FALL 2024 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 Topic course:
  Several courses can satisfy the Ecology Topic 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 options:
  - BIO 351: Principles of Genetics (5 units)
  - Physiology Topic course (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)
  Several courses can satisfy the Physiology Topic requirement; other options 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 the core of the major cannot also be used in the concentration. However, if a concentration/approved elective course is also a GE, it can be used to fulfill both concentration/approved 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)
• **MSCI 437**: Marine Botany (4 units)
• If you have already satisfied the equivalent of **MCRO 224**, then consider these options:
  o **MCRO 320**: Emerging Infectious Diseases (3 units)
  o **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 approved 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](https://writingandlearning.calpoly.edu/GWR)

  • To see which classes can satisfy the GWR, select "Graduation Writing Requirement" in the Section Filters, then review courses by Subject and Catalog Number in Course Selection.

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

  • To see which classes can satisfy the USCP, select "US Cultural Pluralism" in the Section Filters, then review courses by Subject and Catalog Number in Course Selection.

**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
  • biosci@calpoly.edu
  • 805-756-2788

**BCSM STUDENT SERVICES CONTACT INFO**

  • Building 53 (Science North), Room 211
  • csmadvising.calpoly.edu and prehealth.calpoly.edu
  • bcsmadvising@calpoly.edu and prehealth@calpoly.edu
  • 805-756-2615