

Biology: Suggested U1 registration and FAQ 2023-24

U0? U1? U0.5? --please read <https://www.mcgill.ca/science/undergraduate/new-students>

Registration — follow instructions on Minerva Course Schedule and use the Visual Schedule Builder
--register for fall and winter now; add/drop courses up to first two weeks of each term

BIOL web page --<https://mcgill.ca/biology/>--Lots of info including program and course descriptions

McGill email --set up account and check every day—especially if you are on a waitlist to register for a course!

MyCourses --for all course information once registered in a course

BSc BBL BIOL Programs—Biology Major, Liberal, Honors; or Quantitative BIOL Major or Honours option;

BSc B-P-C Programs--Joint Major BIOL/Math, Joint Maj/Hons COMP/BIOL

BASC Programs --Major or Minor

Minors --BSc BIOL Minor; Science for Arts Minor; BSc BIOL students may take Minors in other areas

Electives --free choice all Arts and Science courses if have pre-reqs; up to 18 credits from other faculties (see list p. 2)

Pre-reqs --See equivalency at <https://www.mcgill.ca/transferecredit/prospective>

Students are ultimately responsible for ensuring completion of program and faculty requirements.

Suggested U1 Registration for **BSc BIOL Major** (59 credits), **Liberal** (47 cr) or **Honours** (72 cr)

BIOL pre-reqs: BIOL 111,112, CHEM 110, 120, MATH 140, 141, PHYS 101 or 131, 102 or 142 or equivalents

Fall:	BIOL 200	Winter:	BIOL 201
	BIOL 206		BIOL 205
	BIOL 215		BIOL 216
	CHEM 212 or CHEM 204		COMP 204
	Elective or Minor		Elective or Comp, or missing pre-req

For Major—59 credits for Major; 31-33 credits Electives/Minor

Suggested U1 Registration for **Joint Major BIOL/MATH** (76 credits)—suggested, not mandatory order

BIOL/MATH pre-reqs: as for BIOL, plus MATH 133; Physics 131 and 142 recommended

Fall:	BIOL 219	Winter:	Elective or pre-req or CHEM 212
	BIOL 215		BIOL 202 or MATH 222
	MATH 222 as co-req for BIOL 219		COMP 204 or 250
	MATH 133 as co-req for MATH 222, or COMP 204		MATH 223 or 247 dep. on Fall
	CHEM 212 or BIOL 206 (e/e) or MATH 242		MATH 243 if 242 done
	Depending on pre-reqs—76 program credits; up to 15 cr electives		

Suggested U1 Registration for **Joint Major/Honors Computer Science and Biology** (66-77 credits)—suggested order

CS/BIOL pre-reqs: As for Joint Major BIOL and MATH

Fall:	BIOL 219	Winter:	COMP 250 or elective
	BIOL 215 or CHEM 212		BIOL 202 (or 302 Fall U2)
	COMP 204 or 250		COMP 251(or 252) if 250 done
	MATH 222 as important co-req for BIOL 219		MATH 223 or 247 or COMP 206
	MATH 133 (as co-req for MATH 222) if not done, or MATH 240		MATH 240
	Depending on pre-reqs—77 program credits; approx. 15 cr electives		

Suggested U1 Registration for Major/Honors Biology, **Quantitative BIOL** Option(73/79 credits)-- suggested, not mandatory order

QB pre-reqs: BIOL 111,112, CHEM 110, 120, MATH 140, 141, 133, PHYS 131, 142

Fall:	BIOL 219	Winter:	COMP 204/250
	BIOL 215 or MATH 133 if not done		BIOL 202 (or 302 next Fall)
	CHEM 212 or COMP 204 or 250		BIOL 205 if E/E stream
	MATH 222		MATH 223 or 247
	PHYS 230 or 251		PHYS 232 (or 353 next fall)
	Depending on pre-reqs—4 program courses x 6 terms, approx. 18 cr electives		

BASC registration/FAQ for all

U1 Registration for U1 BASC Major Concentration(36 credits) or Minor Concentration(18/19 credits)

Pre-reqs: as for BIOL Major

Fall: BIOL 200, 215, CHEM 212 if not done at CEGEP, Arts courses

Winter: BIOL 201, 202 and 205, Arts courses

FAQ

How many courses should I take per term?

--To finish in three years after freshman program, with no summer courses, you would take five courses, 15-16 credits per term.

Do I have to take 15 credits?

--A 12-credit load is considered full time. International students are obligated to take at least 12 credits per term. A Quebec or Canadian student may study full or part-time. 27 graded credits fall plus winter is the minimum for most scholarships.

What if I want to go to med school?

--McGill and some other med schools like to see students take 12-15 graded credits per term and finish in the minimum time.

Do I need to take 5 Biology courses per term?

--To graduate with a Major, you need a total of 19 program courses—3-4 courses per term. The other courses could be electives or could be grouped into a Minor.

When do I decide if I want to do a Major, Liberal or Honors BIOL program?

--The U1 registration would be similar for each of these programs. After U1 you could decide.

Can I go on exchange?

*--An exchange is a terrific opportunity. The ideal time to go is for one or two terms of your U2 year. Often some of your courses away can be used as complementary courses for your program. You could also consider a **field study semester**.*

Who is my advisor?

--If you are a Biology student, I (Nancy Nelson) am your program advisor. You will also be assigned a Faculty of Science advisor, who can help you with non-Biology topics, such as program change, difficulties with your academic or other aspects of McGill life, illness for an exam, etc. Biology Advisor: Nancy Nelson, Stewart BIO N7/9B: nancy.nelson@mcgill.ca;

When I try to register for a course, I get an error message. What do I do?

--Write to the department to ask for help; include your id # and the message. See <https://www.mcgill.ca/science/undergraduate/advice/program-advisers>

What can I take as electives?

--You may take any course from Arts or Science for which you have the pre-reqs; a good source of inspiration is <https://www.mcgill.ca/science/undergraduate/new-students/firstyear/bscfreshman#Electives>

What about courses from other faculties such as Management, Engineering, Music or Education?

--You may take a limited number of courses, usually maximum 18 credits, from other faculties, according to the regulations and approved/not approved list at <https://www.mcgill.ca/science/undergraduate/handbook#bsc-outside-course-restrictions>.