

GEOBIOLOGY, B.S.

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: University Park

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.

Geobiology, B.S. at University Park 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
MATH 140 or 140G (GQ) ^{††}	4 MATH 141 or 141G (GQ) ^{††}	4
CHEM 110 (GN) [†]	3 CHEM 112	3
CHEM 111 (GN) [†]	1 CHEM 113	1
GEOSC 1 or 20	3 ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15 (GWS) [†]	3
EMSC 100S (GWS) ^{††1}	3 GEOSC 201	4
14		15

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
PHYS 211 (GN) [†]	4 (BIOL 234 and BIOL 235W) or (BIOL 244 and BIOL 245W) or MICRB 201	3-4
BIOL 114 (GN) ^{††}	3 PHYS 213	2
BIOL 115 (GN) ^{††}	1 GEOSC 204 [*]	4
Supporting Course	3 General Education Knowledge Domain	3
General Education Knowledge Domain	3 General Education Health and Wellness (GHW)	3

General Education Knowledge Domain	3		
17		15-16	
Third Year			
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
GEOSC 202 or 203	4 GEOSC 310 [*]	4 GEOSC 472B	3
BIOL 224 [*]	3 GEOSC 472A or BIOL 444	3	
BIOL 225W [*]	1 Advanced GEOBI Elective ²	3	
Advanced GEOBI Elective ²	3 Supporting Course ³	3	
General Education Knowledge Domain	3 General Education Knowledge Domain	3	
14		16	3
Fourth Year			
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits	
Advanced GEOBI Elective ²	3 GEOSC 494W	3	
GEOSC 496	3 Advanced GEOBI Elective ²	3	
General Education Foundation selection (GWS) [†]	3 Supporting Course ³	3	
General Education Knowledge Domain	3 Supporting Course ³	3	
Supporting Course ³	3		
15		12	
Total Credits 121-122			

* 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.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

¹ Students who begin their studies at non-UP locations and/or join the college after their first year should substitute CAS 100 (GWS), CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C; or ENGL 202C (GWS) for EM SC 100S (GWS). EM SC 100S Earth and Mineral Sciences First year Seminar (3) is a required course only for students who begin their studies at UP in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences.

² Advanced GEOBI elective: Select 12 credits, at least 3 credits from each category, from the approved list of evolution, paleobiology and geology courses and biogeochemistry courses. Supporting Courses should be selected in consultation with an adviser.

³ Supporting course: Select 17-18 credits, in consultation with an adviser, supportive of the student's interest. Students may apply 6 credits of ROTC.

Geobiology, B.S. at Commonwealth Campuses

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First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
MATH 140 (GQ) [‡]	4 MATH 141 (GQ) [‡]	4
CHEM 110 (GN) [†]	3 CHEM 112	3
CHEM 111 (GN) [†]	1 CHEM 113	1
ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15 (GWS) ^{††}	3 General Education Foundation selection (GWS) ^{†1}	3
General Education knowledge domain	3 General Education knowledge domain	3
14		14

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
PHYS 211 (GN) [†]	4 PHYS 213	2
BIOL 114 (GN) ^{††}	3 (BIOL 234 and BIOL 235W) or (BIOL 244 and BIOL 245W) or MICRB 201	3-4
BIOL 115 (GN) ^{††}	1 General Education Foundation selection (GWS) ^{†1}	3
General Education Knowledge Domain	3 General Education Knowledge Domain	3
General Education Health and Wellness (GHW)	1.5 General Education Health and Wellness (GHW)	1.5
General Education Knowledge Domain	3 General Education Knowledge Domain	3
15.5		15.5-16.5

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
BIOL 224 [*]	3 GEOSC 204 [*]	4 GEOSC 472A or BIOL 444	2-3
BIOL 225W [*]	1 GEOSC 310 [*]	4	

GEOSC 1 or 20	3 Advanced GEOBI Elective ²	3
GEOSC 201	4 Supporting Course ³	3
Advanced GEOBI Elective ²	3 Supporting Course ³	3
14		17
		2-3

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
GEOSC 202 or 203	4 GEOSC 494W	3
Supporting Course ³	3 Advanced GEOBI Elective ²	3
GEOSC 496	3 Supporting Course ³	3
Advanced GEOBI Elective ²	3 Supporting Course ³	3
Supporting Course ³	3	
16		12

Total Credits 120-122

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¹ Students who begin their studies at non-UP locations and/or join the college after their first year should substitute CAS 100 (GWS), CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C; or ENGL 202C (GWS) for EM SC 100S (GWS). EM SC 100S Earth and Mineral Sciences First year Seminar (3) is a required course only for students who begin their studies at UP in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences.

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