Biology B.S.

Degree Requirements: 124 Credit Hours

See Core Curriculum for required courses in Area A1 through Area E.

General Requirements (Core A - E) 42
Area A2 -- Must take MATH 1112, MATH 1113 or MATH 1441
Area DII -- Must take MATH 1441 if not taken in Area A2 above

Additional Requirements 4

Area F - Courses Appropriate to Major

BIOL 1107 Principles of Biology I 3
BIOL 1108 Principles of Biology II 3
CHEM Principles of Chemistry I (if not taken in 1211K/1211/1211L Area D1) 4
CHEM Principles of Chemistry II (if not taken in 1212K/1212/1212L Area D1) 4

Students should complete a 1 year sequence in either Geology or Physics (second course will be counted under Major Specific Requirements), or an alternate course approved by advisor.

GEOL 1121 Introduction to the Earth
PHYS 1111K Introductory Physics I
PHYS 2211K Principles of Physics I

Additional Biology, Computer Science, Foreign, Math, Science Course (if needed)

Major Specific Requirements

Carry-over from MATH 1441 Calculus I in Area A or Area D2 1
BIOL 1107L Principles of Biology I Laboratory 1
BIOL 1108L Principles of Biology Laboratory II 1
CHEM 3401 Organic Chemistry I 4
CHEM 3402 Organic Chemistry II 4

Completion of Geology, Physics, or Advisor alternate course (may count if Area F, if needed)

GEOL 1122 General Historical Geology
PHYS 1112K Introductory Physics II
PHYS 2212K Principles of Physics II

Major Requirements

BIOL - Prerequisite Courses (required prior to any BIOL courses at the 4000 and 5000-level) 9
BIOL 3131 Physiology
BIOL 3133 Evolution and Ecology
BIOL 3134 Cell and Molecular Biology

BIOL-Required Courses

BIOL 4130 Genetics 3

BIOL - Elective Courses (Level 3000 and above) 23
BCHM 3200 or BCHM 5201 (may substitute for a BIOL Elective with Advisor approval.)

Three of the above courses must have a laboratory requirement (BIOL 4 credit hour courses or other dedicated laboratory course)

Department recommends that one of the above courses qualify as a "capstone" experience; see Dept. website for list of qualifying courses. A maximum of 7 credit hours of capstone courses can be applied to the B.S. with a Major in Biology degree.

Electives 10-18

Total Credit Hours 124

Other Program Requirements

• Students who wish to change their major to Biology must have a total institution GPA of 2.0 or better in all coursework completed at Georgia Southern
• Transfer students from other institutions who wish to major in Biology must have a GPA of 2.0 or better on all credit hours attempted at other institutions as well as those hours attempted at Georgia Southern.
• Students must earn a "C" or better for the pre-requisite biology courses BIOL 1107, BIOL 1107L, BIOL 1108, BIOL 1108L, BIOL 3131, BIOL 3133, BIOL 3134
• Students must have a combined average of "C" or better for all biology courses
• Students must successfully complete the Major Field Test as a departmental exit exam.

Honors in Biology

For students entering the University Honors Program as a freshman and seeking to complete the Departmental Honors in Biology, it is highly recommended that these freshmen complete:

Freshman/Sophomore Level Courses

BIOL 1107 Principles of Biology I 3
BIOL 1107L Principles of Biology I Laboratory 1
BIOL 1108 Principles of Biology II 3
BIOL 1108L Principles of Biology Laboratory II 1
CHEM 1211 Principles of Chemistry I 3
CHEM 1212 Principles of Chemistry II 3
FYE 1220 First-Year Seminar 2
MATH 1441 Calculus I 4

Required Biology Honors Courses

Sophomore/Junior Level Courses 5
BIOL 2320 Honors Research Methods Biology
Junior/Senior Level Courses 6
BIOL 4895 Honors Research
BIOL 4999 Honors Thesis

Recommended Biology Honors Courses


A student who does not enter the Departmental Honors in Biology Program as a freshman will be considered for admittance based on the following criteria:

• Freshman Year: Overall GPA of 3.3 or higher, if completed BIOL 1107 and BIOL 1108 must have a grade of "A" in both courses, or an "A" and a "B."
• Sophomore Year: Overall GPA of 3.3 or higher, including completion of BIOL 1107, BIOL 1108, and one intermediate prerequisite (BIOL 3131, BIOL 3133, or BIOL 3134) with a GPA of at least 3.3 in these classes.

Typically, students with 3 semesters or less to complete their degree are not eligible to enter the Departmental Honors in Biology Program.
After entering the Departmental Honors in Biology Program, students are required to complete the required biology honors courses and the capstone experience to earn Departmental Honors in Biology. Students also would be required to maintain a 3.3 overall GPA, including a GPA of 3.3 in courses supportive of the major.