georgia history: fulfilled by passing the [Georgia History Module Examination](#). Note that the examination does not carry any academic credit.
4. Constitution of Georgia: fulfilled by passing the [Constitution of Georgia Module Examination](#). Note that the examination does not carry any academic credit.

HIST 2111 or HIST 2112 may be used to fulfill both the US History requirement and count toward Social Science requirements. INTA 1200, POL 1101, or PUBP 3000 may be used to fulfill both the US Constitution requirement and count toward Social Science requirements.

For students in catalog years 2021-2022 and earlier, one course from HIST 2111, HIST 2112, POL 1101, PUBP 3000, or INTA 1200 can be used to satisfy the state legislative requirement regarding United States Perspectives. For more information, please refer to the [Biology Undergraduate Handbook](#) for your specific catalog year.

## ACADEMIC ADVISING

**Advisors:** Upon your arrival at Georgia Tech or when you declare Biology as your major, you will be assigned an academic advisor. Advisor assignments are by last name as follows:

<u>Last names beginning</u>	<u>Advisor</u>
A–Dh	Dr. Emily Weigel
Di–Iz	Dr. Onur Birol
Ja–Md	Dr. Chrissy Spencer
Me–Sb	Dr. Mirjana Brockett
Sc–Z	Dr. Shana Kerr
Physiology minor	Dr. Adam Decker

Your advisor is here to help you whenever you seek advice and to provide guidance about Georgia Tech regulations, undergraduate programs, and career opportunities. You are strongly urged to consult your advisor to plan and execute your program of study, to discuss career options, and to design an optimal map for achieving your goals. We recommend you schedule a meeting with your advisors using the web-based appointment scheduling system at [gatech.gradesfirst.com](http://gatech.gradesfirst.com), but may directly email your regular advisor if no appointments are available with the scheduling system.

**Annual Advising Meeting:** The Biology program recognizes that providing advising support for our undergraduates helps students succeed in effective course selection and career planning, which includes finding on-campus and off-campus research/internship opportunities,

establishing a timeline for career planning, and exploring the range of options you have with a B.S. in Biology. Therefore, Biology majors are required to attend an annual 15 minute advising meeting. The Annual Advising appointment is an opportunity to work one-on-one with your advisor to create a strong plan to achieve your academic and career goals.

Biology majors will receive an email invitation according to academic class standing: first/second-year students in the Spring and third-year and higher students in the Fall. The email will give the scheduling deadline and detail what you need to bring to your advising appointment. Seniors will review their graduation status and discuss the Online Application for Graduation at this advising session. The online application for graduation deadline occurs at the end of the drop/add period in the student's final semester. Failure to schedule and attend your annual advising meeting may result in a registration hold being placed on your account.

**Midterm Progress Reports:** At midterm, you may also be contacted by your advisor to check-in regarding your academic progress. Depending upon your Midterm Progress Report grades (provided for all 1000-2000 level courses), you may be invited to communicate by email or in person with your advisor to make an academic plan for the remainder of the semester. These meetings are to be taken seriously, and failure to respond may result in a registration hold being placed on your account.

**DegreeWorks:** Students are able to and expected to monitor progress towards their degree requirements using DegreeWorks ([degreeworks.gatech.edu](http://degreeworks.gatech.edu)). Please take responsibility to monitor your progress and bring any discrepancies to the attention of your Academic Advisor. Discrepancies include missing transfer credits, courses listed in the incorrect category, or courses double-counted toward your degree. Advisors can work with Degree Certification to ensure that your courses are correctly attributed toward your degree. Should you wish to consider an alternative to a Biology major or to add a second major, the "What If" tool can be used to explore how progress towards degree completion is affected should you change or add majors.

**Petitioning the School of Biological Sciences Undergraduate Committee:** Students are permitted to work with their advisor to submit a petition to the School of Biological Sciences Undergraduate Committee regarding internal curricular matters such as a substitution of a course toward the major or inclusion of a new or special topics course on a certificate list.

## **B.S. DEGREE ENHANCEMENTS**

**Bachelor of Science in Biology – Research Option:** The Research Option enables students to conduct 9 credit hours of supervised research with a Biological Sciences faculty member over multiple semesters. With faculty guidance, students write a brief proposal, perform independent, original research, and write a thesis about their work. The thesis is evaluated by two Biological Sciences faculty members. The first 6 credit hours of the research option are taken as BIOS 4699 (research for credit) or BIOS 4698 (research for pay). In rare cases, students with fewer than 60 GT credit hours may be asked to register for the 2000-level version of these courses if deemed appropriate by the research advisor. Students then take BIOS 4690 (Independent Research Project; 3 hr) and two one-credit-hour writing courses, LMC 4701 and 4702. These writing courses can be counted as Biology electives for students completing the Research Option. Note that LMC 4701 should be taken in the semester PRIOR to enrolling in BIOS 4690. The student's research is presented in BIOS 4460 Communicating Biological Research. Completing this program gives students a "Research Option" designation on their transcripts. Students can consult the School of Biological Sciences (<http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/bachelor-science-biology-research>) and the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (<http://uop.gatech.edu/research-option>) for more details.



**Bachelor of Science in Biology – Business Option:** The B.S. in Biology with a Business Option is a good fit for students interested in the business of biology, who intend to manage their own clinic or practice after professional school, or who may want to pursue an M.B.A. upon graduation. Students in the biology business option must complete 15 credits of approved coursework covering the principles of accounting, economics, and management. Two electives allow students to take advanced coursework in these areas, or to explore the legal, international, entrepreneurial, technological, or financial aspects of the business world. Six of the credit hours from the list of management (MGT) courses will fulfill requirements for Biology electives, and another 3 credit hours of management courses count as free electives. Additional courses within the Business Option may satisfy Social Science electives. Biology majors in this option must still fulfill the other requirements for the Biology undergraduate degree and should note that the MGT courses used as Biology electives reduce the approved Biology electives from outside Biology. Students interested in the Business Option should visit [biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/business-option](http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/business-option) for specific details on the courses available.

**Bachelor of Science in Biology – International Plan:** Georgia Tech offers an International Plan through the Office of International Education ([internationalplan.gatech.edu/](http://internationalplan.gatech.edu/)). Successful completion of this plan earns students an International Plan designation on their Georgia Tech degree. The primary purpose of the plan is to offer a challenging and coherent academic program for students to develop global competence within the context of a Biology degree. The specific requirements of the International Plan can be found at [oie.gatech.edu/content/program-requirements](http://oie.gatech.edu/content/program-requirements). For more details, contact Dr. Emily Weigel ([emily.weigel@biosci.gatech.edu](mailto:emily.weigel@biosci.gatech.edu)), advisor for Biology majors in the International Program. Georgia Tech Biological Sciences courses are taught in Australia/New Zealand [pacific.gatech.edu](http://pacific.gatech.edu) as part of the Study Abroad program. Other study abroad programs which offer courses relevant to Biology majors are described on the School of Biological Sciences website ([biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/international-opportunities](http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/international-opportunities)). In addition, many Biological Sciences courses are available through Georgia Tech partner universities abroad ([oie.gatech.edu/sa/programs/index.php](http://oie.gatech.edu/sa/programs/index.php)). Some of these universities teach Biological Sciences courses in English. For details, see the Office of International Education webpage ([internationalplan.gatech.edu/](http://internationalplan.gatech.edu/)).



## REGISTRATION

During Phase 1 and Phase 2 registration, you may begin registering for classes as soon as your time-ticket opens. Students are eligible to register for courses for which they have the prerequisite courses. Prerequisites are listed in the Catalog. To confirm how your courses fit into your degree requirements, check DegreeWorks after you register. If you have concerns about how your courses are attributed in DegreeWorks, please contact your academic advisor. The B.S. Biology degree can be completed in 8 semesters if you complete approximately 15 hours in each semester. This will often include one or two lab courses per semester. Note that a maximum of 7 credit hours is recommended for Summer semesters due to the condensed nature of the term.

**Permits (Override Requests):** Permits provide a token to allow students to enroll in a specific course section.

For BIOS Biological Sciences courses, permits for *pre-requisite or class restriction overrides* should be requested from the faculty member teaching the course. Instructions to request permits for *Biological Sciences courses* are at [biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/permits-and-registration](https://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/permits-and-registration).

For non-Biological Sciences courses, check this site first: <https://registrar.gatech.edu/info/permit-overload-departmental-contacts> and alternatively look on the department's website for their registration instructions. Some departments do permits by email, while others require that a request is submitted through the registration window in OSCAR. A full list of departmental contacts is available on the Registrar's Website (<https://registrar.gatech.edu/info/permit-overload-departmental-contacts>)

A BIOS *prerequisite override* can occur in one of two ways:

- 1) a student can submit email permission from the course instructor, stating the instructor agrees that the student is prepared for the course without having taken the listed prerequisite courses
- 2) the registration software does not recognize legitimate prerequisite courses on a student's transcript, which prevents them from registering for a course. In this case, no instructor's permission is required. For Biological Sciences courses, request prerequisite override permits by following the instructions at [biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/permits-and-registration](https://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/permits-and-registration).

Permit requests should NOT be made by phone. Allow 1 business day for the form to be processed.

**Waitlisting and Overloads:** Biological Sciences uses the Waitlist feature to assist students with course registration. The waitlist allows students who want to enroll in a full course to sign up on a virtual waitlist and sequentially offers a seat when another student drops. Because of this feature, we do not allow students to overload into our courses. If a section has no available seats, students will be able to register for the waitlist. Registering on a waitlist does not guarantee that you will receive a seat in the section. If seats become available, the system will automatically issue an email notification with permission to register to the next student on the waitlist. Notifications are only valid for a short time period (usually 12 hrs); after that time, the permission to register expires and the seat will be given to the next person on the waitlist. *If you require a course in a specific semester for an on-time degree completion, you should waitlist and then contact your advisor for assistance.*

The waitlist notifications will start once all time tickets are open. *If a section has a waitlist, the open seats are reserved for the people on top of the waitlist. Do not drop your current section unless you want to be waitlisted.* The waitlists will not be purged between registration phases, i.e. students that register on the waitlist for a section in Phase I will retain their spot on the list for Phase II. Check on the registrar's website for details of waitlist timing; typically, the last round of waitlist notifications will be issued at 5pm the day *before* registration closes. After 5pm, the waitlist is no longer functioning and all remaining open seats are first-come, first-served.

During Drop/Add week (the first week of classes), we suggest that you attend all classes that you are registered in *and waitlisted for* so that you do not fall behind. Important class material is covered during that first week.

**Transfer Credit Options:** Transfer credit confirmation is a two-step process to determine whether: 1) Georgia Tech has an equivalent approved course and 2) the transfer credit was taken before the student's last 36 hours at Georgia Tech.

First, confirm that a course will transfer using the transfer equivalency table on OSCAR ([oscar.gatech.edu/pls/bprod/wwsktrna.P\\_find\\_location](https://oscar.gatech.edu/pls/bprod/wwsktrna.P_find_location)). If the course is not listed, upload a course description and syllabus to [transfercredit.gatech.edu/index.php](https://transfercredit.gatech.edu/index.php) for evaluation by the appropriate department. We suggest that you seek transfer credit approval *before* you take the course. In general, transfer Biological Sciences courses will be allowed as Biology electives if the course is a 3XXX or 4XXX level course from an accredited institution.

Second, be aware that students must complete the last 36 credit hours of their degree program in residence at Georgia Tech, a policy known as the "36-hour rule." Note that Georgia Tech ARCHE cross-enrollment, exchange credit, and GT faculty-led study abroad programs are considered "in residence" for the 36-hour rule. Exceptions to the 36-hour rule may be granted by approval of a petition to the Institute Undergraduate Curriculum Committee; *however, approval of this type of petition is rare.* It is recommended to petition for an exception BEFORE violating the rule. Additionally, some medical schools only accept prerequisite courses taken at four-year institutions. While students may not receive transfer credit from a course taken at another institution when concurrently enrolled (e.g. in the same semester) at Georgia Tech, students are allowed to *cross-enroll* at other area schools through the ARCHE program. For additional information, refer to the ARCHE website at [registrar.gatech.edu/registration/cross/index.php](https://registrar.gatech.edu/registration/cross/index.php) and consult with the ARCHE advisor at [crossregistration@registrar.gatech.edu](mailto:crossregistration@registrar.gatech.edu).

## ONLINE APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION (OAG)

In the semester *before* you intend to graduate, students submit an **Online Application for Graduation** by completing the steps below. .

### Step 1. Before you complete the Online Application for Graduation (OAG)

- a. If the Business Option will be a component of the B.S. Biology degree, declare the Business Option through Oscar following these instructions ([degreeworks.gatech.edu/images/training/concentration\\_mgt.pdf](http://degreeworks.gatech.edu/images/training/concentration_mgt.pdf))
- b. Log into [degreeworks.gatech.edu](http://degreeworks.gatech.edu) and confirm that your courses are listed correctly under each Biology degree requirement. (For example, PHYS 2211 should fulfill Core Area D: Intro Physics I, not a Free Elective or a Fallthrough Course.)
- c. Take careful note of the courses that you still lack to complete your degree. You must enroll in these courses in your final semester to complete your degree requirements.
- d. Ensure that you have completed or are enrolled in courses to complete 39 hours of 3000-level and higher coursework.
- e. If you see inconsistencies, work with your advisor. Once all errors are resolved, THEN proceed with step 2.

### Step 2. To complete the Online Application to Graduate (OAG)

- a. During the application window (see below), login to OSCAR and select:  
Student Services>Student Records>Apply to Graduate.
- b. Confirm that your curriculum is listed as a B.S. in Biology. If you are completing a minor or an option, confirm that is listed as well. *If your curriculum is incorrect, stop immediately and contact Degree Certification (dc@lists.gatech.edu or 404-894-4150) for assistance.*
- c. Select the radio button for your program. (If you have more than one major, you'll have to select one at a time and repeat the entire process for your second major.)
- d. Select the graduation term in the drop down that will appear.
- e. On the next screen, request any changes to your first or middle names to appear on your diploma. Please note that all requests will be reviewed by the Office of the Registrar and are subject to approval. If you would like to change your last name or make more significant changes to your diploma name, please contact the Office of the Registrar.
- f. Confirm the address you would like to use as your diploma mailing address.
- g. Review the summary of your application before clicking on "Submit Request."
- h. At the confirmation screen, you will be redirected to an Exit Survey sponsored by the Office of Assessment. Please continue with the Exit Survey to complete your application.
- i. Once you have applied, you will be able to view your Application and Graduation status in DegreeWorks near the top of your degree audit, under the section entitled "Student View." Upon applying you will be given an Application Status of "Active" and a Graduation Status of "Received, Pending Evaluation." You can continue to check your status throughout the semester, and work with your advisor to resolve any deficiencies in a timely manner.

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOLOGY 2022-2023 DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

FIRST YEAR-FALL	HOURS
GT 1000 FRESHMAN SEMINAR*	1
ENGL 1101 ENGLISH COMPOSITION I	3
MATH 1551 DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS	2
BIOS 1207 AND 1207L MAJORS BIOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES <sup>1</sup>	4
CHEM 1211K CHEMICAL PRINCIPLES I	4
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>14</b>

SECOND YEAR-FALL	HOURS
BIOS 2300 ECOLOGY, BIOS 2600 GENETICS, OR BIOS 2610 INTEGRATIVE GENETICS <sup>3</sup>	3
BIOS 2301 ECOL LAB, BIOS 2601 GEN LAB, OR BIOS 2611 INTEGRATIVE GEN LAB <sup>3</sup>	1
CHEM 2311 ORGANIC CHEMISTRY I	3
MATH 1553 LINEAR ALGEBRA	2
COMPUTING REQUIREMENT OR HUM OR SS ELECTIVE	3
HUM OR SS ELECTIVE	3
CONSTITUTION AND HISTORY REQUIREMENTS <sup>4</sup>	(varies, see note below)
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>14 or 15</b>

THIRD YEAR-FALL	HOURS
PHYS 2211 INTRODUCTORY PHYSICS I FOR LIFE SCIENCES	4
BIOS 3450 CELL & MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OR BIOS 3600 EVOLUTION <sup>6</sup>	3
BIOLOGY ELECTIVE	3
QUANTITATIVE BIOLOGY REQUIREMENT <sup>5</sup> OR HUM OR SS ELECTIVE	3
FREE ELECTIVE	3
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>

FOURTH YEAR-FALL	HOURS
BIOLOGY ELECTIVES	6
FREE ELECTIVE	3
HUM OR SS ELECTIVE	3
SENIOR RESEARCH EXPERIENCE <sup>7</sup>	3
BIOS 4460 COMMUNICATING BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH	1
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>

\*Not required for graduation, another free elective may be substituted

FIRST YEAR-SPRING	HOURS
ENGL 1102 ENGLISH COMPOSITION II	3
MATH 1552 INTEGRAL CALCULUS	4
BIOS 1208 AND 1208L MAJORS ORGANISMAL BIOLOGY <sup>1,2</sup>	4
CHEM 1212K CHEMICAL PRINCIPLES II	4
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>15</b>

SECOND YEAR-SPRING	HOURS
BIOS 2600 GENETICS, BIOS 2300 ECOLOGY OR BIOS 2310 PROBLEM-BASED ECOLOGY <sup>3</sup>	3
BIOS 2601 GENETICS LAB, BIOS 2301 ECOL LAB, OR BIOS 2311 PROB-BASED ECOL LAB <sup>3</sup>	1
CHEM 2312 ORGANIC CHEMISTRY II	3
CHEM 2380 SYNTHESIS LAB	2
QUANTITATIVE BIOLOGY REQUIREMENT <sup>5</sup> or COMPUTING REQUIREMENT	3
HUM OR SS ELECTIVE	3
CONSTITUTION AND HISTORY REQUIREMENTS <sup>4</sup>	(varies, see note below)
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>14 or 15</b>

THIRD YEAR-SPRING	HOURS
PHYS 2212 INTRODUCTORY PHYSICS II FOR LIFE SCIENCES	4
BIOS 3450 CELL & MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OR BIOS 3600 EVOLUTION <sup>6</sup>	3
BIOS 3451 CELL & MOLECULAR BIOS LAB <sup>3</sup>	1
BIOLOGY ELECTIVE	3
WELLNESS	2
HUM or SS ELECTIVE	3
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>15 or 16</b>

FOURTH YEAR-SPRING	HOURS
BIOLOGY ELECTIVE	9
FREE ELECTIVE	5
HUM OR SS ELECTIVES	3
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>17</b>

**TOTAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT HOURS**      **122<sup>8</sup>**

**See important notes on next page**

## Important notes regarding degree requirements

Pass-fail allowed for Free Electives only. Refer to Institute rules for maximum pass-fail credits allowed.

<sup>1</sup>BIOS 1107 and 1107L may be substituted for BIOS 1207 and 1207L; BIOS 1108 and 1108L may be substituted for BIOS 1208 and 1208L.

<sup>2</sup>Four credit hours of Biology elective may be substituted for BIOS 1208 and 1208L if a score of 5 was achieved on the AP Biology test. A maximum of 1 of these credits may be BIOS 4697 or BIOS 4699. Please discuss this option with your advisor. It is important to note that substituting for BIOS 1208 and 1208L often results in a student needing to take more than a single Biology elective class, because most Biology electives are only 3 credit hours.

<sup>3</sup>Biology lab courses: Students are required to complete two of these three lab categories: Ecology or Problem-Based Ecology Lab (BIOS 2301 or 2311); Genetics or Integrative Genetics Lab (BIOS 2601 or 2611); Cell and Molecular Biology Lab (BIOS 3451).

<sup>4</sup>The four Constitution and History Requirements must be completed before 90 credit hours and are fulfilled as follows: US HISTORY fulfilled by HIST 2111, HIST 2112, equivalent transfer/AP/IB credit, or passing the United States History Module Examination\*; US CONSTITUTION fulfilled by INTA 1200, POL 1101, PUBP 3000, equivalent transfer/AP/IB credit, equivalent transfer/AP/IB credit, or passing the United States Constitution Module Examination\*; GA HISTORY fulfilled by passing the Georgia History Module Examination; GA CONSTITUTION fulfilled by passing the Constitution of Georgia Module Examination\*. HIST 2111 or HIST 2112 may be used to fulfill both the US History requirement and count toward Social Science requirements. INTA 1200, POL 1101, or PUBP 3000 may be used to fulfill both the US Constitution requirement and count toward Social Science requirements. \*Note that the Module Examinations do not carry any academic credit.

<sup>5</sup>The following courses meet the Quantitative Biology Course requirement (Note that MATH 1551 and MATH 1553 are pre-requisites for most of the Quantitative Requirement courses): BIOS 3400 Mathematical Models in Biology, BIOS 4150 Genomics, BIOS 4401 Experimental Design & Biostatistics (meets MCAT statistics requirement).

<sup>6</sup>The prerequisite for BIOS 3600 is either BIOS 2300, BIOS 2310, BIOS 2600, or BIOS 2610.

<sup>7</sup>The Senior Research Experience can be met with any of the following during the fourth year fall or spring semesters: BIOS 4590 Research Project Lab, BIOS 4690 Independent Research Project (requires at least one previous semester of BIOS 4699/2699).

<sup>8</sup>A minimum of 39 hours of upper division coursework (3000-level or higher) is required for all Georgia Tech undergraduate degrees. The 39 hours of upper division coursework can fulfill any category of degree requirements, including free electives and "fall-through" courses.

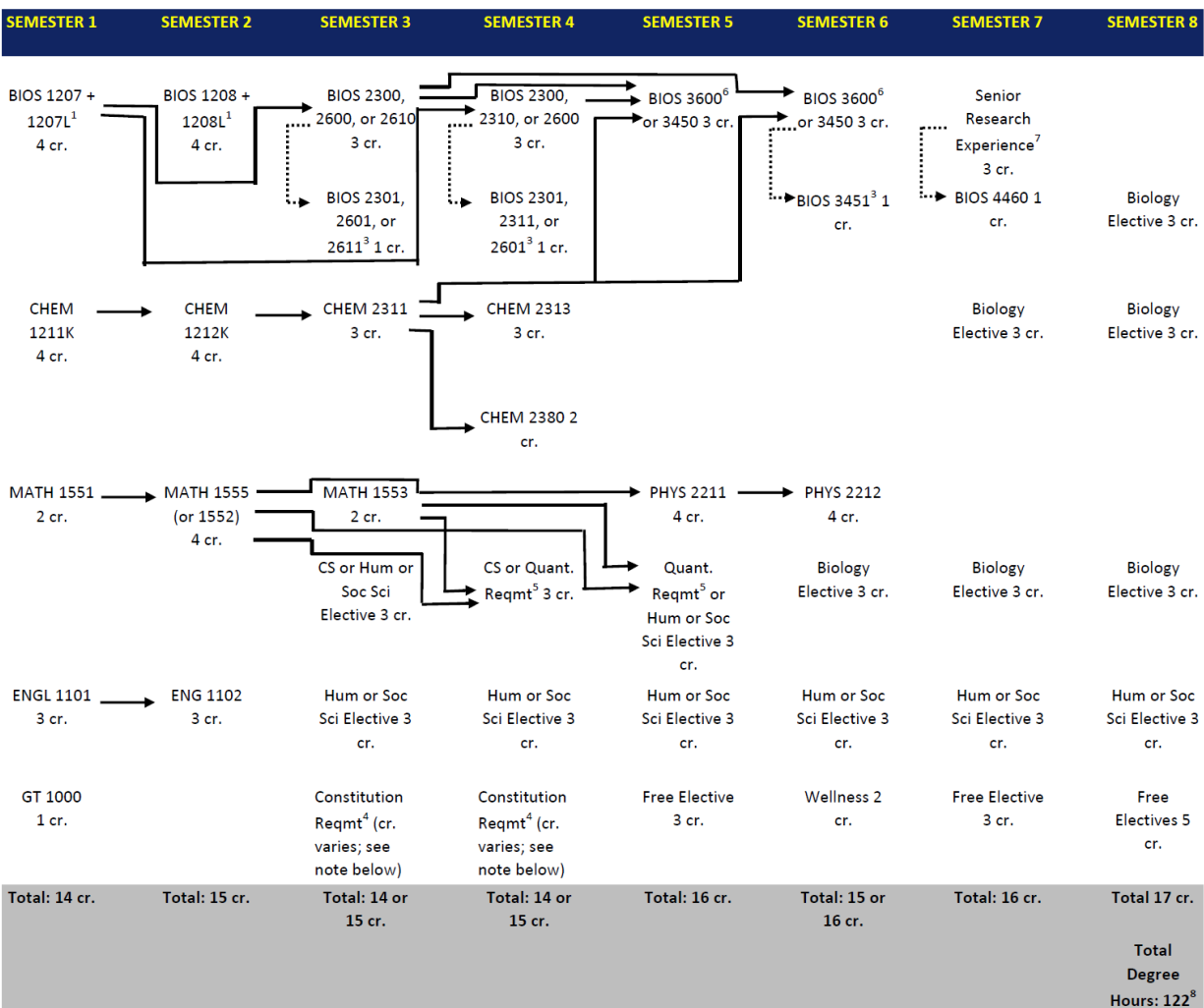
# CURRICULUM MAP

This map is designed to aid in tracking a student's progress toward degree each semester.

## Curriculum map: B.S. in Biology 2020-2021

updated: Summer 2022

→ pre-requisite  
 - - - - - co-requisite; allowable as prerequisite with permit only



**Footnotes:**

<sup>1</sup>BIOS 1107 and 1107L may be substituted for BIOS 1207 and 1207L; BIOS 1108 and 1108L may be substituted for BIOS 1208 and 1208L.

<sup>2</sup>Four credit hours of Biology elective may be substituted for BIOS 1208 and 1208L if a score of 5 was achieved on the AP Biology test. A maximum of 1 of these credits may be BIOS 4697 or BIOS 4699. Please discuss this option with your advisor. It is important to note that substituting for BIOS 1208 and 1208L often results in a student needing to take more than a single Biology elective class, because most Biology electives are only 3 credit hours.

<sup>3</sup>Biology lab courses: Ecology, Genetics, and Cell & Molecular Biology each have an associated laboratory course. You must take two of these three labs, each of which must be taken concurrently with the corresponding lecture course: Ecology Lab (BIOS 2301/2311), Genetics Lab (BIOS 2601/2611), or Cell and Molecular Biology Lab (BIOS 3451). Be aware that 3451 is typically only offered in the Spring semester; students who take 3450 in the Fall are eligible to take 3451 the following spring.

<sup>4</sup>The four Constitution and History Requirements must be completed before 90 credit hours and are fulfilled as follows: US HISTORY fulfilled by HIST 2111, HIST 2112, equivalent transfer/AP/IB credit, or passing the United States History Module Examination\*; US CONSTITUTION fulfilled by INTA 1200, POL 1101, PUBP 3000, equivalent transfer/AP/IB credit, equivalent transfer/AP/IB credit, or passing the United States Constitution Module Examination\*; GA HISTORY fulfilled by passing the Georgia History Module Examination; GA CONSTITUTION fulfilled by passing the Constitution of Georgia Module Examination\*. HIST 2111 or HIST 2112 may be used to fulfill both the US History requirement and count toward Social Science requirements. INTA 1200, POL 1101, or PUBP 3000 may be used to fulfill both the US Constitution requirement and count toward Social Science requirements. \*Note that the Module Examinations do not carry any academic credit.

<sup>5</sup>The following courses meet the Quantitative Biology Course requirement (Note that MATH 1551 and MATH 1553 are pre-requisites for most of the Quantitative Requirement courses): BIOS 3400 Mathematical Models in Biology, BIOS 4150 Genomics, BIOS 4401 Experimental Design & Biostatistics (meets MCAT statistics requirement).

<sup>6</sup>The prerequisite for BIOS 3600 is either BIOS 2300, BIOS 2310, BIOS 2600, or BIOS 2610.

<sup>7</sup>The Senior Research Experience can be met with any of the following during the fourth year fall or spring semesters: BIOS 4590 Research Project Lab, BIOS 4690 Independent Research Project (requires at least one previous semester of BIOS 4699/2699).

<sup>8</sup>A minimum of 39 hours of upper division coursework (3000-level or higher) is required for all Georgia Tech undergraduate degrees. The 39 hours of upper division coursework can fulfill any category of degree requirements, including free electives and "fall-through" courses.

## 39-HOUR RULE

A minimum of 39 hours of upper division coursework (3000-level or higher) is required for all Georgia Tech undergraduate degrees. The 39 hours of upper division coursework can fulfill any category of degree requirements, including free electives and "fallthrough" courses. DegreeWorks has a credit counter that indicates the number of hours remaining to complete the 39-hour rule.

### COURSEWORK WHICH MAY COUNT TOWARD A MINOR

Biology majors are eligible for discipline-focused or multi-discipline minors to broaden the scope of your undergraduate degree. For Biology majors, Biology Depth electives, Biology Breadth electives, Free electives, and "Fallthrough" courses are allowed to count toward a minor. No other category of courses is allowed to count toward a minor. We encourage you to work with your Undergraduate Advisor to integrate your minor into your undergraduate studies. Minors which may be of particular interest to Biology majors are listed below in this Handbook.

### BIOLOGY MINOR

A minor in Biology is available to all non-biology majors. The minor is awarded by the registrar's office and appears on your transcript and diploma. The minor constitutes 15 credit hours of Biological Sciences (BIOS) courses, of which 9 hours must be at the 3000 level or higher and of which 3 hours can be Biological Sciences Special Topics courses and 3 hours can be either BIOS 4695, 4697, or 4699. A maximum of 3 credit hours of transfer credit may be used to satisfy the course requirements for a minor. All courses counting toward the minor must be taken on a letter-grade basis with a grade of C or higher. Consult with your major and minor advisors to verify potential to use courses from the major field of study to satisfy the Biology minor, and that Core Area A-E courses are not used toward the minor. Students may not double-count courses towards more than one certificate or minor. Further information is available from your School of Biological Sciences advisor. To declare a minor in Biology, follow the instructions on the registrar's site:

<http://www.registrar.gatech.edu/students/formlanding/changeminor.php>

### PHYSIOLOGY MINOR

A minor in Physiology is available to all GT students, including Biology majors. The Physiology minor consists of 6 credits of required courses and an additional 9 credits of electives. The required coursework includes BIOS 3753 and BIOS 3755. The minor requires an additional 9 credits of electives, including a minimum of 6 credits of approved BIOS coursework from a list of options and up to 3 credits of approved non-BIOS coursework from a second list of courses. See <https://biosciences.gatech.edu/undergrad/minor-physiology> for details and the lists of approved electives. At least 9 credit hours must be at the 3000 level or higher, and up to 3 credits can be BIOS Special Topics courses and up to 3 credits can be BIOS 4699 Undergraduate Research that is physiological in nature. All Special Topics and Undergraduate Research must be approved by the [Physiology Minor advisor](#).

All courses counting toward the minor must be taken on a letter-grade basis with a grade of C or higher. Consult with your major and minor advisors to verify potential to use courses from the major field of study to satisfy the Physiology minor, and that Core Area A-E courses are not used toward the minor. Students may not double-count courses towards more than one certificate or minor. Further information is available from your School of Biological Sciences advisor. To declare a minor in Physiology, follow the instructions on the registrar's site:

<http://www.registrar.gatech.edu/students/formlanding/changeminor.php>



## HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCES MINOR

The Minor in Health & Medical Sciences is available to all Georgia Tech undergraduate students, and is an excellent minor for all students interested in the scientific questions underlying human health and medicine, as well as those interested in all health-related careers. As a multidisciplinary minor, the Health & Medical Sciences Minor offers the flexibility to customize your coursework toward your intended field of study, including medical, dental, veterinary, pharmacy, optometry, physical therapy, physician assistant, or public health professional schools in consultation with the Georgia Tech Pre-Health Advising office. The minor is also ideal for students interested in health-related research, industry, or the science underlying human function.

The Health & Medical Sciences Minor consists of 15 credits of health-related courses in the College of Sciences. Classes are selected from a list of approved health-related courses from several Schools including BIOS, CHEM, PHYS, and PSYC. At least 9 credits must be taken from at least two Schools outside of the student's home unit, and a maximum of 6 credits may be taken from the home unit. A minimum of 9 credits must be at the 3000 level or higher, up to 6 credits can be approved Special Topics courses, or up to 3 credits can be approved Special Topics and 3 credits can be approved Special Problems or Undergraduate Research. A maximum of 3 credits can be transfer coursework. All courses applied toward the minor must be taken on a letter-grade basis and completed with a grade of C (2.00) or better. Students may not double-count courses towards more than one certificate or minor. Note that non-CoS courses (eg, BMED courses) cannot be counted toward the HMED minor.

Some Health & Medical Sciences Minor credits may also be counted towards the major. A course may count towards the student's major and minor if the course is not fulfilling Core Areas A-E and is part of a designated block of courses outside the student's major field of study, as determined by the Major advisor. These courses will typically fall in the student's breadth/technical/broadening electives. Students are encouraged to discuss questions related to double counting courses with their major advisers. In addition, all free electives can be double counted into the major program and Health & Medical Sciences Minor. Allowable courses and other details for the HMED minor can be found here: <http://biosci.gatech.edu/hmed>. To declare a minor in Health and Medical Sciences, follow the instructions on the HMED website: <http://biosci.gatech.edu/hmed>.

## BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES CERTIFICATES

Certificate programs in Biological Sciences are available to students from any major, including Biology majors. Certificates are awarded by the School of Biological Sciences and do not appear on the transcript or diploma. Each certificate requires 12 credit hours of approved courses from that certificate's list, at least 9 of which must be at the 3000 level or higher. All courses counting toward the certificate must be taken on a letter-grade basis. Major electives can be counted toward certificates, but courses required by name and number in a student's major program of study will not be counted toward certificates. While students may complete more than one certificate, they may not double-count courses towards more than one certificate or minor.

Further information is available here [biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/biology-certificates](http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/biology-certificates) and from School of Biological Sciences advisors.

To declare a certificate in Biology, select 12 credits that correspond to the desired certificate from the list of approved courses at [biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/biology-certificates](http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/biology-certificates). Two weeks prior to the end of your final semester, complete and submit the certificate application form linked from [biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/biology-certificates](http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/biology-certificates).

## MINORS AND NON-BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES CERTIFICATES OF INTEREST FOR BIOLOGY MAJORS

Biology undergraduates can partake in several non-biology minors that help expand the scope of the B.S in Biology undergraduate degree. For Biology majors, Biology Depth electives, Biology Breadth electives, Free electives, and "Fallthrough" courses are allowed to count toward a minor. No other category of courses is allowed to count toward a minor. Minors often of interest to Biology majors include:

**Biomedical Engineering –**

[http://acad.bme.gatech.edu/undergraduate/program\\_ugrad\\_minor.php](http://acad.bme.gatech.edu/undergraduate/program_ugrad_minor.php)

**Chemistry and Biochemistry –**

<http://www.chemistry.gatech.edu/academics/minors>

**Climate Change -**

[http://www.eas.gatech.edu/academics/minors/Climate\\_Change\\_Minor](http://www.eas.gatech.edu/academics/minors/Climate_Change_Minor)

**Energy Systems –**

<http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/programs/minor-energy-systems/#programofstudy-trackforbiologystudents>

**Environmental Chemistry –**

[http://www.eas.gatech.edu/academics/minors/Environmental\\_Chemistry\\_Minor](http://www.eas.gatech.edu/academics/minors/Environmental_Chemistry_Minor)

**Environmental Science –**

[http://www.eas.gatech.edu/academics/minors/Environmental\\_Science\\_Minor](http://www.eas.gatech.edu/academics/minors/Environmental_Science_Minor)

**Health and Medical Sciences –**

<http://biosci.gatech.edu/HMED>

**Health, Medicine, and Society –**

<http://www.hsoc.gatech.edu/undergraduate/minors/hms>

**Language Studies –**

<http://www.modlangs.gatech.edu/degrees/minors>

**Law, Science, and Technology –**

<https://spp.gatech.edu/prelaw/curriculum/lc-and-t-minor>

**Leadership Studies –**

<http://leadership.gatech.edu/content/minor-leadership-studies-0>

**Ocean Sciences –**

[http://www.eas.gatech.edu/academics/minors/Ocean\\_Sciences\\_Minor](http://www.eas.gatech.edu/academics/minors/Ocean_Sciences_Minor)

**Science, Technology, and Society –**

<http://www.hsoc.gatech.edu/undergraduate/minors/sts>

**Sustainable Cities –**

<https://planning.gatech.edu/minor-sustainable-cities>

**Psychology (Minor and Certificates) –**

<http://www.psychology.gatech.edu/minor-psychology-0>

<http://www.psychology.gatech.edu/certificates-psychology>

**Public Policy –**

<https://spp.gatech.edu/undergraduate/minors/public-policy>

## 5-YR BS/MS programs:

### 5-YEAR BS/MS PROGRAM (BSBIO/MSBIO)

The 5-year combined Bachelors and Masters of Science program in Biology (BSBIO/MSBIO) is a prestigious opportunity for top Biology undergraduate students to earn a Masters degree in as little as one year to increase competitiveness and starting salary for Biology-related jobs. This 5-year program can serve as bridge training to eventual medical, professional, or doctoral program admission because students gain a research specialization, develop a project that may lead to publication in the primary scientific literature, and complete advanced scientific coursework that contributes toward content knowledge and their science GPA.

This program provides you an opportunity to earn an MS degree in as little as one year to increase your competitiveness on the job market. As part of this degree, you will perform a research project under the direction of a faculty member in the Biology department. The BSBIO/MSBIO is also an excellent opportunity for you to build a gap year into your academic program after you graduate before you start medical or professional school.

Further information is available here <http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/5-year-bsms-program-bsbiomsbio-0>. For questions about undergraduate course, contact the School of Biological Sciences advisors. For questions about graduate courses, contact Chung Kim ([ckim@gatech.edu](mailto:ckim@gatech.edu)). For questions on research, contact your research advisor. All other questions can be sent to [BSMS@biosci.gatech.edu](mailto:BSMS@biosci.gatech.edu)

The following is a list of application requirements and how to apply:

- You must be a Biology undergraduate student
- Identify a research advisor that you have already performed undergraduate research with or have discussed performing a Master's thesis in their lab.
- Apply after completion of 30 semester credit hours but before completion of 90 semester credit hours, including transfer and advanced placement credits. If you have more than 90 credits, you will be considered for the program on a case-by-case basis.
- Have a GPA of 3.3 or higher in courses required for the BS in Biology. If you have a GPA less than 3.3, you will be considered for the program on a case-by-case basis.
- The BSBIO/MSBIO is aimed at students who have a strong interest in biological research. In particular, students on a path to take Independent Research Project (BIOS 4690) as their capstone research experience in Biology may have an interest in the program. Students will be in a particularly strong position to complete the BSBIO/MSBIO if they have taken several semesters of undergraduate research (BIOS 2698, 2699, 4698, 4699, 4690) which consist of a cohesive scientific research project.
- It is recommended that students with an interest in the BSBIO/MSBIO seek the advice of their research advisor, academic advisor, or the graduate office before submitting an application.
- To apply, submit a standard graduate application at <http://www.grad.gatech.edu/apply-now>.

## Requirements for BSBIO/MSBIO

	REQUIREMENT	CLASSES	TYPICAL TIMELINE	FULFILLED
<b>COMPLETE BEFORE APPLYING TO BS/MS</b>				
1	GPA > 3.3	Minimum GPA for Application	Apply after completion of 30 credit hours but before completion of 90 credit hours	Y
<b>COMPLETE BEFORE FINISHING BSBIO</b>				
1	Graduate Biology Course	3 hour graduate-level course (6000 and above) *	4 <sup>th</sup> year - Fall	Y
2	Graduate Biology Course	3 hour graduate-level course (6000 and above) *	4 <sup>th</sup> year - Spring	Y
3	Capstone research	BIOL 4690	4 <sup>th</sup> year - Spring	Y
4	Thesis committee	Identify and contact faculty to serve on your thesis committee for your MS degree	4 <sup>th</sup> year -Spring	Y
5	GPA > 3.0	Minimum GPA for graduation with BSBIO to continue into MSBIO		Y
<b>COMPLETE DURING MSBIO</b>				
1	Committee meeting	Discuss plans for MS research	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Fall (beginning of semester)	Y
2	Masters Research	8 hours (BIOL 8901 + BIOL 7000)	5 <sup>th</sup> year - Fall	Y
3	Graduate Biology courses	6 hours	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Fall	Y
4	Biology Seminar	1 hour	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Fall	Y
5	Committee meeting	Update committee on research progress and expected results	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Spring (beginning of semester)	Y
6	Masters Research	8 hours (BIOL 8902 + BIOL 7000)	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Spring	Y
7	Graduate Biology courses	6 hours	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Spring	Y
8	Biology Seminar	1 hour	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Spring	Y
9	Thesis defense	Defend MS thesis	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Spring (end of semester)	
10	GPA > 2.70	Minimum GPA for graduation with MSBIO		Y

\* Requires a level permit from the Registrar's Office. This will be granted with senior standing or a petition to the faculty.

## 5-YEAR BS/MS PROGRAM (BSBIO/MSBINF)

The 5-year combined BS/MS program in Biology/Bioinformatics (BSBIO/MSBINF) is a prestigious opportunity for top Biology undergraduates. The 5-year combined BSBIO/MSBINF provides a MS degree in as little as one year for advanced, highly-qualified Biology undergraduate students interested in careers in computational biology and genomics. The program will enable students who otherwise might not get a Master's degree to compete better on the job market. The BSBIO/MSBINF program addresses a growing demand for scientists who can manage and analyze high-throughput biological data. Students who complete the 5-year program would save substantially on the tuition cost of the MS Bioinformatics program, by being enrolled for only 2 semesters rather than 3 or 4 semesters. The BSBIO/MSBINF is also a very good opportunity for students who want to build a gap year into their academic program after they graduate with their BS but before starting medical or professional school.

The BSBIO/MSBINF is aimed at students who have a strong interest in computational biology and genomics. Students who wish participate in the BSBIO/MSBINF will complete their undergraduate BS degree in Biology and then spend one year completing their MS in Bioinformatics.

Further information is available here <http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/5-year-bsms-program-bsbiolmsbinf-0>. For questions about undergraduate course, contact the School of Biological Sciences advisors. For questions about graduate courses, contact Lisa Redding ([lisa.redding@biosci.gatech.edu](mailto:lisa.redding@biosci.gatech.edu)). All other questions can be sent to [BSMS@biosci.gatech.edu](mailto:BSMS@biosci.gatech.edu).

The following is a list of application requirements and how to apply:

- You must be a Biology undergraduate student.
- Apply after completion of 30 semester credit hours but before completion of 90 semester credit hours, including transfer and advanced placement credits. If you have more than 90 credits, you will be considered for the program on a case-by-case basis.
- Have a GPA of 3.3 or higher in courses required for the BS in Biology. . If you have a GPA less than 3.3, you will be considered for the program on a case-by-case basis
- At the time of application, students must have completed CS1301 or CS1371, and either completed or registered for Multivariable Calculus (Math 2550, 2551, 2561, or 2605).
- Continuation into the MS degree requires the student complete the BS requirements with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher, and complete the MS requirements (37 cr.) with an overall GPA of 2.7 or higher.
- It is recommended that students with an interest in the BSBIO/MSBINF seek the advice of their research advisor, academic advisor, or the graduate office before submitting an application.
- To apply, submit a standard graduate application at <http://www.grad.gatech.edu/apply-now>. Students applying will need to write a short essay explaining their purpose in obtaining an MS degree.
- Several courses (BIOL 6150 and BIOL 6000+) required for the 5-year degree can be used as Biology and Free Electives, however undergraduate students that opt out of the MSBINF program after 90 credit hours may require course substitutions to graduate.

## Requirements for BSBIO/MSBINF

	<b>REQUIREMENT</b>	<b>CLASSES</b>	<b>TYPICAL TIMELINE</b>	<b>FULFILLED</b>
<b>COMPLETE BEFORE APPLYING TO BS/MS</b>				
<b>1</b>	Computing	CS 1301 or CS 1371 (CS 1315 not allowed)	2 <sup>nd</sup> year - Fall	Y
<b>2</b>	Multivariable Calculus	MATH 2550, 2551, 2561, or 2605; must be completed or in-progress at time of application. MATH 2550 is approved only for students who completed MATH 1552 and not MATH 1555.	3 <sup>rd</sup> year - Fall	Y
<b>3</b>	GPA > 3.3	Minimum GPA for Application	Apply after completion of 30 credit hours but before completion of 90 credit hours	Y
<b>COMPLETE BEFORE FINISHING BSBIO</b>				
<b>1</b>	Bioinformatics	CS 4710 or CX 4803 MLB	4 <sup>th</sup> year - Fall	Y
<b>2</b>	Bioinformatics	BIOL 6150 *	4 <sup>th</sup> year - Fall	Y
<b>3</b>	Statistics for Bioinformatics	BIOS 4401, MATH 3215, or ISYE 3770 (or comparable statistics course approved by advisor)	4 <sup>th</sup> year - Spring	Y
<b>4</b>	Graduate Biology Course	3 hour graduate-level course (6000 and above)*	4 <sup>th</sup> year - Spring	Y
<b>5</b>	GPA > 3.0	Minimum GPA for graduation with BSBIO to continue into MSBINF		Y
<b>COMPLETE DURING MSBINF</b>				
<b>1</b>	Programming for Bioinformatics	BIOL 7200	5 <sup>th</sup> year - Fall	Y
<b>2</b>	Bioinformatics Capstone Course	BIOL 8803F or alternate	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Fall	Y
<b>3</b>	Bioinformatics Research or other graduate elective	BIOL 8901	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Fall	Y
<b>4</b>	Approved Electives	13 hours - No more than 6 hours below 6000-level	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Fall; 5 <sup>th</sup> year – Spring	Y
<b>5</b>	Computational Genomics	BIOL 7210	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Spring	Y
<b>6</b>	Intro Databases	CS 4400	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Spring	Y
<b>7</b>	Bioinformatics Research or other graduate elective	BIOL 8902	5 <sup>th</sup> year – Spring	Y
<b>8</b>	GPA > 2.70	minimum GPA for graduation with MSBINF		Y

\* Requires a level permit from the Registrar's Office. This will be granted with senior standing or a petition to the faculty.

## UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

**Tutoring:** Georgia Tech offers many excellent opportunities to seek help in your courses. Tutoring and Academic Support (<http://tutoring.gatech.edu/>) on the second floor of Clough Commons offers 1-to-1 tutoring in most subjects as well as hosting drop-in tutors at Help Desks for Chemistry, Computer Science, Math, and Physics. OMED, LAP, and the CommLab also have links from their website at [success.gatech.edu/tutoring](http://success.gatech.edu/tutoring). Many of these programs keep late hours and operate in convenient locations, such as the Freshman Residence Halls and the Chapin Building (OMED).

**CARE:** At some point you will encounter a challenge in academics, in your personal/social life, or involving a career choice. The Center for Assessment, Referral and Education (CARE) in the Smithgall (Flag) Building is committed to the health and well-being of GT students. They provide access to the Counseling Center, Stamps Psychiatry, and Health Initiatives on campus. If it would help to have a professional counselor to whom you can talk, you can contact CARE. Their services are described on the website: [care.gatech.edu/](http://care.gatech.edu/), which also includes information on emergency and after hours care.

**Career Planning:** Georgia Tech's Center for Career Discovery and Development provides the following resources and programs to help students explore, select and pursue a meaningful career: career counseling, majors fair, seminars, résumé & job search assistance, practice interviews, a career library, and coordination with campus recruiting. You can find more information at [career.gatech.edu/](http://career.gatech.edu/).

**Office of Disability Services:** The Office of Disability Services serves any Georgia Tech student who has a documented, qualifying disability. Staff members serve as full-time advocates for students with disabilities, and they can assist in the process to document a disability. Their role is to ensure that all students have physical and programmatic access to all college programs, thereby enhancing their interactions in all activities of the campus community. See [disabilityservices.gatech.edu/](http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/) for more information.

## THE INSTITUTE'S COOPERATIVE AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

**Cooperative Education Program:** Cooperative Education, or "Co-op," is a unique partnership among employers, students and the university whereby students work in paid, planned and supervised work experiences in business, industry, education, and government while earning academic credit. Georgia Tech's Cooperative Education Program ([coop.gatech.edu/](http://coop.gatech.edu/)) is a five-year academic program in which students alternate semesters as a full-time student with semesters of full-time work. In addition to providing experiences outside of academia, the Co-op program can provide the student with full-time research work within a Georgia Tech faculty member's lab if the faculty member is agreeable.

Biology majors participating in the Co-op program must plan course schedules very carefully, since courses required for a degree in Biology may not always be offered during the at-school semester. This will be more of a problem when the at-school semester occurs during the summer semester.

**Georgia Tech's Internship Program:** The Center for Career Discovery and Development coordinates Georgia Tech's Internship Program ([career.gatech.edu/internships](http://career.gatech.edu/internships)). The program provides practical work experience in a professional setting, on-campus or off-campus, related to the student's field of study. Internships are a partnership among students, employers, and the Georgia Institute of Technology. Internships are single-semester, paid, major-related work experiences designed to help students understand the "real world" applications of their academic studies. Opportunities are available during summer, fall, and spring semesters and require a commitment of full-time employment for a minimum of 18 weeks during the spring and fall semesters or 12 weeks during the summer semester.



## THE SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES' INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The School of Biological Sciences operates an internship program with opportunities specifically for Biology majors. These opportunities are with local government, academia, and industry groups and will provide each intern with direct, hands-on experience in how a Biology degree can be used to obtain employment upon graduation. Current partnerships exist with the Atlanta Audubon Society, CDC, Georgia Tech's Environmental Health and Safety, the Army Defense Forensic Science Center, Fernbank Science Center and Museum, GTRI Occupational Safety and Health Programs, Piedmont Hospital, Zoo Atlanta, and local biotechnology companies, among many others.

Internships can be registered during Phase 1 or Phase 2 registration, although employment application deadlines will often operate ahead of course registration. Once a student has an internship offer in hand, they need to contact Dr. Emily Weigel ([emily.weigel@biosci.gatech.edu](mailto:emily.weigel@biosci.gatech.edu)) to request a permit for registration. Students may register for credit as either a free elective (BIOS 2695; prior to junior status) or Biology breadth elective (BIOS 4695; once junior status is achieved). Note that BIOS 4695 may be used for up to 6 credit hours of biology breadth electives, but additional credits may be used as free electives. Students may also register for audit/pay (BIOS 2694/4694) to have an ungraded internship simply appear on their transcript.

New opportunities will be posted as they become available on Canvas via the Biology Majors Portal, and students should customize their applications to follow the instructions and deadlines for each particular internship posting. In certain cases, students may register an internship that they identify on their own for credit, even if the internship is not currently part of the Biology Internship Program. To receive course credit for an internship experience, students must be involved in authentic job-related training in a biological or biologically-related organization, and not primarily performing administrative and managerial duties. For questions about the internship positions, please refer to the internship postings on the Biology Majors Portal Canvas site or contact Dr. Emily Weigel ([emily.weigel@biosci.gatech.edu](mailto:emily.weigel@biosci.gatech.edu)).

**Internships for credit:** To receive course credit for an internship experience, you must be involved in authentic job-related training in a biological or biologically-related organization, and not primarily performing administrative and managerial duties. Freshmen and sophomores register for BIOS 2695, which can count as free elective hours. Juniors and seniors register for BIOS 4695. Students may elect to complete the internship for letter grade, or pass/fail. BIOS 4695 taken for a letter grade may count toward up to 6 credits of your breadth electives. Additional BIOS 4695 credits count as free electives. Contact the internship coordinator, Dr. Emily Weigel, to seek approval for an unpaid biology internship you have obtained and receive a permit to register for BIOS 2695/4695.

**Internships for pay:** BIOS 2694 and 4694 correspond to paid internships and are audit only. Paid internships are not charged tuition. As with internships for credit, you must be involved in an authentic job-related training experience in a biological or biologically-related organization, and not simply providing services that are only distantly related to career goals. You should register for BIOS 2694 if a freshman or sophomore, or 4694 if a junior or senior. Contact the internship coordinator, Dr. Emily Weigel, to seek approval for a paid biology internship you have obtained and receive a permit to register for BIOS 2694/4694.

## AWARDS IN THE SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Every spring semester, the faculty gives several undergraduate awards in Biology. These awards are presented to students demonstrating excellent academic achievement, initiative, and/or service. Some of the awards were designated by donors for students entering specific areas of study. Nominations for awards will be solicited by Biology faculty and students will also

be invited to self-nominate in the spring semester. More information can be found here: <http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/undergraduate-awards>

**Biological Sciences Faculty Award:** An award given by the faculty of the School of Biological Sciences to a graduating Biology major who has demonstrated outstanding scholarship, meritorious character, and significant contributions to the School of Biological Sciences. This monetary award is funded by faculty donations. Note: awarded to a student graduating in the current calendar year.

**John H. Ridley Award:** A monetary award given annually to a junior Biology major who plans to apply to medical school and has demonstrated outstanding scholarship and talent for research. This award is intended to support the recipient's academic and research interests in the senior year.

**McCallum Award for Publication of Outstanding Undergraduate Research:** A monetary award given to up to two senior Biological Sciences undergraduate students for publication of outstanding undergraduate research. Note: awarded to students graduating in the current calendar year; the research supervisor must be a faculty member who has a full or partial appointment in the School of Biological Sciences.

**Williams-Walls Award:** A monetary award given annually to one or more senior women in the life sciences (majoring in Biology or Psychology) with a grade point average of 3.5 or above, and who has applied to graduate school.

### ACTIVITIES IN THE SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Biology undergraduates engage in several extracurricular clubs and activities. More information can be found at <http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/undergraduate-organizations>

**GT Active Minds:** The Georgia Tech Active Minds chapter is a student organization dedicated to fighting the negative stigma of mental illness and encourage students to seek out help before they come close to attempting suicide. The chapter strives to hold events to remind students to take a moment for self-care while providing mental health resources to the student body. Meetings are held twice a month and members are expected to attend 50% of meetings each semester. Any student, undergraduate or graduate, is more than welcome to join. Faculty advisor: Dr. Teresa Snow. <http://gatech.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/active-minds>

**The American Medical Student Association:** The American Medical Student Association (AMSA) is a student-governed organization committed to the concerns of students who hope to become physicians. AMSA has a national membership of about 28,000, composed of premedical and medical students, interns and medical residents. The GA Tech AMSA chapter meets every two to three weeks throughout the school year. Guest speakers include campus premedical advisors, regional medical school admissions officers, and representatives of MCAT preparation firms. Students from the GT AMSA chapter attend regional and national AMSA meetings. Dues: \$20 annually. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Mira Brockett. <https://www.gtamsa.org/>

**The American Red Cross Club:** The GT American Red Cross Club (ARCC) helps students gain leadership experience through service to the university community and the community-at-large. The GT ARCC chapter plans all the blood drives on campus, organizes a GT-led national blood drive project on 9/11 of each year, hosts monthly CPR/First Aid classes for GT students, and plans numerous service events on and off campus. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Shana Kerr. <http://www.redcross.gtorg.gatech.edu/>

**American Society for Microbiology:** The GA Tech chapter of the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) is a student group promoting the field of microbiology as both a study and a career. The group fosters interaction between students and faculty interested in microbiology, awareness of career opportunities in microbiology, and intellectual curiosity related to the field.

Sponsored Meetings and events occur monthly. Past events include visits by guest microbiologists from Georgia Tech, the CDC, and Emory; screening of movie related to microbiology; "Microbiology Jeopardy" night; and outreach opportunities at local K-12 institutions. Students also have opportunities to attend regional and national ASM meetings. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Brian Hammer. <http://www.asm.gtorg.gatech.edu/>

**GA Tech Beta Beta Beta (Tri-Beta) chapter:** The GA Tech Beta Beta Beta (Tri-Beta) chapter is a branch of the national biology honor society dedicated to improving the understanding and appreciation of biological study and extending human knowledge through scientific research. Full membership is restricted to students with a GPA of at least 3.0 in their biology courses and completion of at least one biology course beyond introductory biology. Associate membership is available to all students. Members enjoy a variety of activities including social gatherings and field trips, as well as the national quarterly newsletter. National once-in-a-lifetime membership dues are \$45 and \$35 (full and associate membership, respectively), in addition to local dues of \$10 per year. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jeannette Yen. <http://jacketpages.gatech.edu/organizations/view/28026%29>

**Biology Student Advisory Committee (BSAC):** The Biology Student Advisory Committee (BSAC) is a student organization open to any undergraduate Biology major who has been in the major for at least one semester. The purpose of this organization is to provide student recommendations on curriculum, advising or any other issue relevant to undergraduate students to the School of Biological Sciences administration. BSAC also facilitates student-faculty interaction by co-sponsoring yearly picnics and other undergraduate activities. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Shana Kerr

**Junior STEM:** Junior STEM promotes the academic and professional development of students from social, cultural, or racial groups underrepresented in the sciences. While the society is geared towards the development of students from underrepresented groups, it is open to all students. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Keith Oden. <https://orgsync.com/136811/chapter>

**The Physician Assistant Club:** The Physician Assistant Club (PAC) is devoted to helping students find the resources they need to become physician assistants. Our club meets once a month to provide information to students, and there are multiple volunteer opportunities, networking events, and PA school visits. We host multiple guest speakers at our events and provide clinical opportunities when available. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Shana Kerr. <https://gtpac.weebly.com/>

**Georgia Tech Relay for Life:** The American Cancer Society Relay for Life movement is the world's largest fundraising event aimed at ending cancer. Georgia Tech Relay for Life is part of this global movement, serving as a year-long fundraising event that benefits individuals that have cancer and their caretakers. All proceeds directly benefit the American Cancer Society (ACS) and individuals in our community, allowing us to continue doing research to find a cure and enabling us to fund programs such as Hope Lodge, Road to Recovery, and the ACS Hotline. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Teresa Snow. <http://gt-relay.wixsite.com/georgia-tech/about-gt-relay>

**Student Hospital Connections:** Student Hospital Connections, a student-run organization at Georgia Tech, streamlines volunteer opportunities at local hospitals. SHC accepts new members who are interested in volunteering at Grady Memorial Hospital and Atlanta Medical Center (AMC) at the start of each semester, and provides weekly volunteer shuttles to Grady and AMC and carpooling. SHC also hosts social events that not only allow students to meet medical professionals, but also provide the opportunity to become acquainted with other students in the pre-health community at Georgia Tech. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Shana Kerr. <http://www.facebook.com/Student-Hospital-Connections-SHC-102589339839938/>

## UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING IN THE SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

The School of Biological Sciences offers positions for part-time work as laboratory or lecture teaching assistants in the fall and spring semesters. These positions have several requirements and are competitive. Applicants should have already taken at Georgia Tech the course they will teach and received an A or B, they must be at ease in front of a class, and they must submit an application for the position. A student will enroll in two teaching preparatory courses, BIOS 4697 and CETL 2000 BIO, in their first semester as a teaching assistant. BIOS 4697 counts as a biology breadth elective. An experienced undergraduate TA can apply for paid teaching assistant positions (BIOS 4696) when they are available. Students may use a maximum of 6 credits of BIOS 4697 towards their breadth electives. Each semester of teaching corresponds to a different course assignment. Applications are solicited during Phase I registration for the subsequent semester assignment. To apply, contact Dr. Colin Harrison ([colin.harrison@biosci.gatech.edu](mailto:colin.harrison@biosci.gatech.edu)).

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH IN THE SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Research in the School of Biological Sciences is integrative, but with four general areas of focus: ecology, evolution, and behavior (<http://biosci.gatech.edu/research/ecology-evolution-and-behavior>); molecular and cell biology (<http://biosci.gatech.edu/research/molecular-and-cell-biology>); integrative physiology (<http://biosci.gatech.edu/research/integrative-physiology>); and computational biology and bioinformatics (<http://biosci.gatech.edu/research/computational-biology-and-bioinformatics>).

Research is the most fulfilling scientific experience for many undergraduates and it increases career options after graduation. Working independently on your own research project teaches you the true nature of scientific investigation. You will learn scientific approaches, fundamental techniques, and how to work effectively in a research environment. Undergraduate research also provides you with experiences that make your résumé stand out. See <http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/undergraduate-research> and the information below for details.

**Research for credit:** You can receive course credit for conducting research in a faculty lab (the faculty member is called the principal investigator or PI). To receive credit, you should be involved in a biology-related research project and not simply providing services that are only in support of research efforts (e.g., washing glassware or preparing media).

Students conducting research in a faculty lab should register for BIOS 4699 unless they are completing their Senior Research Experience, in which case they register for BIOS 4690 (see below). In rare situations, students with fewer than 60 GT credit hours may be asked to register for BIOS 2699 if the faculty mentor determines the research activities are more suited for this designation. Up to 6 credits of BIOS 4699 can count as Biology breadth electives. Additional BIOS 4699 credits count as free electives. BIOS 2699 credits always count as free electives.

All BIOS research courses are permit-only, and the faculty mentor must provide permission by emailing [bio-registration@lists.gatech.edu](mailto:bio-registration@lists.gatech.edu) with the student name, GT ID#, and course number. The student and faculty mentor must agree upon the number of credit hours, where one credit hour equals three hours/week of work in the lab during the fall and spring semesters, 4.2 hours/week during the Full Summer session, and 9 hours/week during a Short Summer session. When registering for the course, toggle the dropdown to register for the agreed upon numbers of credit hours from the default of one credit hour ([see instructions here](#)).

**Research for pay:** Students can also be paid to conduct research-related activities. As with research for credit, the student should be involved in a biology-related research project, and not

simply providing services that are only in support of research efforts (e.g., washing glassware or preparing media). Current pay rates are ~\$12/hr depending on experience. After you and the faculty mentor agree to the terms, visit the Biological Sciences finance office to complete appropriate paperwork to get paid. The student is responsible for completing bi-weekly timesheets that the faculty mentor approves. Questions related to hiring procedures should be directed to [biostudenthire@biology.gatech.edu](mailto:biostudenthire@biology.gatech.edu).

If you are hired at the start of a semester, you should register for BIOS 4698. In rare situations, students with fewer than 60 GT credit hours may be asked to register for BIOS 2698 if the faculty mentor deems this more appropriate for the duties to be conducted. Although these audit-only courses do not contribute credit towards a student's degree requirements, they allow the School to track paid research and the student to document paid research experience on the transcript. Registration also puts the research experience on the student's transcript as a certified academic experience. The faculty mentor must provide permission to register by emailing [bio-registration@lists.gatech.edu](mailto:bio-registration@lists.gatech.edu) with student name, GT ID#, and course number.

**Research as a volunteer:** You may volunteer to conduct research-related activities. Volunteer arrangements are informal and the work can be negotiated between you and your faculty mentor. You should complete the Georgia Tech Agreement for Volunteer Services form available from the Biological Sciences office to officially recognize the volunteer relationship.

**Research for credit or pay outside of the School of Biological Sciences:** Biology majors can conduct research in other Schools within Georgia Tech or even in institutions outside of Georgia Tech, and obtain credit for BIOS 4690 or 4699, or audit hours for BIOS 4698. In rare situations, students with fewer than 60 GT credit hours may be asked to register for BIOS 2699 if the faculty mentor determines the research activities are more suited for this designation. [Dr. Michael Goodisman](#), the School of Biological Sciences Associate Chair for the Undergraduate Program, will serve as official co-supervisor and instructor of record within Biological Sciences for the class. Note that a co-supervisor is not needed if your faculty mentor has a minor or courtesy appointment within the School of Biological Sciences. The primary research faculty mentor (e.g. in Psychology, Emory University, etc.) must be a PhD or MD level scientist, preferably in a group leader-like role (not a postdoc, etc). To obtain approval for this research to count for BIOS course credit, you must provide the Associate Chair a description of the research you will be doing, the name of the primary research mentor, and the department or institution of the research mentor. Your primary research mentor must email the Associate Chair agreeing to serve as your research mentor and follow the Biology syllabus for the course in question. If appropriate, the Associate Chair will approve the project for credit or pay.

**Senior Research Experience:** All Biology majors must complete a "Senior Research Experience" consisting of one of the following courses: BIOS 4590 or 4690. BIOS 4690 is conducted under the supervision of a faculty member in the research laboratory. BIOS 4590 is taught by Biological Sciences faculty members each semester; topics vary depending upon the faculty teaching the course. Both courses require that students produce certain deliverables as outlined in the syllabi for the courses available from the School of Biological Sciences, the course mentor's or professor's website. In addition, the student must take BIOS 4460 either concurrent with or in the semester after taking BIOS 4590 or 4690. Note that if 4460 is taken after BIOS 4590 or 4690, the student must seek a permit to register by emailing [bio-registration@lists.gatech.edu](mailto:bio-registration@lists.gatech.edu).

**The Research Option:** The Research Option (RO) gives students a competitive advantage when applying to graduate and professional schools or for research technician positions. It offers an intensive, multi-semester research experience, an undergraduate honors thesis, and the RO designation appears on your transcript. With faculty guidance, students write a brief proposal, perform independent and original research, and write a thesis about their work. This plan requires you to conduct 9 credit hours of supervised research over multiple semesters. The



first 6 credit hours can be any combination of BIOS 2698, 2699, 4698, or 4699. For the thesis semester, students enroll in BIOS 4690 in their final semester of research. In addition, they must complete two writing courses at one credit-hour each, LMC 4701 (Research Proposal Writing) and LMC 4702 (Research Thesis Writing). These writing courses can be counted as Biology breadth electives. Research Options students take LMC 4701 the semester before completing their Senior Research Experience, and LMC 4702 during the same semester they complete their Senior Research Experience. Students interested in pursuing the RO must apply through the UROP website. See the School of Biological Sciences (<http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/bachelor-science-biology-research>) and the UROP Research Option website for more information (<http://undergradresearch.gatech.edu/research-option>)

**McCallum Undergraduate Research Scholars Awards:** Second year biology majors invested in early-career research and who have secured a position in a research lab can compete for McCallum Scholarships to support a single semester of research for pay in their second year. The research supervisor (PI) must be a faculty member who has a full or partial appointment in the School of Biological Sciences. More details about the McCallum Scholarship can be found here: <http://www.biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/undergraduate-awards>

**McCallum Fellowships:** Biology majors invested in early-career research can compete for McCallum Fellowships to support four consecutive semesters of research, including stipend, summer housing, and travel to a conference to present their work, for a total fellowship amount of \$12,500. Award requirements include eligibility after two semesters on campus and with at least four semesters remaining, an established research mentorship with a faculty member with a full or partial appointment in the School of Biological Sciences. More details about the McCallum Fellowship can be found here: <http://www.biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/undergraduate-awards>

**President's Undergraduate Research Awards (PURA):** The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program funds undergraduate research. The awards can be made for student salaries (\$1500) or travel expenses (up to \$1000). Students awarded a PURA must enroll in BIOS 2698 or 4698 during the semester the award is used. More details about applying for a PURA award can be found here: <http://urop.gatech.edu/content/presidents-undergraduate-research-awards> .

**College of Sciences Undergraduate Research Scholarship Awards (URSA):** These awards are available for science and math undergraduates to initiate research under the supervision of a faculty member. The research project is a mutual agreement between the faculty member and the student. The award provides a stipend of \$1,500 for approximately 150 hours of research during a semester. The award may be extended to a second semester with approval of the URSA awards committee. Awardees enroll in BIOS 2698 or, 4698 in the semester they use the URSA award. More details about applying for an URSA award can be found here: <http://cosinfo.gatech.edu/ursa>.

### **Summary of Biology Research Courses:**

Syllabi are available at <http://biosci.gatech.edu/undergrad/undergraduate-courses-syllabi-descriptions>.

BIOS 2698 – Research Assistantship: Independent research conducted under the guidance of a faculty member. 1-12 credit hours. Audit-only class.

BIOS 2699 – Undergraduate Research: Independent research conducted under the guidance of a faculty member. 1-12 credit hours. Grade assigned directly by faculty mentor.

BIOS 4460 – Communicating Biological Research: Senior students present seminars on recent research topics based on their own research experience and/or literature research. 1 credit hour. BIOS 4590 or 4690 is a prerequisite with concurrency—one of these courses must be taken before or in the same term as BIOS 4460. Grade assigned by faculty teaching the course.

BIOS 4590 – Research Project Lab: Experience in designing, implementing, and communicating a biology research project, and practical training in modern approaches for biological research. 3 credit hours. Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L or equivalent. Grade assigned directly by faculty teaching the course.

BIOS 4690 – Independent Research Project: Independent research with proposal and manuscript writing, conducted with the guidance of a faculty member. 3 credit hours. Prerequisites: 1 credit hour of BIOS 2698 or 2699 or 4698 or 4699. Faculty may accept a student without the 1 credit hour prerequisite at their discretion by signing a prerequisite override form for the student. Students must obtain a permit to take BIOS 4690. To request a permit, email the Associate Chair for the Undergraduate Program with (1) the student's full name, (2) the student's GTID#, (3) the name of the faculty research mentor, (4) a brief description of the proposed research topic, and (5) a confirmation email from the mentor independently sent to the Associate Chair to confirm that the project will be mentored. Letter grade assigned by the faculty research mentor and sent to the instructor of record of BIOS 4690 for the semester in question.

BIOS 4698 – Research Assistantship: Independent research conducted under the guidance of a faculty member. 1-12 credit hours. Audit-only course.

BIOS 4699 – Undergraduate Research: Independent research conducted under the guidance of a faculty member. 1-12 credit hours. Grade assigned directly by research advisor.

**Suggestions for getting involved in research:** Here are some suggestions when you are considering getting involved in research.

1) Earn good grades and make yourself known to your professors. Undergraduate research is competitive and you are more likely to be accepted with the faculty member of your choice if you have a strong record of academic excellence.

2) Choose an area of biology that you find interesting and corresponds to one of the areas of faculty expertise here at Georgia Tech. One of the best ways to determine the areas of biology in which you are most interested is to reflect upon the courses you have taken, identifying those that you most enjoyed. Then think about how these courses fit in with your career goals—for example, are you seeking a career in medicine, the biotech industry or in environmental protection? Within these or other areas, it is best to identify the faculty member whose research program most closely fits your interests. You can read about faculty research interests and ongoing projects at

[http://www.biosci.gatech.edu/people?field\\_last\\_name\\_value=&field\\_job\\_category\\_tid=19](http://www.biosci.gatech.edu/people?field_last_name_value=&field_job_category_tid=19).

Recent publications of most biology faculty are listed on faculty members' web pages.

3) After identifying faculty members, tell them about your interest in research and ask to meet with them to discuss their current research projects and your potential participation beginning in a specific semester. At this point it is important to emphasize why you think that an undergraduate research project would be a valuable experience for you and why you would be a good choice for the faculty member. Undergraduate research is a learning opportunity for students AND enables student to make unique contributions to science. So don't forget that you need to think about how your work will benefit other scientists and our understanding of biology in general, not just how you will benefit.



4) Do not be discouraged if the first professor tells you no. There are many reasons why faculty may not want to take on more undergraduate researchers. The most common is that their lab is full and space and equipment are limited, or they may be over-committed with committee assignments or teaching duties. Your chances of being invited to join a research group are better if you get to know a professor. Take their classes and show an interest in their work. If you are courteously persistent and demonstrate success in your coursework, an opportunity is likely to come your way.

Students who have conducted research in faculty labs feel that it has enhanced their degree and often redirected their career plans. In their own words:

“I believe that the undergraduate research experience that I have gained has been an invaluable rite of passage into becoming an independent, critical thinking scientist. My experience has also been crucial in helping develop a relatively specific set of research interests that I will pursue in graduate school in the fall.”

“Participating in undergraduate research has been one of the best decisions that I could have made during my years at Georgia Tech. More than just doing the experiments, I have enjoyed working with the people. The day-to-day mentoring process is what has helped me more than anything else. I was fortunate enough to work directly with an advisor and numerous graduate students, all of whom took the time to help me develop into a successful scientist.”

“I started doing research as a minor activity, however it quickly became more than that. By my junior year the hours that I worked in lab took highest priority on my academic schedule. The research that I was doing was the link between my classes, my future career options and the real world. Working in lab integrated knowledge from all of my classes, and the critical thinking skills that I employed every day in lab were skills that I took to the classroom and to other aspects of my non-academic life.”

“Because of the multidisciplinary nature of my research, I was really able to grasp the application of biology much more than I could have from a lecture or lab course. I also gained confidence in my public presentation skills because so much of doing research is presenting and defending it. It encompasses reading numerous journals and articles, running experiments, analyzing results, presenting, getting feedback, hopefully getting published, and having something to be proud of when your research is complete.”

### **OBTAINING LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

To apply for graduate school, professional school, and jobs in your chosen field you will need letters of recommendation from the faculty. A letter of recommendation can point out features of your record, habits, or personality that are important in hiring and admission decisions. Letters can help you get a job or admission to graduate or professional program when your grades are not as high as those of other candidates.

Faculty members are more willing to write recommendation letters and can write stronger letters if they know you well. The most common way to get to know faculty is to do research in their lab or to take an interactive, small course with them. You will likely need at least three letters of reference, so start developing relationships with faculty as soon as possible.

**Content of Strong Letters:** To be valuable, the letter must contain information that is not available elsewhere in your written record. The writer should be able to comment on your work ethic, ability to solve problems, creativity, reliability, accuracy, receptiveness to coaching, ability to work independently, and ability to work cooperatively with colleagues.

Medical School Letter of Evaluation (LOE) guidelines request the writer to explain the unique contributions of the student as well as provide an assessment and evidence of the following competencies:

1. Thinking & Reasoning, including Critical Thinking, Quantitative Reasoning, Scientific Inquiry, and Written Communication
2. Science, including Living Systems and Human Behavior
3. Interpersonal, including Service Orientation, Social Skills, Cultural Competence, Teamwork, and Oral Communication
4. Intrapersonal, including Ethical Responsibility to Self and Others, Reliability and Dependability, Resilience and Adaptability, Capacity for Improvement

The letter also should contain details to justify the recommendation. A simple statement that you are a good or smart person is almost meaningless unless it is accompanied by factual information to back up that claim. A lack of details suggests that the writer does not have such evidence and/or does not know much about you.

The reference letter should not be a mere recitation of your good points. No one is perfect, and any attempt to paint you that way will trigger justified doubts in the mind of the reader. It is reasonable for the letter to point out that your record has some weakness, and then to point out how you have addressed or overcome the weakness. This converts a potential negative point into a positive.

**Requesting a Letter:** First, you should start preparing now for the day when you will need the letter. Get to know at least three professors and encourage them to get to know you. You can do this several ways: Visit with them for at least 30 minutes each semester in office hours or through an event such as Take-a-Prof to lunch, participate at a high level in their courses (especially those with small class sizes and lots of discussion), or do research in their lab. However you do it, invest the time that is necessary. Only after the professor really gets to know you will he or she be able to write a persuasive letter for you.

Second, you should ask the letter writer if he or she is able to write a good letter. If they hedge in any way, thank them and go elsewhere.

Third, if they feel that they can write a good letter, ask them if they can meet whatever deadline you have. Preferably, you have asked at least three weeks in advance of the deadline. Again, if they hedge, go elsewhere. A good letter that remains unwritten or unsent is no letter at all. Always check back with the letter writer a few days before the letter is due at its destination.

**The Student's Role:** Most importantly, try to be the kind of person about whom a good letter can easily be written.

It is your job to identify appropriate letter writers, and you should start early in your career to cultivate relationships with them. Ask professors and other students to recommend reliable people. Don't be afraid to reject the ones who do not seem promising.

When the time comes to request the letter, give the writer sufficient advanced notice (at least 3 weeks) and all of the materials that help them do a good job: a copy of your résumé or CV, details of the program you are applying for, a few sentences about why the program is a good fit for your career plans, and how and when to submit the letter. Since faculty members usually have many students asking for reference letters, provide all the information by email, with attached files. If the agency requires a physical letter, provide stamped, addressed envelopes for those letters. If the faculty cannot write the letter in a timely manner, take that as a message to find someone else. After a writer has written one letter for you, the time investment to write additional letters is minimal, so do not hesitate to ask your letter writers for multiple letters for different applications.

Finally, waiving your right of access to the letter is a signal that you trust the writer. If you do not trust the writer, you should not ask him or her for a letter in the first place. Most writers will require that you waive your rights to view the letter.

### PROBLEMS WITH A PROFESSOR

There may come a time when you get upset with a professor. When this happens, you should understand two things: 1) conflicts may occur when people work closely together, and 2) there is usually a satisfactory way to resolve the conflict.

As a student you will develop a working relationship with the faculty of Georgia Tech. This relationship is not symmetrical because faculty members evaluate your performance and decide about your grades. That system is not likely to change, probably for very good reasons. After all, professors have already demonstrated their advanced academic qualifications, and you came to Tech to learn some of the things that they know.

Any relationship that is emotionally and intellectually close, especially an asymmetrical one, may generate stresses. Therefore, we need to anticipate those stresses and find a way to deal with them. The solution you find will almost certainly be imperfect, but there is no reason that it need be unsatisfactory. The more unrealistic your initial expectations are, the more imperfect the solution will be to you. So, start out with this dose of reality; *most problems can be solved, but you may have to compromise*. Talk to your professor about the problem. If you are not satisfied with the result, talk to your advisor and if you still need help, consult the Associate Chair for the Undergraduate Program.

If you wish to pursue a formal grievance procedure, you should consult the Georgia Tech Registrar's website at <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/20/>.

### ADVICE FOR STUDENTS

Take advantage of everything Tech and Atlanta have to offer by getting involved. A great way to meet people is through intramurals, fraternities and sororities, and the Student Government Association (SGA). SGA publishes a Student Handbook of Campus Organizations that includes all of the on-campus organizations. You should have received one in your FASET packet, but they are also available in the SGA office in the Student Services Building. If you have an artistic side, you can fulfill your creative urges with many of the classes offered in the "Options Guide", available in the Student Center Box Office. Some of the activities available are ceramics, pottery, salsa lessons, piano lessons, photography, and drawing classes.

There are many fun things to do and see in Atlanta. The Georgia Aquarium, High Museum of Art, Stone Mountain, Zoo Atlanta, Atlanta Botanical Garden, and the Fernbank Natural History Museum are definitely worth the entry fees. Six Flags Over Georgia and Six Flags White Water are fun theme parks in the area. The Robert Ferst Center for the Arts, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Fox Theater, the Atlanta Ballet, and the Shakespeare Tavern offer something for everyone. Experience the numerous restaurants and theaters around Atlanta, and take your student ID; many places offer student discounts. There are many free publications, such as "*Creative Loafing*" magazine, that detail up and coming events in Atlanta, or you can check in the Access Atlanta section of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. You can also become a participant in the Atlanta community through volunteerism. Volunteer to feed the homeless at [Clyde's Kitchen](#), work or tutor at the [Atlanta Day Shelter for Women & Children](#), walk dogs at the [Humane Society](#), some of the many opportunities to volunteer near campus.

The most successful students have developed good time management skills to include both work and leisure activities. They've learned to balance a reasonable course load with time for friends and relaxation. The right mix will be a balance of work and leisure so that you get good grades, yet thoroughly enjoy yourself. By getting involved and trying new activities, you will soon find your niche.

Be sure to check your Advising Update email every Friday for announcements about summer jobs, seminars, and research opportunities. You should attend several Biology seminars (advertised on the School of Biological Sciences webpage) before your senior year to get a feel for what is expected when you present your research in Senior Seminar and for what kinds of research careers are available to biologists. Usually you will find that the students with the highest grades are the ones who attend every class meeting, sit in the front rows and ask questions, and study well in advance of tests.

The key to a successful career as a Biology student at Georgia Tech is hard work, focus, good time management, and networking with as many people as possible to create important contacts for the future.

## BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES COURSE LISTINGS

**All prerequisite courses require a D unless otherwise specified.**

### **BIOS 1107 – Biological Principles**

An introduction to the basic principles of modern biology, including biomacromolecules, bioenergetics, cell structure, genetics, evolution, and ecological relationships. For non-Biology majors. Must be taken with BIOS 1107L.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

### **BIOS 1107L – Biological Principles Laboratory**

A laboratory-based introduction to the basic principles of modern biology, including biomacromolecules, bioenergetics, cell structure, genetics, evolution, and ecological relationships. For non-Biology majors.

1.000 Credit hours, 0.000 Lecture hours, 3.000 Lab hours

### **BIOS 1108 – Organismal Biology**

An introduction to biology at the organ and organismal level, with emphasis on physiological processes, integration of growth and development, and biodiversity from an evolutionary perspective. For non-Biology majors. Must be taken with BIOS 1108L.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

### **BIOS 1108L – Organismal Biology Laboratory**

A laboratory-based introduction to biology at the organ and organismal level, with emphasis on physiological processes, integration of growth and development, and biodiversity from an evolutionary perspective. For non-Biology majors.

1.000 Credit hours, 0.000 Lecture hours, 3.000 Lab hours

### **BIOS 1207 – Biological Principles for Majors**

An introduction to the basic principles of modern biology, including biomacromolecules, bioenergetics, cell structure, genetics, evolution, and ecological relationships. For Biology majors. Must be taken with BIOS 1207L.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

### **BIOS 1207L – Biological Principles Project Laboratory**

A project laboratory-based introduction to the basic principles of modern biology, including biomacromolecules, bioenergetics, cell structure, genetics, evolution, and ecological relationships. For Biology majors.

1.000 Credit hours, 0.000 Lecture hours, 3.000 Lab hours

### **BIOS 1208 – Organismal Biology for Majors**

An introduction to biology at the organ and organismal level, with emphasis on physiological processes, integration of growth and development, and biodiversity from an evolutionary perspective. For Biology majors. Must be taken with BIOS 1208L.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

### **BIOS 1208L – Organismal Biology Project Laboratory**

A project laboratory-based introduction to biology at the organ and organismal level, with emphasis on physiological processes, integration of growth and development, and biodiversity from an evolutionary perspective. For Biology majors.

1.000 Credit hours, 0.000 Lecture hours, 3.000 Lab hours

**BIOS 1220 – Biology of Sex and Death**

Students learn biology through the lens of the formation and collapse of biological systems, organized around questions pertaining to life, sex, and death. For non-Biology majors.

4.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours, 3.000 Lab hours

**BIOS 2100 – Biogeography - New Zealand**

Introduction to theory of island biogeography focused on New Zealand's geological history and unique biota.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

**BIOS 2300 - Ecology**

Introduction to ecological processes at individual, population, and community levels that occur in plant, animal, and microbial taxa, and their relevance to current environmental problems.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

**BIOS 2301 - Ecology Lab**

The companion laboratory for BIOS 2300 (Ecology). This course stresses understanding ecological concepts through a combination of lab and field experiments, and computer simulations.

1.000 Credit hours, 0.000 Lecture hours, 3.000 Lab hours

Corequisites: BIOS 2300

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

**BIOS 2310 - Problem-Based Ecology**

Problem-based learning approach to modern ecology from populations to communities, stressing independent analysis, scientific thinking, communication and projects in local communities

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Corequisites: BIOS 2311

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

**BIOS 2311 - Problem-Based Ecology Lab**

Companion lab to Problems in Ecology. Problem-based learning approach to modern ecology, stressing independent analysis, scientific thinking, communication and projects in local communities

1.000 Credit hours, 0.000 Lecture hours, 3.000 Lab hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

Corequisites: BIOS 2310

**BIOS 2500 Intro to Sport Science**

Students will apply scientific principles to human performance related to sport and movement across an array of topics (e.g., rehabilitation, exercise physiology, locomotion biomechanics, prosthetics).

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

**BIOS 2600 - Genetics**

Mendelian and molecular genetics; principles of inheritance, gene structure and function, foundations of recombinant DNA technology, genetic basis of variation and evolution.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

**BIOS 2601 - Genetics Laboratory**

A laboratory course in the fundamental techniques of genetic analysis.

1.000 Credit hours, 0.000 Lecture hours, 3.000 Lab hours

Corequisites: BIOS 2600

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

**BIOS 2610 - Integrative Genetics**

Rigorous in-depth integrated coverage of rules and molecular basis of inheritance, incorporating primary literature and capitalizing on excellent prior knowledge of fundamentals of biology.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Corequisites: BIOS 2611

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

**BIOS 2611 - Integrative Genetics Lab**

Hands-on introduction to practical techniques, critical thinking, and important concepts in genetics. Students carry out laboratory experiments that explore transmission, population, and molecular genetics.

1.000 Credit hours, 0.000 Lecture hours, 3.000 Lab hours

Corequisites: BIOS 2610

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

**BIOS 2694 - Intern Assistantship**

Biology Undergraduate Internship for pay for freshmen and sophomores, by permit only. The internship experience must at a unit or agency approved by the School of Biological Sciences. AUDIT ONLY.

1.000 to 21.000 Credit hours

**BIOS 2695 – Undergraduate Internship**

Biology Undergraduate Internship for credit for freshmen and sophomores, by permit only. The internship experience must be at a unit or agency approved by the School of Biological Sciences.

1.000 to 21.000 Credit hours

**BIOS 2698 - Research Assistantship**

Independent research conducted under the guidance of a faculty member.

1.000 TO 12.000 Credit hours, 1.000 TO 12.000 Lecture hours

**BIOS 2699 - Undergraduate Research**

Independent research conducted under the guidance of a faculty member.

1.000 TO 12.000 Credit hours, 1.000 TO 12.000 Lecture hours

**BIOS 280X - Special Topics**

This designation enables the School of Biological Sciences to provide new lecture courses dealing with areas of current interest in biological sciences.

X Credit hours, X Lecture hours

**BIOS 290X - Special Problems**

Research problems in biology under the supervision of a faculty member.

1.000 TO 21.000 Credit hours, 1.000 TO 21.000 Lecture hours



**BIOS 3000 Survey of Medicine**

Content focuses on scientific, social, and cultural aspects of illness, how perceptions and behavior influence disease concept and fundamental aspects of medical diagnosis and treatment.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L) and (CHEM 1315 OR CHEM 2311)

**BIOS 3100 – Ecology & Evolution - Australia**

Evolution and ecology of Australian ecosystems, including rainforests, open woodlands, coastal habitats; conservation of endangered ecosystems. Earns Biology technical credit. Research project required.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 2100

**BIOS 3380 - Microbiology**

Basic biology of bacteria, fungi, algae, and viruses, with emphasis on bacteriology.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L) and CHEM 1212K

**BIOS 3381 - Microbiology Lab**

Fundamental laboratory techniques in microbiology.

1.000 Credit hours, 0.000 Lecture hours, 3.000 Lab hours

Corequisites: BIOS 3380

Prerequisites: (BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L) and CHEM 1212K

**BIOS 3400 - Math Models in Biology**

Introductory probability and deterministic models in biology, including discrete and continuous probability distributions and dynamic models from molecular and cellular biology to ecology and epidemiology.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (MATH 1553 and either MATH 1555 or MATH 1522) and (BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L)

**BIOS 3450 - Cell & Molecular Biology**

An introduction to the structure and function of cells and their organelles with emphasis on eukaryotic cellular and molecular processes.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L) and (CHEM 2311 or CHEM 1315)

**BIOS 3451 – Cell & Molecular Biology Lab**

An introduction to experimental methods of cell and molecular biology research that will cover some fundamental topics of cell biology.

1.000 Credit hours, 0.000 Lecture hours, 3.000 Lab hours

Corequisites: BIOS 3450

Prerequisites: (BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L) and (CHEM 2311 or CHEM 1315)

**BIOS 3600 - Evolutionary Biology**

Comprehensive introduction to evolutionary biology. Includes focus on processes (natural selection, genetic drift) and resulting patterns (genome organization, phylogeny) illustrated with prokaryote and eukaryote examples.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 2300 or BIOS 2310 or BIOS 2600 or BIOS 2610

**BIOS 3753 – Human Anatomy**

Detailed study of human body structures using a regional and systems approach. Emphasis is placed on structural relationships and the integration of body systems.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours.

Prerequisites: (BIOS 1108 or 1208 and 1108L or 1208L) or CHEM 1211K or CHEM 1310

**BIOS 3754 - Anatomy Lab**

A detailed hands-on study of human structure using high-resolution models, specialized specimens and dissection of selected mammalian organs and tissues.

1.000 Credit hours, 0.000 Lecture hours, 3.000 Lab hours

Corequisite: BIOS 3753

**BIOS 3755 - Human Physiology**

Students will explore the function and adaptation of the human body emphasizing neuromuscular, cardio-respiratory, gastrointestinal, endocrine, and urinary systems to maintain homeostasis and human health.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (BIOS 1108 or 1208 and BIOS 1108L or 1208L) or BIOS 3753

**BIOS 3756 - Physiology Lab**

A laboratory application of concepts in Physiology, providing hands-on experience focusing primarily on non-invasive human experiments supplemented with in vitro tissues experiments.

1.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lab hours

Corequisite: BIOS 3755

**BIOS 4012 - Protein Biology**

Biological view of proteins, including: protein biosynthesis, processing, modifications, folding, trafficking, interactions, degradation, natural and directed evolution, protein assembly diseases, amyloids, prions and protein-based inheritance.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

**BIOS 4015 - Cancer Biology & Technology**

This course covers basic concepts of cancer biology and new technologies that are being developed to understand, detect, treat, and prevent cancer.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L) or (BIOS 1108 or 1208 and 1108L or 1208L) or CHEM 1310 or CHEM 1211K or CHEM 1212K or PHYS 2211 or PHYS 2212 or EAS 1600 or EAS 1601 or EAS 2600

**BIOS 4100 Exercise Physiology**

Physiology of human movement with emphasis on metabolic, cardiorespiratory, and musculoskeletal aspects; associated topics include body composition, thermoregulation, and ergogenic aids

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 3755 or BMED 3100

**BIOS 4150 – Genomics & Applied Bioinformatics**

Retrieval and analysis of biological sequence, gene expression, and proteomics data from public databases and other sources; applying standard bioinformatics tools to investigate biological questions.

0.000 OR 3.000 Credit hours, 0.000 OR 2.000 Lecture hours, 0.000 OR 3.000 Lab hours

Prerequisites: (BIOS 2600 or BIOS 2610) and (CS 1321 or CS 1371 or CS 1301 or CS 1315)

**BIOS 4200 Kinesiology**

This course teaches principles related to the biomechanics, energetics and motor control of movement as it applies to human and animal movement, rehabilitation, and sports performance  
3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: ((BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L OR 1207L) or (BIOS 1108 or 1208 and 1108L or 1208L) or (BIOS 3753) and (MATH 1113 or MATH 1552 or MATH 1555)

**BIOS 4221 - Biological Oceanography**

An introduction to the major biological processes in the ocean including primary production, elemental cycling, food webs, and fisheries.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

**BIOS 4225 - Molecular Evolution**

Evolutionary processes at molecular level, organizations of genomes and genetic systems. Students will read and present up-to-date research articles in various topics in molecular evolution.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (BIOS 2600 or BIOS 2610) and (BIOS 3400 or BIOS 4150 or BIOS 4401 or MATH 3215 or ISYE 3770)

**BIOS 4238 Ion Channels**

We will examine the basic biophysical properties, structure-function relationships, physiological regulation, pathology and pharmacological manipulation of ion channels with heavy reliance on recent literature.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 3450 or BIOS 3755 or BMED 3100 or NEUR 3100

**BIOS 4340 - Medical Microbiology**

Advanced study of bacteria, protozoa, fungi, and viruses that cause human diseases; emphasis on epidemiology, mechanisms of disease causation, prevention, and treatment.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 3380

**BIOS 4401 - Experimental Design & Statistical Methods**

Introductory course on experimental design, hypothesis testing and basic statistical techniques commonly applied in biological research. Exercises based on computer statistical software packages.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (MATH 1553 and either MATH 1555 or MATH 1522) and (BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L)

**BIOS 4410 - Microbial Ecology**

Advanced studies of microbial ecosystems, the specific roles of bacteria in maintaining ecological balance, and the evolution of the ecosystem in response to changing environments.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 3380

**BIOS 4417 - Marine Ecology**

An overview of the physical forces and biotic interactions structuring marine communities and of the major threats to these communities.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 2300 or BIOS 2310

**BIOS 4418 - Microbial Physiology**

Study of the physiology of growth and metabolic activities of microorganisms.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 3380

### **BIOS 4428 - Population Dynamics**

Ecological factors that affect dynamics, regulation, and evolution of natural populations, with an emphasis on the connections with mathematical models, genetics, and ecology.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 2300 or BIOS 2310

### **BIOS 4460 – Communicating Biological Research**

Students learn to convey the importance of research findings in the biological sciences and to critically evaluate research results through discussions and scientific presentations.

1.000 Credit hours, 1.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 4590 or BIOS 4690 or BIOS 4691

### **BIOS 4464 - Developmental Biology**

Investigations of cell differentiation and development using the tools of molecular genetics and cell biology.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (BIOS 2600 or BIOS 2610) and BIOS 3450

### **BIOS 4471 - Behavioral Biology**

An introduction to the study of the principles of behavior of all kinds of organisms, from microbes to mammals.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L) or (BIOS 1108 or 1208 and 1108L or 1208L)

### **BIOS 4480 – Evolutionary Developmental Biology**

This course teaches students how the process of development from embryo to adult impacts evolutionary diversity and human health.

2.000 Credit hours, 2.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

### **BIOS 4500 Drug Discovery**

Students will learn about the drug discovery process by identifying a disease and disease target, and then design a therapy to treat the disease

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 3450 and BIOS 4150

### **BIOS 4510 Epigenetics**

This course will introduce the basic concepts and mechanisms in epigenetics, covering topics ranging from stem cell reprogramming, organismal development, social behaviors, to human diseases.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 2800 or BIOS 2810 or BIOS 3450

### **BIOS 4520 Health, Genes, and Society**

Capstone project based investigation of the roles that genes and culture play in shaping health, including an introduction to personalized medicine

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

### **BIOS 4530 Human Evolutionary Genomics**

An advanced course where students will discuss primary literature and use computational tools to investigate how evolution has shaped global patterns of human genetic variation.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

### **BIOS 4540 Human Motor Control**

Course provides in-depth review of biomechanics and neurophysiology of human motion and discusses how human movements are planned, executed and corrected by the nervous system

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L) or NEUR 2001

### **BIOS 4545 - Human Genetics**

Introduction to the genetics and evolution of complex human traits, focusing on contemporary approaches to understanding susceptibility to malignant, metabolic, immune and psychological diseases.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: Undergraduate Semester level BIOS 2600 or BIOS 2610

### **BIOS 4550 Origin of Complex Life**

This course examines the evolutionary origins of complex life. Students will examine the history of life on Earth and evolutionary process through which complexity arises

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

### **BIOS 4560 RNA Biology and Biotechnology**

This course covers fundamental concepts of RNA biology as well as state-of-the-art biotechnologies that make use of RNA.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

### **BIOS 4570 - Immunology**

A survey of modern immunology and its applications.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 2600 or BIOS 2610

### **BIOS 4590 - Research Project Lab**

Experience in designing, implementing, and communicating a biology research project, and practical training in modern approaches for biological research. Restricted to Senior Biology majors.

0.000 OR 3.000 Credit hours, 0.000 OR 1.000 Lecture hours, 0.000 OR 6.000 Lab hours

Corequisites: BIOS 4460

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

### **BIOS 4607 - Molecular Biology of Microbes: Disease, Nature, and Biotechnology**

Molecular genetics of bacteria with an emphasis on experimental approaches, regulatory mechanisms in disease-causing and environmental bacteria, and biotechnology applications derived from microbes. Credit not allowed for both BIOS 4607 and BIOL 4608.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

### **BIOS 4620 - Aquatic Chemical Ecology**

Focuses on understanding the chemical mechanisms of aquatic signaling and the cascading effects on population regulation, community organization, and ecosystem function.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 2300 or BIOS 2310

**BIOS 4651 - Bioethics**

This course examines important bioethical issues in research, policy, medicine, and the environment in light of ethical theory and the process of scientific inquiry.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

**BIOS 4668 - Eukaryotic Molecular Genetics**

Topics in molecular genetics, including genetic engineering techniques, gene expression and regulation, genetic structure, stability and evolution, with emphasis on eukaryotic organisms.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 2600 or BIOS 2610

**BIOS 4690 - Independent Research Project**

Independent research with proposal and manuscript writing, conducted with the guidance of a faculty member.

3.000 Credit hours, 0.000 Lecture hours, 9.000 Lab hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 2698 or BIOS 2699 or BIOS 4698 or BIOS 4699

**BIOS 4694 - Intern Assistantship**

Biology Undergraduate Internship for pay for juniors and seniors, by permit only. The internship experience must at a unit or agency approved by the School of Biological Sciences. AUDIT ONLY.

1.000 to 21.000 Credit hours

**BIOS 4695 – Undergraduate Internship**

Biology Undergraduate Internship for credit for juniors and seniors, by permit only. The internship experience must be at a unit or agency approved by the School of Biological Sciences.

1.000 to 21.000 Credit hours

**BIOS 4696 - Biology Teaching Assistant**

Biology teaching assistantship for pay under the guidance of a faculty member. Permit only. AUDIT ONLY.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: CETL 2000

**BIOS 4697 - Biology Undergraduate Teaching**

An introduction to teaching biology for undergraduate teaching assistants, with a focus on effective teaching active engagement of students, and development of innovative classroom activities. Permit only.

0.000 OR 3.000 Credit hours, 0.000 OR 1.000 Lecture hours, 0.000 OR 6.000 Lab hours

Prerequisites: CETL 2000

**BIOS 4698 - Research Assistantship**

Independent research conducted under the guidance of a faculty member. AUDIT ONLY.

1.000 TO 12.000 Credit hours, 1.000 TO 12.000 Lecture hours

**BIOS 4699 - Undergraduate Research**

Independent research conducted under the guidance of a faculty member.

1.000 TO 12.000 Credit hours, 1.000 TO 12.000 Lecture hours

**BIOS 4740 - Bio-Inspired Design**

We examine evolutionary adaptation as a source for engineering design inspiration, utilizing principles of scaling, adaptability, and robust multifunctionality that characterize biological systems.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (BIOS 1108 or 1208 and 1108L or 1208L) or BIOS 3600 or BMED 3100 or PHYS 2211

**BIOS 4744 - Microbial Symbiosis and Microbiomes**

This course explores how symbiotic interactions with microbes affect the biology of other organisms, focusing extensively on the beneficial microbes native to the human body.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L

**BIOS 4746 - Signaling Molecules**

The diversity of chemical signals between organisms and their structural specifications will be presented along with chemical and biological methods for isolating signaling molecules.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: (BIOS 1107 or 1207 and 1107L or 1207L) and CHEM 2311

**BIOS 4755 - Mathematical Biology**

An introduction to practical applications of mathematical models to help unravel the underlying mechanisms involved in biological processes. Crosslisted with MATH 4755.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: MATH 2403 or BIOS 3400

**BIOS 4815 – Community Ecology**

An advanced ecology course that covers classic and contemporary concepts, patterns, and processes in the field of community ecology.

3.000 Credit hours, 3.000 Lecture hours

Prerequisites: BIOS 2300 or BIOS 2310

**BIOS 480X - Special Topics**

This designation enables the School of Biological Sciences to provide new lecture courses dealing with areas of current interest in biological science.

X Credit hours, X Lecture hours

**BIOS 490X - Special Problems**

Research problem in biology under supervision of a faculty member. To be offered any term with credit to be arranged. Seven hours (four hours technical electives + three hours free elective) are the maximum credits allowed toward the Bachelor of Science in Biology degree.

1.000 TO 21.000 Credit hours, 1.000 TO 21.000 Lecture hours



**NON-BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES COURSES THAT ARE APPROVED FOR BIOLOGY  
BREADTH ELECTIVES  
(9 credits maximum)**

**LMC:**

LMC 4701 Undergraduate Research Proposal Writing  
LMC 4702 Undergraduate Research Thesis Writing

**All BMED 3XXX and higher courses EXCEPT:**

BMED 4698	Research Assistantship
BMED 4699	Undergraduate Research
BMED 4900-4903	Special Problems

**All CHEM 3XXX and higher courses EXCEPT:**

CHEM 4601	Chemistry Seminar
CHEM 4698	Research Assistantship
CHEM 4699	Undergraduate Research
CHEM 4901- 4903	Special Problems in Chemistry

**All EAS 3XXX and higher courses EXCEPT:**

EAS 4651	Practical Internship
EAS 4698	Research Assistantship
EAS 4699	Undergraduate Research
EAS 4900	Special Problems

**All MATH 3XXX and higher courses EXCEPT:**

MATH 4080	Senior Project I
MATH 4090	Senior Project II
MATH 4698	Research Assistantship
MATH 4699	Undergraduate Research
MATH 4999	Special Problems

**All NEUR 3XXX and higher courses EXCEPT:**

NEUR 4698	Research Assistantship
NEUR 4699	Undergraduate Research
NEUR 4901	Special Problems

**All PHYS 3XXX and higher courses EXCEPT:**

PHYS 4601	Senior Seminar I
PHYS 4602	Senior Seminar II
PHYS 4698	Research Assistantship
PHYS 4699	Undergraduate Research

**All PSYC 3XXX and higher EXCEPT:**

PSYC 4600	Senior Thesis I
PSYC 4601	Senior Thesis II
PSYC 4698	Research Assistantship
PSYC 4699	Undergraduate Research
PSYC 4900-4910	Special Problems

**STUDENT/ADVISOR WORK SHEET  
2022-2023**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ID number:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>General Biology (Required)</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>Other Required Courses</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>✓</b>
BIOS 1107 and 1107L or BIOS 1207 and 1207L Biol Principles	4		CHEM 1211K Chem Principles I	4	
BIOS 1108 and 1108L or BIOS 1208 and 1208L Organismal Bio	4		CHEM 1212K Chem Principles II	4	
BIOS 2300 or 2310 Ecology	3		MATH 1551 Differential Calculus	2	
BIOS 2600 or 2610 Genetics	3		MATH 1552 Integral Calc	4	
BIOS 3600 Evolution	3		MATH 1553 Linear Algebra	2	
BIOS 3450 Cell & Molecular Bio	3		CHEM 2311 Organic Chem I	3	
BIOS 4460 Comm Biol Research	1		CHEM 2312 Organic Chem II	3	
<b>Core lab requirement Choose 2 from:</b>			CHEM 2380 Synthesis Lab	2	
BIOS 2301 or 2311 Ecology Lab	1		PHYS 2211 Physics I	4	
BIOS 2601 or 2611 Genetics Lab	1		PHYS 2212 Physics II	4	
BIOS 3451 Cell & Molec Bio Lab	1		CS 1301 or 1315 or 1371	3	
<b>Quantitative requirement Choose 1 from:</b>			APPH 1040 or 1050 Wellness	2	
BIOS 3400 Math Models Bio	3		<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	
BIOS 4150 Genomics & App Binf	3		<b>English &amp; Humanities</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>✓</b>
BIOS 4401 Exp Des and Stat	3		ENGL 1101	3	
<b>Senior Research requirement Choose 1 from:</b>			ENGL 1102	3	
BIOS 4590 Research Project Lab	3		Humanities	3	
BIOS 4690 Ind. Research Project	3		Humanities	3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	
<b>Biology Electives (21 hrs req)</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>Social Sciences/Constitution &amp; History Requirements</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>✓</b>
<b>Depth Electives (min 12 cr)<sup>1</sup></b>			Social Science (may include US History <sup>3</sup> requirement)	3	
			Social Science (may include US Constitution <sup>3</sup> requirement)	3	
			Social Science	3	
			Social Science	3	
			US History <sup>3</sup>	(0-3)	
			US Constitution <sup>3</sup>	(0-3)	
			GA History <sup>3</sup>	0	
<b>Breadth Electives (max 9 cr)<sup>2</sup></b>			GA Constitution <sup>3</sup>	0	
			<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	
			<b>Free Electives</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>✓</b>
			GT1000 (recommended)	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>				
<b>SEE IMPORTANT NOTES ON FOLLOWING PAGE</b>					
			<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	
			<b>Total for Graduation</b>	<b>122</b>	

**NOTES**

Pass-fail allowed for Free Electives only. Refer to Institute rules for maximum pass-fail credits allowed.

<sup>1</sup>Depth electives can be fulfilled with BIOS 3000 and higher courses excluding 4595, 4697, or 4699

<sup>2</sup>Breadth electives can be fulfilled with any BIOS 3000 and higher courses or with approved non-BIOS courses; see the Biology Major Handbook for an approved list of non-BIOS courses

<sup>3</sup>The four Constitution and History Requirements must be completed before 90 credit hours and are fulfilled as follows: US HISTORY fulfilled by HIST 2111, HIST 2112, equivalent transfer/AP/IB credit, or passing the United States History Module Examination; US CONSTITUTION fulfilled by INTA 1200, POL 1101, PUBP 3000, equivalent transfer/AP/IB credit, equivalent transfer/AP/IB credit, or passing the United States Constitution Module Examination; GA HISTORY fulfilled by passing the Georgia History Module Examination; GA CONSTITUTION fulfilled by passing the Constitution of Georgia Module Examination. HIST 2111 or HIST 2112 may be used to fulfill both the US History requirement and count toward Social Science requirements. INTA 1200, POL 1101, or PUBP 3000 may be used to fulfill both the US Constitution requirement and count toward Social Science requirements. Note that the Examinations do not carry any academic credit.