

# Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 09/28/21 11:37 am

Viewing: : **Biology, BS/Biology, Accelerated MS**

Last approved: 03/02/21 12:34 pm

Last edit: 11/01/21 12:08 pm

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

## Catalog Pages Using this Program

[Biology, BS](#)

[Biology, MS](#)

## Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?

No

Effective Catalog: 2022-2023

Program Level: Undergraduate & Graduate (BAMs)

Program Type: Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's

Title:  
Biology, BS/Biology, Accelerated MS

Registrar's Office  
Use Only –  
Program Start Term

Registrar/OAPI Use  
Only – SACSCOC  
Status

Concentration(s):

College/School: College of Science

Department /  
Academic Unit: School of Systems Biology

Jointly Owned  
Program? Yes

Participating  
Colleges

## In Workflow

1. Registrar-  
Programs:Workflow  
Review
2. SSB Program Chair
3. BIOL Program Chair
4. SC Curriculum  
Committee
5. SC Associate Dean
6. Assoc Provost-  
Graduate
7. Assoc Provost-  
Undergraduate
8. Registrar-Programs

## Approval Path

1. 09/30/21 10:01 am  
Tory Sarro (vsarro):  
Approved for  
Registrar-  
Programs:Workflow  
Review
2. 11/12/21 3:44 pm  
Iosif Vaisman  
(ivaisman):  
Approved for SSB  
Program Chair
3. 02/04/22 3:41 pm  
Geraldine Grant  
(ggrant1): Approved  
for BIOL Program  
Chair

## History

1. Oct 30, 2017 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. Feb 16, 2018 by rzachari
3. Mar 7, 2019 by Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz)
4. Mar 21, 2019 by Tory Sarro (vsarro)
5. Mar 2, 2021 by Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz)

	College
1	College of Science

#### Participating Departments

	Department
1	Biology

#### Justification

What: Adding clarifying language about the 12 overlapping credits. Also, updating the "Accelerated Option Requirements" to match the COS template for this section.

Why: It was noted that the sentence could be clearer, indicating that the 12 credits count toward both the undergraduate AND graduate degrees.

### Catalog Published Information

Accelerated  
Description/Dual  
Degree  
Description:

## Biology, BS/Biology, Accelerated MS

### Overview

This bachelor's/accelerated master's degree program allows academically strong undergraduates with a commitment to advance their education to obtain both the [Biology, BS](#) and the [Biology, MS](#) degrees within an accelerated timeframe. Upon completion of this 138 credit accelerated program, students will be exceptionally well prepared for entry into their careers or into a doctoral program in the field or in a related discipline. Students are eligible to apply for this accelerated program once they have earned at least 60 undergraduate credits and can enroll in up to 18 credits of graduate coursework after successfully completing 75 undergraduate credits. This flexibility makes it possible for students to complete a bachelor's and a master's in five years. For more detailed information, see [AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees](#). For policies governing all graduate degrees, see [AP.6 Graduate Policies](#). For more information on undergraduates enrolling in graduate courses, see [AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates](#).

## Application Requirements

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Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in the [Graduate Admission Policies](#) section of this catalog. Important application information and processes for this accelerated master's program can be found [here](#). Students should seek out the graduate program's advisor who will aid in choosing the appropriate graduate courses and help prepare the student for graduate studies.

Three letters of recommendation, including one from a prospective thesis or project advisor, are required.

GRE scores are not required for students in this accelerated program.

Successful applicants will have an overall undergraduate GPA of at least 3.10. Additionally, they will have completed the following courses with a GPA of 3.00 or higher<sup>2</sup>:

<a href="#">BIOL 213</a>	Cell Structure and Function ( <a href="#">Mason Core</a> )	4
<a href="#">BIOL 214</a>	Biostatistics for Biology Majors	4
<a href="#">BIOL 300</a>	BioDiversity 1	4
or <a href="#">BIOL 311</a>	General Genetics	
<a href="#">CHEM 313</a>	Organic Chemistry I	5
& <a href="#">CHEM 315</a>	and Organic Chemistry Lab I 2	

<sup>1</sup>Students should speak with an advisor to choose the course most appropriate for their post-graduation goals.

<sup>2</sup>Grades of 2.50 in [CHEM 313](#) Organic Chemistry I and [CHEM 315](#) Organic Chemistry Lab I are acceptable for admission into this accelerated pathway.

## ~~Accelerated Option Requirements After the completion of 60 undergraduate credits, students must submit a bachelor's/accelerated master's transition form (available from the Office of the University Registrar) to the College of Science's Office of Academic and Student Affairs.~~ Accelerated Option Requirements

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~~After~~ **At** the completion of 75 undergraduate credits, students may **complete 3** ~~begin completing up~~ to 12 credits of graduate coursework that **can apply to both the undergraduate** ~~will count toward their bachelor's~~ and **graduate degrees.** ~~master's.~~

**In addition to applying to graduate** ~~Accelerated Option Requirements~~**After the completion of 60 undergraduate credits, students must submit a bachelor's/accelerated master's transition form (available from the undergraduate program, students in the Office of the accelerated program must submit a bachelor's/accelerated master's transition form (available from the Office of University Registrar) to the University Registrar) to the College of Science's** ~~Science's~~ **Office of Academic and Student Affairs by the last day to add classes of their final undergraduate semester.** ~~Students should enroll for courses in the master's program in the fall must maintain an overall GPA of 3.00 or spring semester immediately following conferral of the bachelor's degree, but should contact an higher in graduate coursework and should consult with their faculty advisor if they would like to defer up to one semester. coordinate their academic goals.~~

Students must maintain an overall GPA of 3.00 or higher in all graduate coursework and should consult with their faculty advisor to coordinate their academic goals.

## Reserve Graduate Credit

Accelerated master's students may also take up to 6 graduate credits as reserve graduate credits. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree, but will reduce the master's degree by up to 6 credits. With 12 graduate credits counted toward the undergraduate **and graduate degrees** ~~degree~~ plus the maximum 6 reserve **graduate** ~~graduate~~ credits, the credits necessary for the **graduate degree** ~~graduate-degree~~ can be reduced by up to 18.

## Graduate Course Suggestions

The following list of suggested courses is provided for general reference. To ensure an efficient route to graduation and post-graduation readiness, students are strongly encouraged to meet with an advisor before registering for graduate-level courses.

<a href="#">BIOL 508</a> Selected Topics in Animal Biology (When the topic is "Research and Development in a Biotechnological Company")	1-4
<a href="#">BIOL 682</a> Advanced Eukaryotic Cell Biology	3
<a href="#">BIOL 689</a> Interdisciplinary Tools in the Biosciences	3
<a href="#">BIOL 690</a> Introduction to Graduate Studies in Biology	1-2
<a href="#">BIOL 695</a> Seminar in Molecular, Microbial, and Cellular Biology	1

### Program Outcomes

#### OAPI Use Only – Determination of SACSCOC Impact

Comments or Notes

Additional Attachments

Reviewer Comments

Additional Comments

Is this course required of all students in this degree program?

%wi\_required.eshtml%