BS BIOLOGY – ECOLOGY, EVOLUTION, & ORGANISMAL EMPHASIS

Dr. Robin Kodner surveying snow algae on the White Chuck Glacier on the flanks of Glacier Peak in the Washington Cascades.

This degree program focuses on the structure, function, ecology, and evolution of organisms, with an emphasis on plants and animals. Western's Biology programs are based on an integrated conceptual foundation in biology, critical thinking skills, quantitative problem-solving abilities, leadership with team-building skills, and scientific research skills. Because of the wide array of elective options for this major, the Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology emphasis is a terrific degree for students interested in careers in field research, in veterinary medicine, or in pursuing graduate education in ecology, evolutionary biology, or organismal biology.

HOT TOPICS

Are more diverse forests better at cycling nutrients?

Do animals have different personalities?

To learn more about this major, visit the university catalog – **catalog.wwu.edu**

For a complete overview of course requirements for this program, access Degree Works via Web4u

Join the conversation: ***facebook.com/groups/wwubiology***

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

WWU is an equal opportunity institution.

To request this document in an alternate format, please contact biologyadvising@wwu.edu.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

"Part of the reason I decided to come to Western was to do research as an undergrad and I was not disappointed. Becoming an undergraduate student researcher has been a highlight of my college career."

- Alisa Aist

SAMPLE CAREER PATHWAYS

Botanist
Conservation Biologist
Educator
Environmental Consultant
Field Biologist
Evolutionary Biologist

FACULTY ADVISORS

Roger Anderson
Shawn Arellano
Eric DeChaine
David Hooper
Robin Kodner
Benjamin Miner
Brady Olson
Merrill Peterson
Dietmar Schwarz
Anu Singh-Cundy
Jeffrey Young
Matthew Zinkgraf

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

BIOL 424
Applied Molecular Ecology

BIOL 497P
Genes to Ecosystems

BIOL 452
Systematic Botany

BIOL 462
Entomology

BIOL 453
Mycology

BIOL 467
Comparative Vertebrate Physiology

SAMPLE FIRST YEAR SCHEDULE

ALEKS Score:	FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Prior completion of Calc. 1	BIOL 204 CHEM 161 3-5 cr. non-science GURs	BIOL 205 CHEM 162 3-5 cr. non-science GURs	BIOL 206 CHEM 163 3-5 cr. non-science GURs
80	MATH 124 CHEM 161 3-5 cr. non-science GURs	BIOL 204 CHEM 162 3-5 cr. non-science GURs	BIOL 205 CHEM 163 3-5 cr. non-science GURs
70	MATH 118 CHEM 161 3-5 cr. non-science GURs	MATH 124 CHEM 162 3-5 cr. non-science GURs	BIOL 204 CHEM 163 3-5 cr. non-science GURs
55	MATH 114 7-10 cr. non-science GURs	MATH 115 CHEM 161 3-5 cr. non-science GURs	MATH 124 CHEM 162 3-5 cr. non-science GURs
35	MATH 112 7-10 credits of non-science GURs	MATH 114 7-10 credits of non-science GURs	MATH 115 CHEM 161 3-5 cr. non-science GURs

COURSE LOAD

Due to the heavy workload associated with lab-based courses, students are advised to take no more than two science courses per quarter (including math) during their first year. Course load will increase as students move through their program requirements.

DECLARING A BIOLOGY MAJOR

There is a two-step process for admission into all Biology degree programs. Phase I majors are students who have declared their intent to major in Biology and are in the process of completing the introductory biology and chemistry series (BIOL 204, 205, 206 & CHEM 161, 162, 163). Students must achieve a minimum GPA of 2.9 across these courses before they are advanced to Phase II and may begin taking upper-division courses. During their last quarter of Phase I, students will be required to attend a Phase II Advising Workshop prior to being advanced.

COURSE PLANNING WORKSHEET

	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER
Year 1				
Year 2				
Year 3				
Year 4				