

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

REQUIREMENTS

CORE CURRICULUM The Core Curriculum is designed to foster critical thinking skills and introduce students to basic domains of thinking that transcend disciplines. The Core applies to all majors. Information on specific classes in the Core can be found at marshall.edu/gened.

CORE 1: CRITICAL THINKING

CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
FYS 100	First Year Seminar	3	_____
_____	Critical Thinking Course	3	_____
_____	Critical Thinking Course (PSY 201 recommended for Pre-Professional)	3	_____
Additional University Requirements			
_____	Writing Intensive	3	_____
_____	Writing Intensive	3	_____
_____	Multicultural or International	3	_____
BSC 491	Capstone	2	_____

CORE 2:

CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
ENG 101	Beginning Composition	3	_____
ENG 201	Advanced Composition	3	_____
CMM 103	Fund Speech-Communication	3	_____
MTH 140 or MTH 229	Applied Calculus or Calculus/ Analytic Geom I (CT)	3-5	_____
BSC 120/L	Principles of Biology I / Lab	3/1	_____
_____	Core II Humanities	3	_____
_____	Core II Social Science	3	_____
_____	Core II Fine Arts	3	_____

MAJOR-SPECIFIC

All Biological Sciences majors are required to take the following courses:

CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
BSC 121/L	Principles of Biology II / Lab	3/1	_____	_____	Technical Elective (CHM361 Recommended)	3	_____
CHM 211	Principles of Chemistry I	3	_____	_____	Technical Elective	3	_____
CHM 217	Principles of Chemistry I Lab	2	_____	_____	Technical Elective	3	_____
CHM 212	Principles of Chemistry II	3	_____	BSC 491	Capstone (C)	2	_____
CHM 218	Principles of Chemistry II Lab	2	_____	_____	BSC Elective	4	_____
CHM 327	Intro Organic Chemistry or or 355 Organic Chemistry I	3	_____	_____	BSC Elective	4	_____
PHY 201	College Physics I	3	_____	_____	BSC Elective	4	_____
PHY 202	College Physics I Lab	1	_____	_____	BSC Elective	3	_____
BSC 3__	BSC Core Course	3-4	_____	_____	BSC Elective	3-4	_____
BSC 3__	BSC Core Course	3-4	_____	_____	BSC Elective (BSC 417 Recommended)	3	_____
BSC 3__	BSC Core Course	3-4	_____	_____	Free Elective (MTH 122 recommended for PHY pre-req)	3	_____
BSC 3__	BSC Core Course	3-4	_____	_____	Free Elective (PHY 203/204 recommended)	4	_____
_____	Technical Elective (CHM 356 Recommended)	3	_____				

MAJOR INFORMATION

- Students must pass BSC 120 Principles of Biology I & BSC 120L Principles of Biology I Lab and earn a grade of C or better in BSC 121 Principles of Biology II & BSC 121L Principles of Biology II Lab, CHM 211 Principles of Chemistry I, and CHM 212 Principles Chemistry II before they can enroll in any upper-level BSC course except BSC 227 Human Anatomy, BSC 228 Human Physiology and BSC 250 Microbiol & Human Disease.
- CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE: It is the responsibility of each student to consult his/her advisor regarding details of meeting the capstone requirement. The capstone may be a traditional independent study research project under the supervision of a faculty member selected by the student, participation in a classroom-based capstone course, or the development and implementation of an internship, co-op, or community-based project. Students must have completed a minimum of 16 hours of BSC coursework before they will be permitted to register for Capstone.
- BSC 104 Introduction to Biology, BSC 105 Human Biology, BSC 227/227L Human Anatomy, BSC 228/228L Human Physiology, and BSC 250 Microbiol and Human Disease do not count towards a BSC major and cannot substitute for any required or elective BSC courses.
- A minimum of 15 hours of 400-level credit is required.
- Students are required to know and track their degree requirements for graduation or for entrance to a professional school.
- In addition to the Core General Education requirements, the College of Science requires 3-5 hours of Calculus, and 40 hours of upper-level credit.
- Students who choose CHM 355, 356, and 361 will have the necessary coursework for a Chemical Sciences minor.
- Coursework listed as "elective" may vary for each student. Students are encouraged to use elective hours toward a 2nd minor or toward prerequisites.
- Students are strongly encouraged to select courses that meet two or more Core or College requirements. For example, a writing intensive literature course could satisfy the Core II Humanities requirement as well as the University writing intensive requirement.
- Course offerings and course attributes are subject to change. Please consult each semester's schedule of courses for availability and attributes.
- MTH 140 Applied Calculus requires ACT Mathematics score of 24 or higher. Students with an ACT Mathematics score less than 24 will be placed in the appropriate prerequisite mathematics courses.
- All Biological Science majors are required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of credits in the Department of Biological Sciences.
- See undergraduate catalog for a listing of BSC core courses and electives.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

The Department of Biological Sciences is committed to teaching students about the science of life from molecular to global scales. A degree in Biological Sciences prepares students for careers and graduate study in diverse fields such as human and veterinary medicine, dentistry, biomedical and pharmaceutical research, environmental consulting, wildlife ecology, and K12 or higher education. Alumni of the Department work as health professionals, teach at all educational levels, serve as environmental researchers and regulators, conduct biomedical and pharmaceutical research, and hold positions in state and federal agencies.

YEAR ONE	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
	BSC 120/L	Principles of Biology I / Lab	3/1	_____	BSC 121/L	Principles of Biology II / Lab	3/1	_____
	MTH 140 or MTH 229	Applied Calculus or Calculus/ Analytic Geom I (CT)	3-5	_____	FYS 100	First Year Sem Crit Thinking	3	_____
	CHM 211	Principles of Chemistry I	3	_____	CHM 212	Principles of Chemistry II	3	_____
	CHM 217	Principles of Chemistry I Lab	2	_____	CHM 218	Principles of Chemistry II Lab	2	_____
	UNI 100	Freshman First Class	1	_____	_____	Free Elective (MTH 122 recommended for PHY pre-req)	3	_____
	STOTAL HOURS			13-15	TOTAL HOURS			15
	Summer Term (optional):							

YEAR TWO	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
	BSC 3__	BSC Core Course	3-4	_____	BSC 3__	BSC Core Course	3-4	_____
	_____	Core II Fine Arts	3	_____	_____	Core II Social Science	3	_____
	_____	Multicultural or International	3	_____	_____	BSC Elective	4	_____
	ENG 101	Beginning Composition	3	_____	ENG 201	Advanced Composition	3	_____
	_____	Core I Critical Thinking	3	_____	CHM 327	Intro Organic Chemistry or Organic or 355 Chemistry I	3	_____
	TOTAL HOURS			15-16	TOTAL HOURS			16-17
	Summer Term (optional):							

YEAR THREE	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
	BSC 3__	BSC Core Course	3-4	_____	BSC 3__	BSC Core Course	3-4	_____
	_____	BSC Elective	3-4	_____	_____	Technical Elective (CHM 356 Recommended)	3	_____
	_____	BSC Elective (BSC 417 Recommended)	3	_____	_____	Technical Elective (CHM361 Recommended)	3	_____
	CMM 103	Fund Speech-Communication	3	_____	_____	Core II Humanities	3	_____
	_____	Core I Critical Thinking	3	_____	_____	BSC Elective	4	_____
	TOTAL HOURS			15-17	TOTAL HOURS			16-17
	Summer Term (optional):							

YEAR FOUR	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
	_____	BSC Elective	3	_____	BSC 491	Capstone	2	_____
	PHY 201	College Physics I	3	_____	_____	Writing Intensive	3	_____
	PHY 202	College Physics I Lab	1	_____	_____	BSC Elective	3	_____
	_____	Writing Intensive	3	_____	_____	Free Elective (PHY 203/204 recommended)	4	_____
	_____	BSC Elective	3	_____	_____	Technical Elective	3	_____
	_____	Technical Elective	3	_____				
	TOTAL HOURS			16	TOTAL HOURS			15
	Summer Term (optional):							

● General Education Requirement ■ College Requirement ◆ Major Requirement ● Area of Emphasis

Milestone Course: This is a key success marker for your major. See your advisor to discuss the importance of this course in your plan of study.

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INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Student Government Association
- Campus Activity Board
- JMELI
- Commuter Student Advisory Board
- Club Sports
- Religious Organizations
- Political Organizations
- Residence Hall Association
- Cultural Organizations
- National Society of Leadership and Success

RELATED MAJORS

- Biomechanics
- Athletic Training
- Education
- Geology
- Geography
- Environmental Science

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Have a minimum of 120 credit hours (some colleges or majors require more);
- Have an overall and Marshall Grade Point Average of 2.00 or higher;
- Have an overall Grade Point Average of 2.00 or higher in the major area of study;
- Have earned a grade of C or better in English 201 or 201 H;
- Have met all major(s) and college requirements;
- Have met the requirements of the Core Curriculum;
- Have met the residence requirements of Marshall University, including 12 hours of 300/400 level coursework in the student's college (see section entitled "Residence Requirements" in the undergraduate catalogue);
- Be enrolled at Marshall at least one semester of the senior year;
- Have transferred no more than 72 credit hours from an accredited West Virginia two-year institution of higher education.

Colleges and specific programs may have unique requirements that are more stringent than those noted above. Students are responsible for staying informed about and ensuring that they meet the requirements for graduation.

This academic map is to be used as a guide in planning your coursework toward a degree. Due to the complexities of degree programs, it is unfortunate but inevitable that an error may occur in the creation of this document. The official source of degree requirements at Marshall University is DegreeWorks available in your myMU portal. Always consult regularly with your advisor.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES – 2024-2025

YEAR ONE



Have questions? Need to talk? You already have a Friend-At-Marshall ready to help you succeed. Find your FAM Peer Mentor here: www.marshall.edu/fam



Stay on the Herd Path and come to class! Class attendance is more important to your success than your high school GPA, your class standing, or your ACT/SAT scores.



Develop relationships with professors who can serve as future references by attending their office hours.



Talk with your professors to enhance your study skills and build your critical thinking abilities.



Take a pulse check. Know what you need to do every year to keep your grants, scholarships, or federal financial aid.



In order to graduate on time, you need to take an average of 15 credits per semester. Are you on track? Take 15 to Finish.



Take an elective course that links diversity to your field of study.

YEAR THREE



Think about who can help you grow as a student and a professional (professors, advisors, alumni, etc) and ask at least one to be your mentor.



Complete admissions exams (GRE, MCAT, PCAT, LSAT, etc) the summer before your senior year.



Are you on track to graduate? Meet with your advisor for your Junior Eval to make sure you know what requirements you have left.



College is a great time to experience the world! Consider studying abroad in the summer, during Spring Break, or for an entire semester.



Make sure that you stand out. If you are entering a competitive field, ensure that you can highlight challenging courses and experiences.



Does admission to your chosen graduate or professional school require career shadowing? Start looking for opportunities now.



Want to continue your education and increase your opportunities? Talk to a faculty member about whether graduate school fits your career goals.

YEAR TWO



Are you completing enough credits to graduate on time? Dropping or failing a class can put you behind. Use summer terms to quickly get back on track.



No need to wait until graduate school. Discuss undergraduate research opportunities with faculty in your major right now.



Join or create a club or organization related to your interests or career goals. Biology students are members of at least 20 different campus clubs.



Did you do really well in a hard course? Become a Tutor or a Supplemental Instructor.



Look ahead and be aware of what will be required to apply to graduate or professional schools, and be sure that you are on track.



Have you considered adding a minor? Think about personal areas of interest you'd like to explore or how you might enhance your major with a related skill set.



Start looking for volunteer experiences in fields related to your career choice or interest. Talk to professors about what makes a good opportunity.

YEAR FOUR



This is it! Are you on track to graduate? Meet with your advisor for your Senior Eval to see what requirements you have left.



Prepare to present at the CoS Research Expo in April.



Strengthen your resume and enhance your presentation skills. Present what you've learned at an academic conference off campus.



Make sure that you stand out. If you are entering a competitive field, ensure that you can highlight challenging courses and experiences.



Apply for a nationally competitive scholarship like Fulbright, Rhodes, or Gates Cambridge. Contact the Office of National Scholarships at Marshall.



Be at the top of your professional game! Prepare a final resume and practice your interview skills with a career coach in Career Education.

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS MAJOR

- Scientific Knowledge
- Communication Skills
- Ability to Work as Part of a Team
- Technology Literacy
- Adaptability

ASSOCIATED CAREERS

- Research and Development
- Grant Writing
- Quality Control
- Medicine
- Conservation
- Genetics
- Ecology
- Microbiology
- Food Science
- Information Management
- Data Analysis
- Education
- Technical Writing
- Lobbying
- Law
- Advocacy
- Pharmaceutical Sales
- Consulting
- Marketing



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