

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 02/05/26 12:44 pm

Viewing: : **Department of Biology**

Last approved: 08/29/24 10:40 am

Last edit: 02/05/26 12:44 pm

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages

Using this Program

Department of Biology

No longer

Anticipated closure

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

No

Effective Catalog: 2026-2027

Program Level: College/Department

Program Type: Department

Title:

Department of Biology

1. Department of Biology
2. Department of Biology
3. Department of Biology
4. Department of Biology
5. Department of Biology

5. Is this badge co-sponsored

In Workflow

1. Registrar-
Programs:College-
Dept Workflow
2. BIOL Program Chair
3. SC Curriculum
Committee
4. SC Assistant Dean
5. Assoc Provost-
Graduate
6. Assoc Provost-
Undergraduate
7. Registrar-Programs

Approval Path

1. 02/06/26 12:10 pm
Deborah Mcgarrah
(dmcgarr):
Approved for
Registrar-
Programs:College-
Dept Workflow
2. 02/16/26 1:24 pm
Geraldine Grant
(ggrant1): Approved
for BIOL Program
Chair

History

1. Oct 23, 2017 by
clmig-jwehrheim
2. Feb 16, 2018 by
rzachari
3. Feb 1, 2019 by Tory
Sarro (vsarro)

4. Mar 10, 2021 by

Tori Blocker

(vblocke)

5. Aug 29, 2024 by

Tory Sarro (vsarro)

**Is this a retitling of
Existing Programs?****Registrar/OAPI Use** Pending Approval
Only – SCHEV
Status**Res****Registrar/OAPI Use**
Only – SCHEV
Letter**Registrar/OAPI Use**
Only – SACSCOC
Status**Registrar/IRR Use****College/School:** College of Science**Department /** Biology
Academic Unit:**Is there an
embedded degree
as part of a
program?****Justification**

What: Updating the WI course.

Why: It has changed since the last catalog publication.

Catalog Published Information

Final Catalog**Administrative Office Use Only****Registrar/IRR Use****Admission****Requirements:****Program-Specific
Policies:**

Degree
Requirements:

Plan of Study:

Honors
Information:

Accelerated
Description/Dual
Degree
Description:

INTO-Mason
Requirements:

College
Requirements &
Policies:

Department /
Academic Unit
Requirements &
Policies:

Requirements

Advising

All biology majors are strongly encouraged to see an academic advisor regularly to help in planning their schedule so that they can graduate on time. Biology majors should see an advisor for permission to register prior to their first semester, again after completing 60 credits, and lastly after completing 90 credits.

Medical Laboratory Science, BS majors must see the director of the medical laboratory science program to obtain permission to register each semester.

Students returning from suspension are required to meet with the director of undergraduate studies or designee prior to being allowed to register.

For more information on advising or to set up an appointment, visit the Department of Biology's website.

Residency Requirement for Transfer Students

Students majoring in biology are required to complete 16 credits in the major at the 300 and 400 levels at Mason in addition to meeting the university residency requirement of at least 30 credits at Mason.

Policies

Policy on Using Biology Program Laboratories

Only authorized experiments and exercises may be carried out in any research or teaching laboratory and must be done under the supervision of a university faculty or staff member. No unauthorized work is allowed in any laboratory.

Policy on Using Organisms in Classes

Direct observations of actual organisms are considered an essential part of learning biology at all levels. Direct observations of organisms may involve the use of living or preserved specimens, dissections of organisms or parts of organisms, and microscopic examination of organisms or parts of organisms. All use of live animals conforms to National Institutes of Health guidelines for the use and care of laboratory animals. Activities specified above may be a required part of a course and thus serve as a basis for grading in the course. Any questions about the administration of this policy should be directed to the course coordinator or instructor.

Writing-Intensive Requirement

Mason requires all bachelor's students to complete at least one course designated as "writing intensive" in their majors at the 300-level or above. Students majoring in biology fulfill this requirement by successfully completing BIOL 400 News Views: Selected Topics(Mason Core) ~~BIOL 308 Foundations of Ecology and Evolution(Mason Core)~~ . Medical laboratory science majors fulfill the requirement by completing MLAB 300 Science Writing(Mason Core).

Minor in Biology

Information about this minor can be found in the Biology Minor's catalog entry.

Premedical, Predental, Prepharmacy, and Preveterinary Students

Web: prehealth.gmu.edu

Many students planning to enter medical, dental, pharmacy, veterinary, optometry, or other health professional schools choose to pursue a major in biology. These students should consult the health professions advising web site on required coursework and overall preparation.

Teacher Licensure

Students who wish to become teachers should pursue either the Biology, BA or the Biology, BS in addition to obtaining teaching certificates through the College of Education and Human Development. For more information, visit the Graduate School of Education's website.

Biology for Non-majors

Students who are not majoring in science or mathematics and wish to fulfill their natural science requirement may enroll in the biology classes listed in the Mason Core Natural Science section. Chemistry, physics, and mathematics majors should consult with their faculty advisor to determine which biology courses to take.

Program Outcomes

Courses offered via
Indicate whether

What is the
primary delivery
format for the
program?

Additional SCHEV & SA

Is the content of the new
program the same as
the content of the
existing program?

Is this new program
the same as the
existing program?

What are the methods of
teaching in this program?

Is this a new program
or an existing program
with changes?

Is this a new program
with changes?

Have you reached out to the Libraries to determine whether there are adequate resources to support your program? If not, please email Meg Meiman, Associate University Librarian for Learning, Research, and Engagement at mmeiman2@gmu.edu.

OAPI Use Only – Determination of SACSCOC Impact

Comments or Notes

Green Leaf Program De

Is this a Green Leaf
program?

Does this program cover most
of the following?

Additional Attachments

Executive Summary

Reviewer Comments

Additional Comments

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

%wi_required.eschtml%

Assessments

Key: 20