



## FALL 2023 SUGGESTED COURSES

# Biological sciences (BIO)

---

## Course Load

As you adjust to the quarter system and/or a new environment, we recommend enrolling in **12-14 units**, with no more than 3 labs.

You can determine if your course has a lab in the course description. All course descriptions, including prerequisites, can be found in the [Cal Poly Catalog](#).

## Course Suggestions

### MAJOR

- If needed, **BIO 263**: Intro Ecology & Evolution (4 units);
- If you have already satisfied BIO 263, consider an Ecology course:  
*Several courses can satisfy the Ecology requirement; other options will be offered in future quarters.*
  - **BIO 363**: Principles of Conservation Biology (4 units)
  - **MSCI 300**: Marine Ecology (4 units)
- Select **one** of the following three options:
  - **BIO 351**: Principles of Genetics (5 units)
  - Physiology options (*select one only*):
    - **BIO 361**: Principles of Animal Physiology (4 units), or
      - Highly recommended for students interested in health careers and/or the Anatomy & Physiology concentration
    - **BIO 434**: Environmental Physiology (4 units), or
    - **BIO 435**: Plant Physiology (4 units) (will be offered in future quarters.)

### CONCENTRATION OR AN APPROVED ELECTIVE COURSE:

Concentration course selection will depend on your chosen concentration.

It's a good idea to consult advisors about your choices, especially if you plan to pursue graduate studies. Pay special attention to course descriptions and the footnotes on your curriculum sheet. Courses used in core of major cannot also be used in concentration. However, if a concentration/elective course is also a GE, it can be used to fulfill both concentration/elective and GE requirements.

Selected options:

- **MCRO 224**: General Microbiology I (5 units)
  - Required for BIO majors planning for the Molecular & Cellular Biology concentration or a career in health professions.
- **BIO 321**: Mammalogy (4 units)
- **BIO 416**: Climate Change Biology (4 units)
- If you have already satisfied the equivalent of **MCRO 224**, then consider these options:
  - **MCRO 320**: Emerging Infectious Diseases. (3 units)
  - **MCRO 421**: Food Microbiology. (4 units)



## SUPPORT

If needed, complete any remaining support courses.

## GENERAL EDUCATION

If needed, complete any remaining lower-division GE courses. Otherwise, select an upper-division GE course from area B, C, or D. Some GE courses may also be used to satisfy elective requirements.

## Other Graduation Requirements

### GWR

The Graduation Writing Requirement (GWR) must be fulfilled by enrolling in a GWR-certified, upper-division course OR by completing a GWR Portfolio. For more info on the GWR, visit

<https://writingandlearning.calpoly.edu/GWR>

- To find out which classes can satisfy the GWR, select "Expand Filters" in the upper right-hand corner of the Schedule Builder screen and search by GWR.

### USCP

Students must satisfy the United States Cultural Pluralism (USCP) requirement

- To find out which classes can satisfy the USCP, select "Expand Filters" in the upper right-hand corner of the Schedule Builder screen and search by USCP.

## Additional Information

### PERMISSION NUMBERS

If you need a permission number for a major class, please contact the instructor for that class section or the BIO department office.

### DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFO

- [Building 33 \(Fisher Science\), Room 281](#)
- [bio.calpoly.edu](mailto:bio.calpoly.edu)
- [biosci@calpoly.edu](mailto:biosci@calpoly.edu)
- 805-756-2788

### CSM STUDENT SERVICES CONTACT INFO

- [Building 53 \(Science North\), Room 211](#)
- [csmadvising.calpoly.edu](mailto:csmadvising.calpoly.edu) and [prehealth.calpoly.edu](mailto:prehealth.calpoly.edu)
- [csmadvising@calpoly.edu](mailto:csmadvising@calpoly.edu) and [prehealth@calpoly.edu](mailto:prehealth@calpoly.edu)
- 805-756-2615