



This course plan is a recommended sequence for this major. Courses designated as critical (!) may have a deadline for completion and/or affect time to graduation. Please see the Program Notes section for details regarding “critical courses” for this particular Program of Study.

Critical	Course Subject and Title	Credit Hours	Min. Grade ¹	Major GPA ²	Code	Prerequisites	Notes
Semester One (17-18 Credit Hours)							
!	ENGL 101 Critical Reading and Composition	3	C		CC-CMW		
	MATH 122 Calculus for Bus. Admin. & Soc. Sciences <i>or</i> MATH 141 Calculus 1 ³	3-4			CC-ARP	MATH 111/111I/115 (<i>MATH 122</i>); MATH 115 (<i>MATH 141</i>); <i>or</i> Math placement test	
!	BIOL 101 & Lab – Biological Principles 101	4	C		CC-SCI		
	CHEM 111 & Lab – General Chemistry I	4			PR	MATH 111, 115 <i>or</i> Math placement test	
	Foreign language ⁴ <i>or</i> other Carolina Core Requirement ⁵	3			CC-GFL		
Semester Two (17-18 Credit Hours)							
!	ENGL 102 Rhetoric and Composition	3			CC-CMW CC-INF	C or better in ENGL 101	
	MATH 142 Calculus II <i>or</i> MATH 170 Finite Mathematics <i>or</i> MATH 172 Math. Modeling for the Life Sciences ³	3-4			CC-ARP	MATH 141 (<i>MATH 142</i>); MATH 111/ 111I/112 <i>or</i> Math placement test (<i>MATH 170</i>); MATH 122 <i>or</i> 141 (<i>MATH 172</i>)	
!	BIOL 102 & Lab – Biological Principles II	4	C		CC-SCI	BIOL 101 & Lab	
	CHEM 112 & Lab – General Chemistry II	4			PR	CHEM 111 <i>or</i> 141 <i>and</i> MATH 111, 115 <i>or</i> higher math; Prereq <i>or</i> Coreq: MATH 122, 141 <i>or</i> higher & CHEM 112L	
	Foreign language ⁴ <i>or</i> other Carolina Core Requirement ⁵	3			CC-GFL		
Semester Three (16-17 Credit Hours)							
	STAT 205 Elem. Stat. for the Biol. & Life Sciences	3			CR	MATH 111 <i>or</i> higher	
	BIOL 301 (<i>& optional Lab</i>) – Ecology & Evolution <i>or</i> BIOL 302 (<i>& optional Lab</i>)– Cell & Molecular Bio. <i>or</i> BIOL 303 Fundamental Genetics	3-4	C		MR/CC- INT	BIOL 102 <i>or</i> MSCI 311; prereq. <i>or</i> coreq: CHEM 333 (<i>BIOL 302 only</i>)	
	CHEM 333 & 331 Lab – Organic Chemistry I	4			PR	CHEM 112 <i>or</i> CHEM 142	
	Foreign language ⁴ <i>or</i> Carolina Core Requirement ⁵	3			CR/CC		
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁵	3			CC		
Semester Four (16-17 Credit Hours)							
	CSC 102 General Applications Programming	3			CR		
	BIOL 301 (<i>& optional Lab</i>) – Ecology & Evolution <i>or</i> BIOL 302 (<i>& optional Lab</i>)– Cell & Molecular Bio. <i>or</i> BIOL 303 Fundamental Genetics	3-4	C		MR/CC- INT	BIOL 102 <i>or</i> MSCI 311; prereq. <i>or</i> coreq: CHEM 333 (<i>BIOL 302 only</i>)	
	CHEM 334 & 332 Lab – Organic Chemistry II	4			PR	CHEM 333 & 331 Lab	
	Social Science	3			CR		
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁵	3			CC		
Semester Five (15-16 Credit Hours)							
	BIOL 301 (<i>& optional Lab</i>) – Ecology & Evolution <i>or</i> BIOL 302 (<i>& optional Lab</i>)– Cell & Molecular Bio. <i>or</i> BIOL 303 Fundamental Genetics	3-4	C		MR/CC- INT	BIOL 102 <i>or</i> MSCI 311; prereq. <i>or</i> coreq: CHEM 333 (<i>BIOL 302 only</i>)	
	Physiology ⁷ <i>or</i> Plant Biology course ⁸	3	C		MR		
	Cognate <i>or</i> Minor Course ⁶	3	C (<i>minor</i>)		PR		
	History ⁷	3			CR		
	Humanities <i>or</i> Fine Arts	3			CR		
Semester Six (15-16 Credit Hours)							
	Physiology <i>or</i> Plant Biology course	3	C		MR		
	Biological Sciences Elective (<i>300-level and above</i>) ⁸	3-4	C		MR		
	Cognate <i>or</i> Minor Course ⁶	3	C (<i>minor</i>)		PR		
	Cognate <i>or</i> Minor Course ⁶	3	C (<i>minor</i>)		PR		
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁵ <i>or</i> Approved Elective ⁹	3			CC/PR		
Semester Seven (12-16 Credit Hours)							
	Biological Sciences Elective (<i>300-level and above</i>) ⁸	3-4	C		MR		
	Biological Sciences Elective (<i>300-level and above</i>) ⁸	3-4	C		MR		
	Cognate <i>or</i> Minor Course ⁶	3	C (<i>minor</i>)		PR		
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁵ <i>or</i> Approved Elective ⁹	3			CC/PR		
Semester Eight (13 Credit Hours)							
	Biological Sciences Elective and lab (<i>300-level and above</i>) ⁸	4	C		MR		
	Minor Course ⁶ <i>or</i> Approved Elective ⁹	3	C (<i>minor</i>)		PR		
	Minor Course ⁶ <i>or</i> Approved Elective ⁹	3	C (<i>minor</i>)		PR		
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁵ <i>or</i> Approved Elective ⁹ (<i>only if needed to meet Carolina Core or hours to graduate</i>)	3			CC/PR		

Graduation Requirements Summary

Minimum Total Hours	Minimum Major Requirements Hours	College & Program Requirements Hours	Carolina Core Hours	Minimum Institutional GPA
120	28	49-61	32-44	2.000

- Regardless of individual course grades, students must maintain a minimum 2.000 cumulative GPA.
- Some colleges require a minimum GPA for major courses. Courses indicated in this column are included in the major GPA for this program of study.
- Students who do not place into MATH 122 or 141 will be required to successfully complete the corresponding prerequisites before taking MATH 122 or 141. It is recommended that students take MATH 141 and 142. However, successful completion of MATH 122 and MATH 170 or 172 may be substituted.
- Students in the College of Arts and Sciences are required to demonstrate proficiency in one foreign language equivalent to the 122 course through course credit or the corresponding foreign language placement score.
- The [Carolina Core](#) provides the common core of knowledge, skill and academic experience for all Carolina undergraduate students.
- The cognate is intended to support the course work in the major. The cognate must consist of twelve hours of courses at the advanced level, outside of, but related to the major. In place of a cognate, a student may choose a minor consisting of at least 18 credit hours of courses concentrated in one area that follow a structured sequence. A second major eliminates the minor/cognate requirement.
- Physiology courses (3 credit hours)

Choose from the following:	
BIOL 425* – Plant Form & Function (3) – <i>optional lab available</i>	BIOL 543 – Comparative Physiology (3) – <i>optional lab available</i>
BIOL 460 – General Physiology (3) – <i>optional lab available</i>	BIOL 549* – Plant Physiology (4)
BIOL 465 – Domestic Animal Nutrition (3)	BIOL 643* – Advanced Microbiology (3)

Plant courses (3 credit hours)

Choose from the following:	
BIOL 420 – Survey of the Plant Kingdom (3) – <i>optional lab available</i>	BIOL 527^ – The Spring Flora (4)
BIOL 425* – Plant Form & Function (3) – <i>optional lab available</i>	BIOL 528^ – The Summer Flora (4)
BIOL 523 – Plant Development (3) – <i>optional lab available</i>	BIOL 549* – Plant Physiology (4)
BIOL 524 – Mycology (4)	BIOL 643* – Advanced Microbiology (3)
BIOL 525 – Marine Plants (4)	BIOL 670 – Plant Ecology (4) – <i>optional lab available</i>
BIOL 526^ – The Fall Flora (4)	BIOL 671 – Plant Responses to the Environment (3)

*BIOL 425, 549, and 643 may ONLY be used for either the Physiology or Plant credit, NOT both.

^Only ONE of BIOL 526-528 may apply for major credit.

- The College of Arts and Sciences requires one U.S. History and one non-U.S. History course, both of which must be chosen from the approved Carolina Core GHS courses. Whichever is not fulfilled through the Carolina Core GHS requirement must be fulfilled through this college requirement.
- In addition to the required 15 hours of major coursework, Biological Science majors must select 13 hours of Biological Sciences courses 300-level or higher for a total of 28 major hours. At least three courses applied toward the major must have an associated laboratory. No more than three credits of 398/399 may be applied toward the major. Two of 301, 302, or 303 must be completed to advance to 400-600 level courses. At least two course must be at the 500 level or above.
- No courses of a remedial, developmental, skill-acquiring, or vocational nature may apply as credit toward degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences. The College of Arts and Sciences allows the use of the Pass-Fail option on elective courses. Further clarification on inapplicable courses can be obtained from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Program Notes:

- ENGL 101 and ENGL 102 must be completed in the student's first 60 semester hours of work in order for these courses to be credited toward graduation. All biological sciences majors must earn at least a C in BIOL 101 and BIOL 102 to progress in the major.
- Biological Sciences majors may enroll in a biological sciences major course a maximum of twice to earn the required grade of C or higher. For the purposes of this standard of progression, withdrawal with a **W** does not constitute enrollment.
- It is recommended that students who are pursuing a pre-professional track should also complete PHYS 201 and Lab and PHYS 202 and Lab, which may be applied toward the cognate.
- The last 30 credit hours toward your degree must be earned in residence at the University of South Carolina-Columbia.

University Requirements: Bachelor's degree-seeking students must meet Carolina Core (general education) requirements. For more information regarding these requirements, please visit the [Carolina Core](#) page on the University website.

Codes:	
CC Carolina Core	CC-INF Carolina Core – Information Literacy
CC-AIU Carolina Core-Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding	CC-INT Carolina Core – Integrative Course
CC-ARP Carolina Core-Analytical Reasoning and Problem-Solving	CC-SCI Carolina Core – Scientific Literacy
CC-CMS Carolina Core-Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Spoken Component	CC-VSR Carolina Core – Values, Ethics, and Social Responsibility
CC-CMW Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Written Component	CR College Requirement
CC-GFL Carolina Core-Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Foreign Language	MR Major Requirement
CC-GHS Carolina Core – Historical Thinking	PR Program Requirement
CC-GSS Carolina Core – Social Sciences	

Disclaimer: Major maps are only a suggested or recommended sequence of courses required in a program of study. Please contact your academic advisor for assistance in the application of specific coursework to a program of study and course selection and planning for upcoming semesters.