

BIS DEGREE PROGRAM LIFE SCIENCES THROUGH CBS



PREREQUISITES, REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES

The Life Sciences category includes science courses offered through College of Biological Sciences (CBS) as its core. Courses offered by non-CBS departments may be considered when appropriate, as a complement to a core series of CBS courses. Examples of those biology-related courses offered through other colleges are Human Anatomy, Physiology, Statistics, and Pharmacology. The Life Sciences committee's role is to evaluate a student's science courses to ensure they provide the foundational knowledge needed to support the student's long-term plans.

Prerequisites

Before submitting a BIS proposal with a Life Sciences concentration, students must complete one of the following prerequisites below. **The course must be completed with a B grade or better.**

BIOL 1009 (General Biology) **OR** BIOL 2003 (Foundations of Biology II)

Requirements and Guidelines

- Life Sciences proposals should be discussed with the CBS IDP advisor, Liz Kalinowski Ohrt, from the College of Biological Sciences Student Services office prior to official submission. The best way to make an appointment with the advisor is to contact 612-624-9717 or cbsask@umn.edu. It is recommended to contact at least 3 weeks in advance of proposal deadlines for scheduling.
- The faculty review committee considers the student's career goals, and assesses whether the proposed Life Sciences courses will support a program with those stated goals. In addition, the committee assesses the course rigor (e.g. whether the course could fulfill a CBS major requirement). The faculty review committee may suggest or require additional or different courses that it thinks would be useful or necessary.

- Examples of interest areas and potential courses are listed below. **This list is not exhaustive**, and students can propose classes outside of these topics and courses:

- Biology

BIOL3211: Physiology of Humans and Other Animals

GCD3022: Genetics

GCD3033: Cell Biology:

MICB 3301/3303: Biology of Microorganisms

BIOL3002&3005W: Plant Biology & Plant Function Laboratory

- Ecology, Evolution, and Behaviors

BIOL3211: Physiology of Humans and Other Animals

EEB3407: Ecology

EEB3409: Evolution

EEB3412W: Introduction to Animal Behavior

- Genetics

GCD3022: Genetics

GCD3033: Cell Biology

GCD4143: Human Genetics

- Physiology

BIOL3211: Physiology of Humans and Other Animals

OR PHSL3051: Human Physiology

OR PHSL3061: Principles of Physiology

ANAT 3601 ANAT 3602: Principles of Human Anatomy & Lab

GCD3022: Genetics

GCD3033: Cell Biology

BIOC 3021: Biochemistry (prerequisite CHEM 2301)

- Proposed and approved courses must be completed with a C- or better.
- Once a course plan is approved, a student will be allowed to submit **no more than two** revised proposals. The student must provide a strong rationale for changing an approved course plan. There is no guarantee that newly proposed courses will be approved.

Timeline

Prior to proposal submission	Meet with the CBS IDP advisor Liz Kalinowski Ohrt to discuss your plan for Life Sciences concentration: 612-624-9717 or cbsask@umn.edu
Within the first 4 weeks of the semester (Deadline: Friday on the 4th week of the semester)	Your proposal needs to be submitted electronically to the IDP Coordinator, Wendy Nicholson-Kotas, nicho421@umn.edu .
Upon your submission	You will receive a confirmation email for receipt of your proposal.
Within 4 weeks after the submission	The CBS faculty committee will meet to review your proposal.
4-5 weeks after the submission	You will receive a letter with feedback from the committee. The result is also communicated to the BIS office.
Before your registration time	Make any revisions, if needed, based on the feedback from the committee and resubmit the proposal.

August 15, 2025