

Biology, BS (Boston)

The BS Biology curriculum lays the groundwork for strong scientific training with basic course work in mathematics, chemistry, and physics, relevant to biology. Students explore the organization and processes of life across broad areas of the field, from molecules and cells through organs and organ systems to populations, ecosystems, and evolution. Students can select advanced electives to specialize in a subdiscipline of biology such as developmental biology, stem cell biology, microbiology, or physiology.

Program Requirements

Complete all courses listed below unless otherwise indicated. Also complete any corequisite labs, recitations, clinicals, or tools courses where specified and complete any additional courses needed beyond specific college and major requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

Universitywide Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the Universitywide Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/university-wide-requirements/>).

NUPath Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the NUPath Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/>).

Biology Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Introduction to College		
BIOL 1000 or INSC 1000	Biology at Northeastern Science at Northeastern	1
Experiential Learning Introduction		
EESC 2000	Professional Development for Co-op	1
Biology Core Courses		
BIOL 1107 and BIOL 1108	Foundations of Biology and Lab for BIOL 1107	5
BIOL 2299	Inquiries in Biological Sciences	4
BIOL 2301 and BIOL 2302	Genetics and Molecular Biology and Lab for BIOL 2301	5
BIOL 2309	Biology Project Lab	4
BIOL 3611 and BIOL 3612	Biochemistry and Lab for BIOL 3611	5

Biology Major Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Organismal and Evolutionary Biology		
Complete one of the following:		4-5
BIOL 2327	Human Parasitology	
BIOL 3401	Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy	
BIOL 3413	Current Topics in Organismal and Population Biology	
BIOL 5585	Evolution	
EEMB 2302 and EEMB 2303	Ecology and Lab for EEMB 2302	
EEMB 2400	Introduction to Evolution	
EEMB 2610	Plant Biology	
EEMB 2700 and EEMB 2701	Marine Biology and Lab for EEMB 2700	
EEMB 3460	Conservation Biology	
EEMB 3466	Disease Ecology	
EEMB 3600	Animal Behavior	
Intermediate and Advanced Biology		
Complete three additional 4- or 5-semester-hour courses from the following:		12-15
BIOL 2321 to BIOL 3999		

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BIOL 4705 to 4990

BIOL 5000 to BIOL 5999

EEMB 2290 to EEMB 5515

EEMB 5520 to EEMB 5535

EEMB 5548 to EEMB 5569

One of the three intermediate/advanced electives can be a research course:

BIOL 4970 Junior/Senior Honors Project 1

BIOL 4971 Junior/Senior Honors Project 2

BIOL 4991 Research

BIOL 4994 Internship

Biology Capstone

Code	Title	Hours
Please complete one of the following options to fulfill the capstone requirement:		1-4
BIOL 4701	Biology Capstone	
BIOL 4971	Junior/Senior Honors Project 2	
BIOL 4900	Biology Research Capstone (concurrent with BIOL 4991 or BIOL 4994, which may be used toward Intermediate/Advanced Elective)	

Supporting Courses

Code	Title	Hours
Mathematics		
MATH 1341	Calculus 1 for Science and Engineering	4
Statistics		
ENVR 2500 and ENVR 2501 and ENVR 2502	Biostatistics and Lab for ENVR 2500 and Recitation for ENVR 2500	5
Chemistry		
CHEM 1161 and CHEM 1162 and CHEM 1163	General Chemistry for Science Majors and Lab for CHEM 1161 and Recitation for CHEM 1161	5
CHEM 2311 and CHEM 2312	Organic Chemistry 1 and Lab for CHEM 2311	5
CHEM 2313 and CHEM 2314	Organic Chemistry 2 and Lab for CHEM 2313	5
Physics 1		
PHYS 1145 and PHYS 1146	Physics for Life Sciences 1 and Lab for PHYS 1145	
Physics 2		
PHYS 1147 and PHYS 1148	Physics for Life Sciences 2 and Lab for PHYS 1147	
Intermediate or Advanced Science		
Complete one course from the following:		4
BIOL 2301 to BIOL 5999		
CHEM 2311 to CHEM 5999		
EEMB 2290 to EEMB 5999		
ENVR 2310 to ENVR 5999		
MATH 2280 to MATH 5999		
PHYS 2303 to PHYS 5999		
PSYC 2290 to PSYC 5999		

Writing Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
ENGW 1111 or ENGW 1102	First-Year Writing First-Year Writing for Multilingual Writers	4

ENGW 3307	Advanced Writing in the Sciences	4
or ENGW 3315	Interdisciplinary Advanced Writing in the Disciplines	

Biology Major Credit/GPA Requirement

Complete 78 semester hours in the major. A minimum 2.000 GPA in the following course codes is required: BIOC, BIOL, BNSC, CHEM, EEMB, ENVR, MATH, PHYS, PSYC.

Due to overlap in course content, double majoring in biology and cell and molecular biology, biology and biochemistry, biology and behavioral neuroscience, or biology and marine biology is not permitted.

NUpath Requirements Satisfied

- Analyzing and Using Data
- Demonstrating Thought and Action in a Capstone
- Engaging with the Natural and Designed World
- Conducting Formal and Quantitative Reasoning
- Advanced Writing in the Discipline
- Writing in the First Year
- Writing-Intensive in the Major

Program Requirement

130 total semester hours required

Plan of Study

Sample Plans of Study

Please note that these are sample plans of study. While the requirements are the same for all students, individual schedules may vary. This sample plan of study also presumes selection of course options that carry corequisite labs and a 4 semester hours capstone option. Total program hours may be lower for students who choose other course options and/or other capstone options.

FOUR YEARS, TWO CO-OPS IN SUMMER SECOND HALF/FALL

Year 1							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
BIOL 1107		4 BIOL 2299		4 BIOL 2301		4 Vacation	
BIOL 1108		1 CHEM 2311		4 BIOL 2302		1	
CHEM 1161		4 CHEM 2312		1 Elective		4	
CHEM 1162		1 ENGW 1111		4			
INSC 1000		1 Elective		4			
MATH 1341		4					
Elective		4					
	19		17		9		0
Year 2							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
CHEM 2313		4 BIOL 2309		4 BIOL 3611		4 Co-op	0
CHEM 2314		1 EESC 2000		1 BIOL 3612		1	
ENVR 2500		4 PHYS 1145		4 Elective		4	
ENVR 2501		1 PHYS 1146		1			
Elective		4 Elective		4			
Elective		4 Elective		4			
	18		18		9		0
Year 3							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Co-op		0 PHYS 1147		4 Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective		4 Co-op	0
		PHYS 1148		1 Elective		4	
		Organismal/Evolutionary Bio Elective		4			
		Organismal/Evolutionary Biology laboratory		1			

		Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective	4				
		ENGW 3307	4				
	0		18		8		0
Year 4							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours				
Co-op	0	BIOL 4701	4				
		Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective	4				
		Intermediate/Advanced Science Elective	4				
		Elective	4				
	0		16				

Total Hours: 132

FOUR YEARS, TWO CO-OPS IN SPRING/SUMMER FIRST HALF

Year 1							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
AP Credit for Biology	5	BIOL 2301	4	BIOL 2309	4	Vacation	
BIOL 1000	1	BIOL 2302	1	Elective	4		
BIOL 2299	4	CHEM 2311	4				
CHEM 1161	4	CHEM 2312	1				
CHEM 1162	1	ENGW 1111	4				
MATH 1341	4	Elective	4				
Elective	4						
	23		18		8		0

Year 2							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
CHEM 2313	4	Co-op	0	Co-op	0	PHYS 1147	4
CHEM 2314	1					PHYS 1148	1
EESC 2000	1					Elective	4
ENVR 2500	4						
ENVR 2501	1						
PHYS 1145	4						
PHYS 1146	1						
	16		0		0		9

Year 3							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
BIOL 3611	4	Co-op	0	Co-op	0	Intermediate/Advanced Science Elective	4
BIOL 3612	1					Elective	4
ENGW 3307	4						
Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective	4						
Elective	4						
	17		0		0		8

Year 4							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours				
Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective	4	BIOL 4701	4				
Organismal/Evolutionary Bio Elective	4	Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective	4				
Organismal/Evolutionary Biology laboratory	1	Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective	4				

Elective	4	Elective	4
Elective	4		
	17		16

Total Hours: 132

FIVE YEARS, THREE CO-OPS IN SUMMER SECOND HALF/FALL

Year 1

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
BIOL 1000		1 BIOL 2299		4 BIOL 2301		4 Vacation	
BIOL 1107	4	CHEM 2311	4	BIOL 2302	1		
BIOL 1108	1	CHEM 2312	1	Elective	4		
CHEM 1161	4	ENGW 1111	4				
CHEM 1162	1	Elective	4				
MATH 1341	4						
Elective	4						
	19		17		9		0

Year 2

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
CHEM 2313	4	BIOL 2309	4	Vacation		Co-op	0
CHEM 2314	1	EESC 2000	1				
ENVR 2500	4	PHYS 1145	4				
ENVR 2501	1	PHYS 1146	1				
Elective	4	Elective	4				
Elective	4	Elective	4				
	18		18		0		0

Year 3

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Co-op	0	BIOL 3611	4	Vacation		Co-op	0
		BIOL 3612	1				
		ENGW 3307	4				
		PHYS 1147	4				
		PHYS 1148	1				
		Elective	4				
	0		18		0		0

Year 4

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Co-op	0	Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective	4	Vacation		Co-op	0
		Intermediate/Advanced Biology Laboratory	1				
		Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective	4				
		Intermediate/Advanced Biology Laboratory	1				
		Organismal/Evolutionary Bio Elective	4				
		Organismal/Evolutionary Bio Elective laboratory	1				
	0		15		0		0

Year 5

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Co-op	0	BIOL 4701	4
		Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective	4

Intermediate/Advanced Biology Laboratory	1	
Intermediate/Advanced Science Elective	4	
Elective	4	
0	17	

Total Hours: 131

FIVE YEARS, THREE CO-OPS IN SPRING/SUMMER FIRST HALF

Year 1

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
AP Credit for Biology	5	BIOL 2301	4	BIOL 2309	4	Vacation	
BIOL 1000	1	BIOL 2302	1	Elective	4		
BIOL 2299	4	CHEM 2311	4				
CHEM 1161	4	CHEM 2312	1				
CHEM 1162	1	ENGW 1111	4				
MATH 1341	4	Elective	4				
	19		18		8		0

Year 2

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
CHEM 2313	4	Co-op	0	Co-op	0	PHYS 1147	4
CHEM 2314	1					PHYS 1148	1
EESC 2000	1					Elective	4
ENVR 2500	4						
ENVR 2501	1						
PHYS 1145	4						
PHYS 1146	1						
	16		0		0		9

Year 3

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
BIOL 3611	4	Co-op	0	Co-op	0	Vacation	
BIOL 3612	1						
ENGW 3307	4						
Elective	4						
Elective	4						
	17		0		0		0

Year 4

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective	4	Co-op	0	Co-op	0	Vacation	
(Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective Lab)	1						
Organismal/Evolutionary Bio Elective	4						
Elective	4						
Elective	4						
	17		0		0		0

Year 5

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective	4	BIOL 4701	4
Elective	4	Intermediate/Advanced Biology Elective	4
Elective	4	Elective	4

Elective	4	
	16	12

Total Hours: 132