

# BS\* BIOLOGY —

# GENERAL

# EMPHASIS



Biology student Chayse Jones using sterile technique to streak yeast strains onto growth plates in the Pollard Lab.



## HOT TOPICS

Are you interested in taking an interdisciplinary approach to complex science questions?

**Biology is the study of living things and encompasses areas ranging from molecular biology to ecosystem ecology. This breadth is reflected in Western's curriculum and in faculty and student research. The Biology with a General Emphasis program allows students to develop an upper-division curriculum tailored to meet**

**their educational needs with the help of their faculty advisor. Western's Biology program stands on an integrated conceptual foundation in biology, critical thinking skills, quantitative problem-solving abilities, leadership with team-building skills, and scientific research skills students obtain from lecture and laboratory courses. Students who graduate with a B.S. in Biology with a General Emphasis can apply their education to a variety of jobs across careers.**

*\*The Biology, BA degree program provides students with the flexibility to develop an individualized upper-division curriculum in biology while also allowing for greater freedom to pursue other academic interests at WWU.*

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)



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

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

"I am so thankful that Western allows undergraduates like me to get involved in research. Being able to gain practical experience in the lab as well as work with a professional scientist is a wonderful experience. The professors in the biology department are supportive mentors that are interested in helping undergrads pursue their professional goals."

- Wyatt Heimbichner Goebel



## SAMPLE CAREER PATHWAYS

<u>Botanist</u>	<u>Physician Assistant</u>
<u>Ecologist</u>	<u>Pharmacist</u>
<u>Biology Educator</u>	<u>Dentist</u>
<u>Veterinarian</u>	<u>Medical Doctor</u>
<u>Laboratory Technician</u>	<u>Biotechnologist</u>



## FACULTY ADVISORS

<u>Alejandro Acevedo-Gutiérrez</u>	<u>David Hooper</u>	<u>Sandra Schulze</u>
<u>Roger Anderson</u>	<u>David Leaf</u>	<u>Dietmar Schwarz</u>
<u>Shawn Arellano</u>	<u>Suzanne Lee</u>	<u>José Serrano-Moreno</u>
<u>Marion Brodhagen</u>	<u>Benjamin Miner</u>	<u>Anu Singh-Cundy</u>
<u>Lina Dahlberg</u>	<u>Craig Moyer</u>	<u>Adrienne Wang</u>
<u>Eric DeChaine</u>	<u>Brady Olson</u>	<u>Jeffrey Young</u>
<u>Deborah Donovan</u>	<u>Merrill Peterson</u>	<u>Matthew Zinkgraf</u>
<u>Nick Galati</u>	<u>Lynn Pillitteri</u>	
	<u>Dan Pollard</u>	



## CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

BIOL 324  
Methods in Molecular Biology

BIOL 321  
Genetics

BIOL 325  
Ecology

BIOL 432  
Evolutionary Biology

BIOL 407  
Marine Ecology

BIOL 453  
Mycology

## 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				