

## Biology Major (BS)

Total Major hours: 50 Suggested hours per semester: 16-18
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### Major Academic Plan (MAP) for Catalog Year 2026-2027

The College Catalog is the final authority on course requirements for graduation. This MAP is only a tool for course planning purposes. Course sequencing may vary from this MAP; students are strongly encouraged to seek guidance from their faculty advisor regarding their course schedule and possible studies off campus.

<p><b>Fall Semester 1</b></p> <p>BIOL 241 Organization of Life<sup>F,1</sup> CHEM 231 General Chemistry<sup>F,2</sup></p> <p>CORE 101: First Year Seminar CORE 131: Holistic Human Flourishing (1)</p> <p>Core Competency Course(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ COMM 101: Oral Comm (2)</li> <li>▪ ENGW 103: First-Year Writing</li> <li>▪ Language</li> </ul>	<p><b>Spring Semester 1</b></p> <p>BIOL 242 Diversity of Life<sup>S</sup> (or Summer in the Black Hills) CHEM 232 General Chemistry II<sup>*S</sup></p> <p>Core Competency Course(s)</p> <p>BITH 211/ARCH 211: Old Testament</p>	<p><b>Summer 1</b></p> <p>BIOL 242 in the Black Hills (optional)</p> <p>Consider study abroad (e.g. Wheaton-In programs), internship, or research options</p>
<p><b>Fall Semester 2</b></p> <p>BHS 252 Intro to Biological &amp; Health Science Research<sup>*5,7</sup></p> <p>Core Competency Course(s) BITH 213/ARCH 213: New Testament</p>	<p><b>Spring Semester 2</b></p> <p>BIOL cluster 1, 2, or 3<sup>4</sup></p> <p>Thematic Core Course(s) BITH 315: Christian Thought*</p>	<p><b>Summer 2</b></p> <p>Consider study abroad (e.g. Wheaton-In programs), internship, or research options</p>
<p><b>Fall Semester 3</b></p> <p>BIOL cluster 1, 2, 3<sup>4</sup> BIOL 356 Genetics<sup>*F</sup></p> <p>Advanced Integrative Seminar* Thematic Core Course(s)</p>	<p><b>Spring Semester 3</b></p> <p>Major Elective(s)<sup>3</sup> BIOL cluster 1, 2, or 3<sup>4</sup></p> <p>Thematic Core Course(s)</p>	<p><b>Summer 3</b></p> <p>Consider study abroad (e.g. Wheaton-In programs), internship, or research options</p>
<p><b>Fall Semester 4</b></p> <p>BHS 494 Integrated Biological &amp; Health Scientist (2)<sup>*5,6</sup> Major Elective(s)<sup>3</sup></p> <p>Thematic Core Course(s)</p>	<p><b>Spring Semester 4</b></p> <p>Major Elective(s)<sup>3</sup></p> <p>Thematic Core Course(s)</p>	<p><b>Summer 4</b></p>

#### Notes or Special Guidance:

\*Course has prerequisite

<sup>F</sup> Fall only course

<sup>S</sup> Spring only course

<sup>#</sup> Offered every other year

<sup>1</sup> Meets a CATC Thematic Core tag: BIOL 241 (SP)

<sup>2</sup> Students may decide, with their advisor's guidance, to postpone beginning Chemistry requirements until their sophomore year.

<sup>3</sup> Major Electives: 12 credits. Students may take any additional 300- or 400- level Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (BMB), Biology (BIOL), Conservation and Ecological Health (CEH), Health Science (HS), or Neuroscience (NEUR) courses to fulfill their elective credit hours. Only 4 credits of 495-499 may be counted towards Elective credits.

<sup>4</sup> Take at least one course from each of the three biology clusters (see College Catalog).

<sup>5</sup> Course may be taken in Fall or Spring.

<sup>6</sup> Students can take BHS 494, BMB 494 or NEUR 494 to complete the capstone requirement.

<sup>7</sup> Highly recommended to take in the second year or later.

**Please review general information about MAPs to see how your path and suggested hours per semester may differ: <https://www.wheaton.edu/academics/services/academic-advising-office/major-academic-plans-maps/>**