Bachelor of Arts in Microbiology

Microbiology
Microbiology is the study of bacteria, viruses, the immune system, and their roles in human health, the environment and beyond. Job prospects for microbiologists with a bachelor's or higher degree continue to be strong. Upper-division courses in immunology, bacterial infectious diseases, virology, and microbial genetics couple laboratory courses with lecture courses to provide students with hands-on practical experience. The B.A. Microbiology major includes a choice of three upper-division lecture and laboratory course pairs.

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.

Requirements for the B.A. Major in Microbiology
In addition to degree and major requirements for all plans and subplans, all students must complete the KU Core.
Satisfied by completing 15 hours of microbiology courses, including 3 lecture-lab pairings, selected from the following:

- BIOL 503: Immunology
- BIOL 504: Immunology Laboratory
- BIOL 506: Bacterial Infectious Diseases
- BIOL 507: Bacterial Infectious Diseases Laboratory
- BIOL 512: General Virology
- BIOL 513: Virology Laboratory
- BIOL 518: Microbial Genetics
- BIOL 519: Microbial Genetics Laboratory

Microbiology Elective (3)
Satisfied by completing 3 additional hours of BIOL courses numbered 300 or higher; to be selected in consultation with a microbiology advisor.

**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 24-25 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).

Below is a sample 4-year plan for students pursuing the BA in Microbiology. To view the list of courses approved to fulfill KU Core Goals, please visit the KU Core website (http://kucore.ku.edu/courses).

This degree plan assumes students will have the equivalent of MATH 101 or MATH 104, or equivalent prior to the freshman year, fall semester.

### Freshman

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 101 (Goal 2.1 (2 crs req), BA Writing I)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGL 102 (Goal 1.2 (2 crs req), BA Writing II)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 115 (Goal 1.2 Quantitative Reasoning, BA Quant Req, General Science Req)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MATH 116 (General Science Requirement)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 130 (Goal 3 Natural Science, General Science Requirement)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CHEM 135 (General Science Requirement)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 150 or 151 (BA Lab Science, General Science Requirement)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>COMS 130 (Goal 2.2 Communication)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 105 (General Science Requirement)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective (Total Hours)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 16

### Sophomore

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Semester Language (BA Second Language)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2nd Semester Language (BA Second Language)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 400 or 401 (Major Requirement)</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>Goal 3 Social Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 402 (Major Requirement)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>BIOL 350 (General Science Requirement)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 310 or 330 (General Science Requirement)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PHSX 114 or PHSX 211 &amp; 216 (Goal 1.1 Critical Thinking, General Science Requirement)</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 331 (General Science Requirement)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 15-16

### Junior

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd Semester Language (BA Second Language)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4th Semester Language, or 1st semester of Another Language (BA Second Language)</td>
<td>3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 4.1 U.S. Diversity</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>BIOL 600 (General Science Requirement)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHSX 115 (or PHSX 212 &amp; 236 (General Science Requirement))</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Microbiology Elective 400+ (Major Requirement)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology Elective 400+ (Major Requirement)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Microbiology Lab Elective 400+ (Major Requirement)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology Lab Elective 400+ (Major Requirement)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Elective or possible minor course 300+ (Total Hours)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 15

### Senior

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goal 4.2 Global Awareness</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Goal 3 Humanities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology Elective 400+ (Major Requirement)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Goal 5 Social Responsibility &amp; Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology Lab Elective 400+ (Major Requirement)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>BIOL 599 (Major Requirement, Goal 6)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL Elective 400+ (Major Requirement)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective or possible minor course 300+ (Total Hours)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective or possible minor course (Total Hours)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective or possible minor course 300+ (Total Hours)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 14

### Total Hours

Total: 120-124

1. The BA requires completion of two courses of collegiate-level writing instruction. Students who test out of Composition will still need to complete ENGL 102 (or equivalent) and one additional Goal 2.1 course.

2. Requires a Math ACT score of 26+, a comparable SAT or KU Math Placement Exam score, or credit for a MATH 101 or MATH 104 equivalent course. MATH 125 can be taken instead of MATH 115 and MATH 116 to fulfill the Math requirement.

3. MATH 115 eligibility is required for enrollment.
Concurrent or prior enrollment in CHEM 130 is required. CHEM 135 and BIOL 506, BIOL 507, BIOL 512, and BIOL 513 are offered only in the spring.

BIO 400/BIO 401, BIO 402, BIO 503, BIO 504, BIO 518, and BIO 519 are offered only in the fall.

Most medical schools require the full CHEM 330, CHEM 331, CHEM 335, and CHEM 336 sequence.

15 hours of Microbiology courses, including 3 lecture-lab pairings, selected from BIOL 503, BIOL 504, BIOL 506, BIOL 507, BIOL 512, BIOL 513, BIOL 518, and BIOL 519.

3 hours of BIOL course(s) 400+ selected in consultation with a Microbiology advisor.

BIOL 599 is approved to fulfill Goal 6. This goal can also be fulfilled by completion of an approved educational experience, or an approved integration of courses and/or experiences. See your advisor for more information.

Visit this website (https://collegeadvising.ku.edu/sites/collegeadvising.ku.edu/files/docs/BA.QuantitytiveReasoning.pdf) for a list of courses that fulfill the BA Quantitative Reasoning requirement.

* BIOL 105: Biology Orientation Seminar (1 hour online course) is required for the major. It can be taken the summer prior to your freshman year.

Please note:

All students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are required to completed 120 total hours of which 45 hours must be at the Jr/Sr (300+) level.

The same course cannot be used to fulfill more than one KU Core Goal. However, overlap of a KU Core course with a major or degree-specific requirement is allowed. Overlapping is recommended to allow more opportunities to explore other majors and/or minors.

**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.