Bachelor of Science in Biology

Program Contact: Deborah Clark (Deborah.Clark@qu.edu) 203-582-8270

The Bachelor of Science in Biology program provides students with a biological, chemical and physical science foundation on which they can build a graduate degree in natural science or education, or it can be used to pursue advanced degrees in the fields of medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or other healthcare professions. Those choosing to end their formal education with the bachelor's degree will have a sufficient level of sophistication in biological science to assume a variety of positions with research institutions, governmental agencies or industry.

Students choose courses and follow a curriculum determined in consultation with their adviser.

A note about Advanced Placement equivalencies: Students who receive a score of 3 on the AP Biology Exam can receive credit for BIO 106 and BIO 107. BIO 106 and BIO 107 meet the needs of students in non-science areas and fulfill the UC Natural Sciences requirement. Students who receive a score of 4 on the AP Biology Exam can receive credit for BIO 101 and BIO 102; these courses also fulfill the UC Natural Sciences requirement. For students majoring in the natural sciences, we strongly encourage students to begin with BIO 150 and BIO 151, regardless of whether they receive credit for BIO 101 and BIO 102.

Graduation requirements: Majors in the Department of Biological Sciences must achieve an overall GPA of 2.00 and a science GPA of 2.25 for graduation. The science GPA is calculated from courses with prefixes of BIO, BMS, CHE, PHY and SCI. In addition, courses used to satisfy the Biological Science Core or Biology Elective Requirements must have a minimum grade of C.

Upon completion of the Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences, students will demonstrate:

1. Knowledge and Comprehension: Successful completion of the following objectives establishes that students have achieved an appropriate understanding of foundational biological concepts.
   - Apply critical thinking and the scientific method to community/world issues and decision-making.
   - Evaluate the quality and validity of scientific evidence.
   - Create an understanding of biology as a whole by integrating and synthesizing information from multiple biological subdisciplines.

2. Applications and Analysis: Successful completion of the following objectives demonstrates that students have the ability to apply foundational knowledge and analyze information/data to make meaning from it.
   - Demonstrate basic skills and an understanding of safety procedures in the field and/or laboratory.
   - Organize and interpret experimental data (from their own experiments and/or those in primary literature sources).
   - Design and perform well-controlled experiments.

3. Self and Society: Successful completion of the following objectives indicates that students successfully utilize biological knowledge to present and defend opinions in a variety of arenas.
   - Develop an in-depth understanding of the complexity of the natural world by understanding how a biologist thinks about complex systems.
   - Apply scientific methodology and knowledge of biological facts to real-world problems.

The Department of Biological Sciences is committed to supporting experiential learning, which enables students to apply their biology knowledge and expertise outside the classroom, explore possible career options, and make professional connections all while pursuing a custom-designed project or experience.

All Biology majors are required to complete an Experiential Learning course which may involve research, shadowing a professional, or pursuing an internship, volunteer, or service opportunity related to biology. Experiential Learning courses include BIO 385, “Explorations in Biology” and BIO 491-494, “Independent Research in Biological Sciences.”

   a. Independent Study cannot be used to satisfy departmental requirements other than Experiential Learning.
   b. Students may not exceed a total of 8 credits of Experiential Learning courses while completing their undergraduate work.

A list of the department faculty and their research interests is available online. More information about Experiential Learning in Biology is available on the CAS360 website. (https://cas360.qu.edu/)

Students majoring in biology must meet the following requirements for graduation. The minimum number of credits required for graduation is 120.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIO 150 &amp; 150L</td>
<td>General Biology for Majors and General Biology for Majors Laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 151 &amp; 151L</td>
<td>Molecular and Cell Biology and Genetics and Molecular and Cell Biology and Genetics Lab</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 252 &amp; 252L</td>
<td>Ecology and Biodiversity and Ecology and Biodiversity Laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 298</td>
<td>Research Methods in Biology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Biology Electives \(^1\)

Select a minimum of one course from each of the following categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Molecular and Cellular Electives (3-4 credits): (^1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 240</td>
<td>Cellular Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 282 &amp; 282L</td>
<td>Genetics and Genetics Lab</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIO 317 &amp; 317L</td>
<td>Developmental Biology and Developmental Biology Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 346 &amp; 346L</td>
<td>Cell Physiology and Cell Physiology Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 365</td>
<td>Cancer Biology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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**Organismal Electives (3-4 credits)**
- BIO 215 Environmental Biotechnology
- BIO 300 Special Topics
- BIO 323 Invertebrate Zoology & 323L Invertebrate Zoology Lab
- BIO 324 Vertebrate Zoology & 324L Vertebrate Zoology Lab
- BIO 328 Human Clinical Parasitology & 328L Human Clinical Parasitology Lab
- BIO 352 Botany & 352L Botany Lab
- BIO 358 Conservation Biology & 358L Conservation Biology Lab
- BIO 375 Physiological Models for Human Disease & 375L Physiological Models for Human Disease Lab
- BIO 383 Evolution

**Physiology Electives (3-4 credits):**
- BIO 211 Human Anatomy and Physiology I & 211L Human Anatomy and Physiology Lab I
- BIO 212 Human Anatomy and Physiology II & 212L Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab
- BIO 225 Physiological Diversity & 225L Physiological Diversity Lab
- BIO 329 Neurobiology
- BIO 350 Cardiovascular Physiology

**Experiential Learning (1-4 credits):**
- BIO 385 Explorations in Biology
- BIO 491 Independent Research in Biological Science
- BIO 492 Independent Research in Biological Sciences
- BIO 493 Independent Research in Biological Sciences
- BIO 494 Independent Research in Biological Sciences

**Physical Science Core Requirements**
- CHE 110 General Chemistry I & 110L General Chemistry I Lab
- CHE 111 General Chemistry II & 111L General Chemistry II Lab
- CHE 210 Organic Chemistry I & 210L Organic Chemistry I Lab
- CHE 211 Organic Chemistry II & 211L Organic Chemistry II Lab
- PHY 110 General Physics I & 110L General Physics I Lab
- PHY 111 General Physics II & 111L General Physics II Lab

**Modern Language Requirement**

**University Curriculum**

**Open Electives**

**Total Credits**

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1. **Biology Electives**: Some biology courses have no laboratory component and are 3-credit rather than 4-credit courses. Co-requisite courses must be taken simultaneously.

2. **College of Arts and Sciences Modern Language Requirement**: All CAS students (both bachelor of science and bachelor of arts) must complete one modern language through the 102 level. Modern language courses may also count toward the UC Personal Inquiry II requirement. Students who have taken a language in high school should take the modern language placement test for that language. Students with placement scores at the 201 level or higher have demonstrated language competency and thus have passed out of the language requirement.

3. **University Curriculum Requirement**: All students must complete the 46 credits of the University Curriculum (https://catalog.qu.edu/academics/university-curriculum/). A minimum of MA 141 is required for the Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. The following courses taken for the Biology major double count as UC requirements: BIO 150 & 150L, BIO 151 and 151L, CHE 110 & 110L, CHE 111 & 111L, and PHY 110 & 110L.

4. **Open Electives**: Students take open electives for a total of 120 credits required for the Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. Many students pursue other interests by selecting electives in fulfillment of a minor or making plans to study abroad.

Shown below is one of many possible paths through the curriculum. Individual planning will vary based on a number of factors (e.g., Advanced Placement and/or transfer credits); each student's individual academic plan is crafted in consultation with their academic adviser.

A minimum of 120 credits is required for the Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

**Code**

**Title**

**Credits**

**First Year**

**Milestones**: Earn 30 credits and a GPA of 2.00 or higher, and meet with your adviser at least once a semester.

**Fall Semester**
- BIO 150 General Biology for Majors & 150L General Biology for Majors Laboratory
- CHE 110 General Chemistry I & 110L General Chemistry I Lab
- EN 101 Introduction to Academic Reading and Writing
- FYS 101 First-Year Seminar
- Open Electives

**Spring Semester**
- BIO 151 Molecular and Cell Biology and Genetics & 151L Molecular and Cell Biology and Genetics Lab
Open Elective

Open Elective

Open Elective

Open Elective

Biology Elective

Fall Semester

and prepare for graduation.

Milestones: Earn 120 credits and a GPA of 2.00 or higher. Complete possible minor or double major and General Chemistry II Lab

EN 102 Academic Writing and Research

MA 140 Pre-Calculus  

Open Electives

Second Year

Milestones: Earn 60 credits and a GPA of 2.00 or higher. Meet with your adviser at least once per semester to discuss academic, experiential learning, career and co-curricular opportunities.

Fall Semester

Biology Elective (Experiential Learning)

Open Elective

Open Elective

Open Electives

Total Credits

1 Initial placement in the English and mathematics courses is determined by placement exam and an evaluation of high school units presented. Students intending to pursue graduate or professional studies (medicine, dentistry, osteopathy or veterinary medicine) are advised to complete at least one semester of calculus. A minimum of MA 141 is required for the Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

2 Students may take either BIO 252 and BIO 252L or BIO 298 in either order or concurrently.

Honors in Biology

a. An overall GPA of 3.00 or better is required. A GPA of 3.50 in biology is required.

b. Students should announce in writing their intention to pursue honors in biology to both the department chair and academic adviser, no later than May 1 in the spring term of their junior year.

c. Departmental honors students are required to take BIO 399H (Honors Research in Biological Sciences) or another biology course at the 200 level or higher with permission of the Department Chair.

d. Students are each responsible for obtaining a sponsor for their senior research project prior to May 1 of their junior year.

e. Successful completion of a senior research project is required. The project must include:

i. A written proposal;

ii. The actual completion of an approved research project under the supervision and sponsorship of a full-time faculty member in the Department of Biological Sciences;

iii. The presentation of the outcome of the research project in the written format approved by the department;

iv. A seminar presentation of the outcome of the research project.

e. Evidence of excellence in speaking and writing skills, documented by term papers, written work, oral presentations and grades, as determined by the committee.

g. The actual granting of honors in biology is determined by all full-time faculty in the Department of Biological Sciences.

A list of the department faculty and their research interests is available on the CAS360 website. (https://cas360.qu.edu/)

National Biological Honors Societies

Beta Beta Beta National Biological Honor Society (Upsilon Chapter)

The Beta Beta Beta (TriBeta) Biological Sciences Honor Society is a national honor society for students, particularly undergraduates, dedicated to improving the understanding and appreciation of biological study and extending boundaries of human knowledge through scientific research. Since its founding in 1922, more than 200,000 persons have been accepted into the lifetime membership, and more than 626 chapters have been established throughout the

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Undergraduate biology students are invited to become members after the completion of three semesters, in which they have maintained a B average in biology courses and all other courses. An award is given to the graduating senior in the Department of Biological Sciences who is a member of Beta Beta Beta National Honor Society and who has attained the highest academic standing.

Phi Sigma

The Phi Sigma Biological Sciences Honor Society is a national honor society that promotes research and academic excellence in the biological sciences. Undergraduate students are invited to become members if they have achieved junior status, are in the top 30 percent of their class and are actively engaged in, or have participated in, research at Quinnipiac University under the direct supervision of a Quinnipiac faculty member in an area related to the biological sciences.

Listing of all University Honors Societies and Awards (https://catalog.qu.edu/academic-awards-honor-societies/#honorsocieties)

Pre-Medical Studies Program

Students majoring in Health Science Studies, Biology, Biomedical Sciences or the pre-health track of Behavioral Neuroscience may fully participate in the pre-medical studies program. The curriculum in this degree program can fulfill the science prerequisites for most professional schools. Students should refer to Pre-Medical Studies (http://catalog.qu.edu/academics/premedical-studies/) for more information about the pre-medical studies program and contact the Health Professions Advisory Committee for further academic advising.

Seamless Transfer Agreement with Gateway Community College (GCC), Housatonic Community College (HCC) and Norwalk Community College (NCC)

Under this Transfer Agreement, GCC, HCC and NCC graduates will be guaranteed admission into a bachelor’s degree program with third year (junior) status at Quinnipiac University on the condition that they:

- Graduate with an associate in arts, an associate in science in business, College of Technology engineering science, nursing or an allied health degree with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (this may be higher in specific programs).
- Satisfy all other Quinnipiac University transfer admission requirements and requirements for intended major.

Quinnipiac University agrees to accept the general education embedded in these associate degree programs in accordance with Quinnipiac preferred choices for general education as meeting all the requirements of its undergraduate general education except for the Integrative Capstone Experience and where courses are encumbered by the major (e.g., General Chemistry for the Disciplinary Inquiry Natural Science requirement for a Biochemistry major).

Suggested Transfer Curriculum for BS in Biology

A minimum of 60 credits is required for transfer into the BS in Biology program. Below is a sample plan of study for the first two years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Year</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall Semester</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>English I</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Biology I with Lab</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Chemistry I with Lab</td>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math - Pre-Calculus</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring Semester</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>English II</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Biology II with Lab</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Chemistry II with Lab</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math - Calculus</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
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<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Second Year</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall Semester</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anatomy &amp; Physiology I with Lab or Genetics with Lab</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Physics I with Lab or Organic Chemistry I with Lab</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
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<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Spring Semester</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anatomy &amp; Physiology I or II with Lab or Genetics with Lab</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Physics II with Lab or Organic Chemistry II with Lab</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
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<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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<td>60</td>
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Admission Requirements: College of Arts and Sciences

The requirements for admission into the undergraduate College of Arts and Sciences programs are the same as those for admission to Quinnipiac University.

Admission to the university is competitive, and applicants are expected to present a strong college prep program in high school. Prospective first-year students are strongly encouraged to file an application as early as possible, and arrange to have first quarter grades sent from their high school counselor as soon as they are available.

For detailed admission requirements, including required documents, please visit the Admissions (http://catalog.qu.edu/general-information/admissions/) page of this catalog.