

CHECK LIST FOR THE BIOLOGY MAJOR

See Department of Biology undergraduate advisers (LS-135)

PREPARATION FOR THE MAJOR (39 units of lower division courses)

Biol 203	Principles of Cell & Molec. Biol.	3	_____	Chem 232	Organic Chemistry	3	_____
Biol 203L	Princ. of Cell & Molec. Biol. Lab	1	_____	Chem 232L	Organic Chemistry Lab	1	_____
Biol 204	Principles of Organismal Biology	3	_____	Math 121	Calculus for the Life Sciences I	3	_____
Biol 204L	Princ. of Organismal Biology Lab	1	_____	Math 122	Calculus for the Life Sciences II	3	_____
Biol 215	Biostatistics	3	_____	Phys 180A	Fundamentals of Physics	3	_____
Chem 200	General Chemistry	5	_____	Phys 182A	Physical Measurements	1	_____
Chem 201	General Chemistry	5	_____	Phys 180B	Fundamentals of Physics	3	_____
				Phys 182B	Physical Measurements	1	_____

Biology is an **impacted major**. Students who wish to declare a Biology major are initially placed into the Biology **premajor**. Premajors must meet department-specific criteria in order to be admitted to the major. (Note that admission to SDSU is a separate process from admission to the major, and is reviewed by a separate administrative unit.)

For this catalog year, admission to the Biology major requires:

- completion of the Preparation for the Major courses
- a GPA of 2.7 or higher in Preparation courses
- a minimum grade of C in each Preparation course
- an overall GPA of at least 2.6
- satisfaction of the lower-division writing competency requirement
- no coursework for the premajor or the major may be graded Cr/NC

Students who have completed these requirements must meet with the Biology undergraduate advisers to be admitted to the major.

Students who do not meet one or more minimum grade or minimum GPA requirements should meet with the Biology undergraduate advisers to determine the appropriate course of action.

MAJOR (Minimum of 36 upper division units for the B.S.; 24 for the B.A.)¹

The following may be applied to the major: all Biology courses numbered 350 and above, and certain Chemistry courses between 410A-599. **At least two electives must be biology laboratory courses** (not including Biology 497, 499), **at least one of which must be an organismal biology course** (listed below). It is strongly recommended that Biology 497 Undergraduate Research or 499 Special Study be included as an elective (maximum of 6 units).

Core Courses Required for all Biol Majors

Biol 352	Genetics and Evolution	3	_____
Biol 354	Ecology and the Environmen	3	_____
Chem 365	Biochem., Cell & Mol. Biol. I	3	_____
Biol 366	Biochem., Cell & Mol. Biol. II	4	_____
Biol 366L	BCMB. Lab. I	2	_____

Elective Courses (21+ units for BS, 9+ units for the BA)

Organismal course (see below):	_____
Laboratory elective:	_____
Other electives:	_____

Organismal biology courses (at least one of these courses must be taken):

Biol 350	General Microbiology (4)	†Biol 516A	Mar. Larval Ecology I (4)	†Biol 530	Plant Systematics (4)
†Biol 458	Plant Biology (4)	†Biol 523	Herpetology (4)	Biol 531	Taxonomy of Calif. Plants (4)
Biol 460	Economic Botany (3)	†Biol 524	Ornithology (4)	Biol 535	Plant Ecology (4)
†Biol 512	Evol. Ecol. Mar. Mamm. (3)	†Biol 525	Mammalogy (4)	†Biol 588	General Parasitology (3)
Biol 514	Biology of the Algae (4)	Biol 526	Terr. Arthropod Biol. (4)		
Biol 515	Mar. Invert. Zoology (4)	Biol 528	Microbial Ecology (3)		

† Not taught in AY 11-12.

¹ No transfer courses will substitute for courses in the major (Biol 350 and above) without prior departmental approval.

Department of Biology

<http://www.bio.sdsu.edu/>

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Undergraduate Advising Office

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Dr. Andrew J. Bohonak, Vice Chair of Biology, and
Director of Undergraduate Advising and Curriculum

Mr. Eddie Lopez, M.S., Associate Director of Advising

Ms. Arlene Castillo, M.S., Administrative Coordinator

Degree opportunities

The Department of Biology offers the following degrees:

B.S. in Biology, with optional emphases in Bioengineering, Cellular & Molecular Biol., Ecology, Evolution & Systematics, Marine Biology, or Zoology	B.A. in Biology
B.S. in Microbiology, with an optional emphasis in Clinical Laboratory Science or Public Health Microbiology	B.A. in Microbiology
Minor in Biology, with optional emphases in five areas	Biotechnology Certificate

Coursework to demonstrate subject matter competency for the
Single Subject Teaching Credential in Biology/Life Sciences

For the most current information, see the bioadvising web page

<http://www.sci.sdsu.edu/bioadvise/>

- Answers to 25 Frequently Asked Questions
- Calendar of important dates
- Checklists of courses required for each of our degrees
- Course offerings we are planning for the entire academic year
- Information on new 496 and 596 "Special Topics" courses
- Course syllabi

Additional information

Explanation of graduation requirements: <http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/advising/9gradreqs.html>

Preprofessional Health Advising Office (GMCS-323): <http://www.sci.sdsu.edu/preprof/>

Articulation of transferable courses from CA community colleges: www.assist.org

Articulation of science courses not listed on www.assist.org: meet with Biology advisors

Career Services (register with them by your sophomore year): SSE 1200, <http://career.sdsu.edu/>

Chemistry 200 placement exam: http://www.chemistry.sdsu.edu/courses/CHEM200/200_Placement_exam.php

Prospective students: <http://www.sdsu.edu/prospective.html>