

BIOLOGY, B.S. (ALTOONA)

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Altoona

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2026-27 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/>) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition.

General Biology Option: Biology, B.S. at Altoona Campus

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 110 ^{**}	4 BIOL 220W or 240W [*]	4
CHEM 110 ^{**†}	3 CHEM 112 ^{††}	3
CHEM 111 [†]	1 CHEM 113 [†]	1
MATH 140B or 140 ^{**†}	4 STAT 250 or 200 [‡]	3-4
PSU 3	1 ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15 [‡]	3
General Education Course (GS)	3 General Education Course (GHW)	1.5
	16	15.5-16.5

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 230W [*]	4 BIOL 220W or 240W [*]	4
CHEM 202 or 210 (see adviser for alternative)	3 CHEM 203 (or (CHEM 212 & CHEM 213))	3-5
PHYS 250 (see adviser for alternative)	4 PHYS 251 (see adviser for alternative)	4
General Education Course (GA)	3 Elective or Supporting Course	3
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 CAS 100 [‡]	3
	15.5	17-19

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Biology 400-level that meets plant requirement	3 Biology 400-level that meets evolution requirement	3
ENGL 202C [‡]	3 Biology 400-level that meets physiology requirement	3
General Education Course (GH) (US)	3 Elective or Supporting Course	3

Elective or Supporting Course	3 General Education Course (Inter-Domain) (IL)	3
Elective or Supporting Course	3 Elective Course or Supporting Course	3
	15	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Biology 400-level that meets genetics requirement	3 Biology 400-level that meets practicum requirement	3
Biology 400-level that meets ecology requirement	3 General Education Course (Exploration)	3
General Education Course (Inter-Domain)	3 General Education Course (Exploration)	3
Elective or Supporting Course	3 Elective or Supporting Course	3
Elective or Supporting Course	3 Elective or Supporting Course	3
	15	15

Total Credits 124-127

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

Vertebrate Physiology Option: Biology, B.S. at Altoona Campus

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First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 110 ^{**}	4 BIOL 220W or 240W [*]	4
CHEM 110 ^{**†}	3 CHEM 112 ^{**†}	3
CHEM 111 [†]	1 CHEM 113 [†]	1
MATH 140B or 140 ^{**†}	4 STAT 250 or 200 [‡]	3-4
PSU 3	1 ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15 [‡]	3
General Education Course (GS)	3 General Education Course (GHW)	1.5
	16	15.5-16.5

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 230W [*]	4 BIOL 220W or 240W [*]	4
CHEM 210	3 CHEM 212 & CHEM 213	5
PHYS 250 (see adviser for alternative)	4 PHYS 251 (see adviser for alternative)	4
General Education Course (GA)	3 CAS 100 [‡]	3
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5	
	15.5	16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 472	3 Biology 400-level that meets evolution requirement	3
BIOL 473	2 Biology 400-level that meets physiology requirement	3
Biology 400-level (e.g. BIOL 460)	3 ENGL 202C [‡]	3
General Education Course (GH) (US)	3 Supporting Course (e.g. MICRB 201 & MICRB 202)	4
Elective or Supporting Course	3 General Education Course (Inter-Domain) (IL)	3
General Education Course (Exploration)	3	
	17	16

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BMB 401	3 BMB 402	3
Biology 400-level that meets practicum requirement (e.g. SC 476)	3 Biology 400-level that meets physiology requirement (e.g. BIOL 476)	3
General Education Course (Inter-Domain)	3 General Education Course (Exploration)	3

Elective or Supporting Course	3 Elective or Supporting Course	3
Elective or Supporting Course	3 Elective or Supporting Course	3
	15	15

Total Credits 126-127

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Ecology Option: Biology, B.S. at Altoona Campus

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First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 110 ^{**}	4 BIOL 220W or 240W [*]	4
CHEM 110 ^{**†}	3 CHEM 112 ^{**†}	3
CHEM 111 [†]	1 CHEM 113 [†]	1
MATH 140B or 140 ^{**†}	4 STAT 250 or 200 [†]	3-4
PSU 3	1 ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15 [†]	3
General Education Course (GS)	3 General Education Course (GHW)	1.5
	16	15.5-16.5

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 230W [*]	4 BIOL 220W or 240W [*]	4
CHEM 202 or 210	3 CHEM 203 (or (CHEM 212 & CHEM 213))	3-5
PHYS 250 (see adviser for alternative)	4 PHYS 251 (see adviser for alternative)	4
General Education Course (GA)	3 Elective or Supporting Course	3
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 CAS 100 [†]	3
	15.5	17-19

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 463	3 Biology 400-level that meets evolution requirement	3
ENGL 202C [†]	3 STAT 462 or 464	3
General Education Course (GH) (US)	3 Elective or Supporting Course	3
Elective or Supporting Course	3 Elective or Supporting Course	3
Elective or Supporting Course	3 General Education Course (Inter-Domain) (IL)	3
	15	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Biology 400-level that meets practicum requirement	3 Biology 400-level that meets ecology requirement	3
Biology 400-level that meets ecology requirement	3 General Education Course (Exploration)	3
General Education Course (Inter-Domain)	3 General Education Course (Exploration)	3
Elective or Supporting Course	3 Elective or Supporting Course	3

Elective or Supporting Course	3 Elective or Supporting Course	3
	15	15

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