

BIOLOGY - B.A.

College of Arts and Sciences
 Department of Biological Sciences
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Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology is for students who are interested in the biological sciences, but who also want a degree with a strong liberal arts component. This program provides a basic background in biology while offering the opportunity to take a wide range of classes in other disciplines.

Biologists work in a variety of settings, and career opportunities are available in government agencies, privately owned companies and non-profit groups. Graduates may also choose to further their education beyond a bachelor's degree by attending graduate or professional school. The Department of Biological Sciences has several mechanisms to help students prepare for their future careers.

Fully Offered At:

- Kent Campus
- Stark Campus

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

Freshman Students on the Kent Campus: The freshman admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon the following: cumulative grade point average, ACT and/or SAT scores, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. The Admissions Office at the Kent Campus may defer the admission of students who do not meet admissions criteria but who demonstrate areas of promise for successful college study. Deferred applicants may begin their college coursework at one of seven regional campuses of Kent State University. For more information on admissions, including additional requirements for some academic programs, visit the admissions website for new freshmen.

Freshman Students on the Regional Campuses: Kent State campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Regional Academic Center in Twinsburg, have open enrollment admission for students who hold a high school diploma, GED or equivalent.

English Language Proficiency Requirements for International Students: All international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning a minimum 525 TOEFL score (71 on the Internet-based version), minimum 75 MELAB score, minimum 6.0 IELTS score or minimum 48 PTE score, or by completing the ESL level 112 Intensive Program. For more information on

international admission, visit the Office of Global Education's admission website.

Transfer, Transitioning and Former Students: For more information about admission criteria for transfer, transitioning and former students, please visit the admissions website.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Understand the fundamental biological principles.
2. Acquire the fundamental skills necessary for laboratory and field investigations.
3. Conduct proper experimental design, analyze biological data and communicate research results.
4. Know and appreciate the role that biology plays in societal issues, such as those related to the environment, biodiversity, ethics, human health and disease.

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Destination Kent State: First Year Experience	1
Course is not required for students with 25 transfer credits, excluding College Credit Plus, or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG)	2 courses
Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 (or 42)
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate. Students in a B.A. and/or B.S. degree in the College of Arts and Sciences must complete 42 upper-division credit hours.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120
Some bachelor's degrees require students to complete more than 120 credit hours.	

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	36-37

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

[BA-BSCI]

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
BSCI 10110	BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (KBS) (KLAB)	4
BSCI 10120	BIOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS (KBS) (KLAB)	4
BSCI 30156	ELEMENTS OF GENETICS	3
BSCI 40163	EVOLUTION	3
BSCI 40600	WRITING IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (WIC) 1	1
CHEM 10060	GENERAL CHEMISTRY I (KBS)	4
CHEM 10061	GENERAL CHEMISTRY II (KBS)	4
CHEM 10062	GENERAL CHEMISTRY I LABORATORY (KBS) (KLAB)	1
CHEM 10063	GENERAL CHEMISTRY II LABORATORY (KBS) (KLAB)	1
MATH 11010	ALGEBRA FOR CALCULUS (KMCR)	3
MATH 11022	TRIGONOMETRY (KMCR)	3
Biology (BSCI) Electives ²		5
Biology (BSCI) Upper-Division Electives (30000 or 40000 level) ²		11
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		
UC 10097	DESTINATION KENT STATE: FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE	1
Foreign Language (see Foreign Language College Requirement below)		14-16
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each)		9
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines)		6
College General Requirements (must be from Kent Core Social Sciences) ³		3
General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 42 upper-division credit hours)		34
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

¹ A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

² Students should consult with a biology advisor to determine the most appropriate courses given their disciplinary interests and career aspirations. Maximum 6 credit hours total of any combination of the following courses may be used toward fulfilling electives: BSCI 40199; BSCI 40191; BSCI 40192; BSCI 40193; BSCI 40196.

³ Students must select a Kent Core Social Sciences course that is from one of the following College of Arts and Sciences disciplines: Anthropology (ANTH) Applied Conflict Management (CACM) Geography (GEOG), Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM), Political Science (POL), Psychology (PSYC) and Sociology (SOC)

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.000	2.000

Foreign Language College Requirement

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Arts degree in the College of Arts and Sciences must complete 14-16 credit hours of foreign language.¹

To complete the requirement, students have the equivalent of Elementary I and II in any language, plus one of the following options:

1. Intermediate I and II of the same language²
2. Elementary I and II of a second language
3. Any combination of two courses from the following list:

- Intermediate I of the same language
- MCLS 10001 INTRODUCTION TO STRUCTURAL CONCEPTS FOR LANGUAGE STUDENTS
- MCLS 20000 GLOBAL LITERACY AND CULTURAL AWARENESS
- MCLS 20091 VARIABLE CONTENT SEMINAR IN GLOBAL LITERACY: CASE STUDIES
- MCLS 21417 MULTICULTURALISM IN TODAY'S GERMANY (DIVG)
- MCLS 22217 DIVERSITY IN TODAY'S RUSSIA (DIVG)
- MCLS 23217 THE FRANCOPHONE EXPERIENCE (DIVG)
- MCLS 28404 THE LATIN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE (DIVG)
- MCLS 28405 THE SPANISH EXPERIENCE (DIVG)

¹ All students with prior foreign language experience should take the foreign language placement test to determine the appropriate level at which to start. Some students may begin beyond the Elementary I level and will complete the requirement with fewer credit hours and fewer courses. This may be accomplished by (1) passing a course beyond Elementary I through Intermediate II level; (2) receiving credit through Credit by Exam (CBE), Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) or College Level Examination Program (CLEP); or (3) being designated a "native speaker" of a non-English language (consult with the College of Arts and Sciences Advising Office for additional information). When students complete the requirement with fewer than 14 credit hours and four courses, they will complete remaining credit hours with general electives.

² Certain majors, concentrations and minors may require specific languages, limit the languages from which a student may choose or require coursework through Intermediate II. Students who plan to pursue graduate study may need particular language coursework.

The following Biological Sciences (BSCI) courses may NOT be used in the elective category for majors or minors in the Department of Biological Sciences:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
BSCI 10001	HUMAN BIOLOGY (KBS)	3
BSCI 10002	LIFE ON PLANET EARTH (KBS)	3
BSCI 10003	LABORATORY EXPERIENCE IN BIOLOGY (KBS) (KLAB)	1
BSCI 10005	ANATOMY FOR VETERINARY TECHNICIANS	5
BSCI 11010	FOUNDATIONAL ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I (KBS) (KLAB)	3
BSCI 11020	FOUNDATIONAL ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II (KBS) (KLAB)	3
BSCI 16001	HORTICULTURAL BOTANY	3
BSCI 20019	BIOLOGICAL STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION	4
BSCI 20021	BASIC MICROBIOLOGY	3
BSCI 20022	BASIC MICROBIOLOGY LABORATORY	1
BSCI 21010	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I (KBS) (KLAB)	4
BSCI 21020	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II	4
BSCI 26002	ECOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES OF PEST MANAGEMENT	3

BSCI 26003	PLANT IDENTIFICATION AND SELECTION I	3
BSCI 26004	PLANT IDENTIFICATION AND SELECTION II	3
BSCI 30050	HUMAN GENETICS	3
BSCI 40020	BIOLOGY OF AGING	3

Foreign Language	3
Biology Electives	3
General Electives	6
Credit Hours	16

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester Eight	
Biology Elective	3
Foreign Language	3
General Electives	9
Credit Hours	15
Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120	

Course	Title	Credits
Semester One		
Note: Placement in MATH courses may require additional coursework before the spring semester in first year of enrollment		
! BSCI 10110	BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (KBS) (KLAB)	4
MATH 11010	ALGEBRA FOR CALCULUS (KMCR)	3
UC 10097	DESTINATION KENT STATE: FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE	1
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		14
Semester Two		
! BSCI 10120	BIOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS (KBS) (KLAB)	4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		16
Semester Three		
! CHEM 10060	GENERAL CHEMISTRY I (KBS)	4
! CHEM 10062	GENERAL CHEMISTRY I LABORATORY (KBS) (KLAB)	1
MATH 11022	TRIGONOMETRY (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Requirement		3
General Elective		3
Credit Hours		14
Semester Four		
! BSCI 30156	ELEMENTS OF GENETICS	3
! CHEM 10061	GENERAL CHEMISTRY II (KBS)	4
! CHEM 10063	GENERAL CHEMISTRY II LABORATORY (KBS) (KLAB)	1
College General Requirement		3
General Elective		4
Credit Hours		15
Semester Five		
Biology Electives		7
Foreign Language		4
General Elective		3
Credit Hours		14
Semester Six		
Biology Elective		3
Foreign Language		4
General Electives		9
Credit Hours		16
Semester Seven		
BSCI 40163	EVOLUTION	3
BSCI 40600	WRITING IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (WIC)	1