

## Biology

*“Welcome to UMW! We are so glad you are joining us in the Biological Sciences Department. Our top priorities are high quality instruction with personal attention. As members of our program, you’ll not only learn biology, but you’ll be immersed in the scientific process. In addition to our courses, we offer research*



*opportunities, international field trips, student groups, and the Biology Honors program. UMW biology graduates become doctors, physical therapists, wildlife managers, forensic scientists, biotechnologists or take many other career paths. We are looking forward to getting to know you and helping you off to a strong start!”*

*Dr. Lynn Lewis, chair*

### Department of Biological Sciences

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New students considering a major in biology should first complete **BOTH BIOL 121-132 (or BIOL 125-126) and CHEM 111-112**. Both of these year-long sequences (BIOL and CHEM) are prerequisites for Introduction to Ecology & Evolution (BIOL 210), The Research Process (BIOL 260), Cellular Biology (BIOL 340), and General Genetics (BIOL 341). These four latter courses should be taken in the sophomore year because they serve as prerequisites (in some combination) for most other upper-level biology courses. **BIOL 121 and BIOL 125** are offered in the Fall semester only and **BIOL 132 and BIOL 126** are offered in the Spring semester only. **BIOL 121-132 and CHEM 111-112** are also offered during the summer. Students must earn a C- or better in biology and chemistry courses which serve as prerequisites for other biology courses. **Therefore, students cannot complete the biology major unless they earn a C- or better in ALL of the following courses: CHEM 111, 112; BIOL 121, 132 (or BIOL 125,126), 210, 260, 340, and 341.** Please visit the [Guide to the Biology Major](#) for more information including our individual research and Honors in Biology programs.

Read more at the [Biology major section](#) of the [Undergraduate Academic Catalog](#).

Below please find some examples of first semester schedules for a biology major. A first semester schedule can be constructed in many different ways; these examples are intended to show you some different scheduling possibilities.

Example 1:

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Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. BIOL 121 - Biology Concepts with Lab (4)	Major Prerequisite, NS
2. CHEM 111 - General Chemistry I with Lab (4)	Major Prerequisite
3. GEOG 101 - World Regional Geography (3)	GI
4. LATN 101** - Elementary Latin (3)	Language
5. FSEM 100C3 - Imagining Africa (3)	FSEM

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Example 2:

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Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. BIOL 121 - Biology Concepts with Lab (4)	Major Prerequisite, NS
2. CHEM 111 - General Chemistry I with Lab (4)	Major Prerequisite
3. FSEM 100D5 - Scientific Controversies Media (3)	FSEM
4. MATH 121** - Calculus I (3)	QR

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Example 3: Athletes for varsity sports must register for the 400-level course of the sport. Practice times for varsity sports can vary, but generally speaking, athletes should allow for enough time to get to and from practice on weekdays from 3 - 6 p.m. Please check with the individual coach for your sport to verify specific practice times each semester.

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Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. BIOL 121 - Biology Concepts with Lab (4)	Major Prerequisite, NS
2. CHEM 111 - General Chemistry I with Lab (4)	Major Prerequisite
3. GREK 101 - Elementary Greek (3)	Language
4. ANTH 101 - Anthropology (3)	GI or HES
5. PHYD 407 - Intercollegiate Cross Country Women (1)	Elective

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*\*\*This particular course is in a discipline that allows students with demonstrated competence upon admission to UMW (such as AP/IB credit, dual enrollment, etc.) to begin courses at a higher level. Talk to your Student Success Coordinator if you believe you should start at a higher level.*