

# 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.wvu.edu](http://catalog.wvu.edu)

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

Join the conversation: [facebook.com/groups/wwubiology](https://www.facebook.com/groups/wwubiology)



WWU is an equal opportunity institution.

To request this document in an alternate format, please contact [biologyadvising@wwu.edu](mailto: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.

### APPLYING TO THE BIOLOGY MAJOR

To become a Biology Major and take upper-division Biology courses, students must complete the Biology Major Application. The application covers three areas:

- Responses to the four essay prompts
- A Knowledge Assessment score
- A cumulative grade-point average (GPA) for BIOL 204, BIOL 205, CHEM 161, and CHEM 162 (or the equivalent courses)

Students who have applied to be a Biology pre-major will be able to access the application via Canvas. The application deadline is the first Friday of the quarter prior to the quarter you plan to start your major. To be eligible to apply, students must have completed BIOL 204, BIOL 205, CHEM 161, and CHEM 162 (or equivalent courses) with a C- or greater.

## COURSE PLANNING WORKSHEET

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