Bachelor of Science in Biology

Why study biology?
Study biology because undergraduates should have the opportunity to explore the breadth of biology that allows them to succeed in their chosen paths beyond the university.

Undergraduate Admission

Admission to KU
All students applying for admission must send high school and college transcripts to the Office of Admissions. Unless they are college transfer students with at least 24 hours of credit, prospective students must send ACT or SAT scores to the Office of Admissions. Prospective first-year students should be aware that KU has qualified admission requirements that all new first-year students must meet to be admitted. Consult the Office of Admissions (http://admissions.ku.edu) for application deadlines and specific admission requirements.

Visit the Office of International Student and Scholar Services (http://www.iss.ku.edu) for information about international admissions.

Students considering transferring to KU may see how their college-level course work will transfer on the Office of Admissions (http://credittransfer.ku.edu) website.

Admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Admission to the College is a different process from admission to a major field. Some CLAS departments have admission requirements. See individual department/program sections for departmental admission requirements.

First- and Second-Year Preparation
Because biology study requires preparation in other sciences, students should begin meeting major requirements in the first year. It is particularly important to take CHEM 130 and CHEM 135 in the first year and, for several majors, to take CHEM 330, CHEM 331, CHEM 335, and CHEM 336 in the second year. Ideally, most majors should also take BIOL 150 and BIOL 152 during the first year, as well as BIOL 105. Students who have taken BIOL 100 and BIOL 102, have earned an A or B in both courses, and have decided to major in a biological science should consult a UBP advisor to request permission to substitute BIOL 100 and BIOL 102 for BIOL 150.

Majors and Concentrations
Bachelor's degree requirements in biology are modified as necessary. Current requirements are available in the UBP office and online (http://www.kuub.ku.edu). Major programs are offered in biochemistry, biology, human biology, and microbiology. Students may choose to concentrate in a range of specialties in the biological sciences, such as botany, cellular biology, developmental biology, environmental biology, ecology, entomology, genetics, marine biology, molecular biology, neurobiology, paleontology, physiology, systematics, or zoology (invertebrate or vertebrate).

Requirements for the B.S. Degree in Biology

General Education Requirements
In addition to degree and major requirements for all plans and subplans, all students must complete the KU Core.

Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology

General Science Requirements (29-32)
Majors must complete the following general science requirements that serve as foundational courses for this major.

- Biology Orientation Seminar. Satisfied by:
  - BIOL 105 Biology Orientation Seminar 1

- Chemistry I. Satisfied by one of the following:
  - CHEM 130 General Chemistry I 5
  - CHEM 190 Foundations of Chemistry I, Honors

- Chemistry II. Satisfied by one of the following:
  - CHEM 135 General Chemistry II 5
  - CHEM 195 Foundations of Chemistry II, Honors

- Organic Chemistry I. Satisfied by one of the following:
  - CHEM 310 Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry 3
  - CHEM 330 Organic Chemistry I
  - CHEM 380 Organic Chemistry I, Honors

- Introductory Biochemistry. Satisfied by:
  - BIOL 600 Introductory Biochemistry, Lectures 3

- Calculus. Satisfied by one of the following:
  - MATH 115 Calculus I & MATH 116 Calculus II 4-6
  - MATH 125 Calculus I
  - MATH 145 Calculus I, Honors

- Physics I. Satisfied by one of the following:
  - PHSX 114 College Physics I 4-5
  - PHSX 211 General Physics I & PHSX 216 and General Physics I Laboratory
  - PHSX 213 General Physics I Honors

- Physics II. Satisfied by one of the following:
  - PHSX 115 College Physics II
  - PHSX 212 General Physics II & PHSX 236 and General Physics II Laboratory
  - PHSX 214 General Physics II Honors

Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology Requirements (30)
Satisfied by completing 30 hours from courses below. These additional science courses are included in the Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology major hours and GPA calculations.

- Principles of Molecular & Cellular Biology. Satisfied by one of the following:
  - BIOL 150 Principles of Molecular and Cellular Biology 4
  - BIOL 151 Principles of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Honors

- Principles of Organismal Biology. Satisfied by one of the following:
  - BIOL 152 Principles of Organismal Biology 4
  - BIOL 153 Principles of Organismal Biology, Honors
Principles of Genetics. Satisfied by one of the following: 4
- BIOL 350 Principles of Genetics
- BIOL 360 Principles of Genetics, Honors

Physiology of Organisms. Satisfied by: 3
- BIOL 408 Physiology of Organisms

Evolutionary Biology. Satisfied by: 4
- BIOL 412 Evolutionary Biology
- BIOL 414 Principles of Ecology
- BIOL 514 Principles of Ecology, Honors

History & Diversity of Organisms / Systematics. Satisfied by one of the following: 3
- BIOL 413 History and Diversity of Organisms
- BIOL 428 Introduction to Systematics

Introduction to Biostatistics. Satisfied by: 4
- BIOL 570 Introduction to Biostatistics

Senior Seminar in EEOB. Satisfied by: 1
- BIOL 599 Senior Seminar: _____ (in EEOB. Must be taken in senior year.)

Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology Required Electives, Laboratory, and Seminar (18)
Satisfied by completing 18 hours of BIOL courses numbered 400 or higher, including at least 4 hrs of lab credit and 2 hrs of seminar/topics course (BIOL 419, BIOL 420, BIOL 499, BIOL 701). No more than 5 hrs of BIOL 423 Non-Lab Independent Study and/or BIOL 424 Independent Study (combined) can be applied to the elective requirement, with no more than 2 hrs of BIOL 424 being applied to the laboratory requirement. The Undergraduate Biology Program must approve exceptions to these elective requirements.

Laboratory. Satisfied by completing at least 4 hrs of laboratory courses. No more than 2 hrs of BIOL 424 can count toward lab requirement.

Seminar. Satisfied by completing at least 2 hrs of the following seminar or topics course:
- BIOL 419 Topics in: _____
- BIOL 420 Seminar: _____
- BIOL 499 Introduction to Honors Research
- BIOL 701 Topics in: _____

Major Hours & Major GPA
While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Major Hours
Satisfied by 48 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence
Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Hours
Satisfied by a minimum of 12 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Graduation GPA
Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa).

Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

General Science Requirements (34-38)
Majors must complete the following general science requirements that serve as foundational courses for this major.

Biology Orientation Seminar. Satisfied by: 1
- BIOL 105 Biology Orientation Seminar

Chemistry I. Satisfied by one of the following: 5
- CHEM 130 General Chemistry I
- CHEM 190 Foundations of Chemistry I, Honors

Chemistry II. Satisfied by one of the following: 5
- CHEM 135 General Chemistry II
- CHEM 195 Foundations of Chemistry II, Honors

Organic Chemistry I. Satisfied by one of the following: 3
- CHEM 330 Organic Chemistry I
- CHEM 380 Organic Chemistry I, Honors

Organic Chemistry I Laboratory. Satisfied by: 2
- CHEM 331 Organic Chemistry I Laboratory

Organic Chemistry II. Satisfied by one of the following: 3
- CHEM 335 Organic Chemistry II
- CHEM 385 Organic Chemistry II, Honors

Calculus. Satisfied by one of the following: 4-6
- MATH 115 Calculus I
- MATH 116 Calculus II
- MATH 125 Calculus I, Honors
- MATH 145 Calculus I, Honors

Statistics. Satisfied by one of the following: 3-4
- BIOL 570 Introduction to Biostatistics
- MATH 365 Elementary Statistics
- PSYC 210 Statistics in Psychological Research

Physics I. Satisfied by one of the following: 4-5
- PHSX 114 College Physics I
- PHSX 211 General Physics I & PHSX 216 and General Physics I Laboratory
- PHSX 213 General Physics I Honors

Physics II. Satisfied by one of the following: 4
- PHSX 115 College Physics II
- PHSX 212 General Physics II & PHSX 236 and General Physics II Laboratory
- PHSX 214 General Physics II Honors

Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology Requirements (34-35)
Satisfied by completing courses below. These additional science courses are included in the MCDB major hours and GPA calculations.

Principles of Molecular & Cellular Biology. Satisfied by one of the following: 4
- BIOL 150 Principles of Molecular and Cellular Biology
- BIOL 151 Principles of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Honors

Principles of Organismal Biology. Satisfied by one of the following: 4
Departmental Honors

Undergraduate majors are eligible to graduate with honors in biology if they fulfill the following requirements:

1. Complete all course work required for the appropriate degree in biology.
2. Achieve a minimum grade-point average of 3.25 overall and 3.5 in the major.
3. Complete BIOL 499 Introduction to Honors Research with a grade of B or higher.
4. Complete BIOL 699 Biology Honors Research Colloquium with a grade of B or higher.
5. Complete an independent research project under the supervision of a faculty member in an area appropriate to the degree sought.
6. Submit an honors thesis to the honors committee once the research is complete and present the results of the completed research at the honors research symposium.

Students majoring in Human Biology with Anthropology, Applied Behavioral Science, Psychology, or Speech-Language-Hearing concentrations will follow the honors requirements for their respective concentration department.

Specific guidelines and intent forms are available in the Undergraduate Biology Program office and online (http://www.kuub.ku.edu). Candidates must declare their intent to graduate with honors at least 2 semesters before graduation.

Study Abroad

Consult an advisor at least 4 months before undertaking study abroad. Consult the Office of Study Abroad (http://www.studyabroad.ku.edu), 108 Lippincott Hall, for information about study in one of the many countries (e.g., Scotland, Australia, Switzerland) with special arrangements with KU.