The Biology major at UNM prepares students for success!

The Introductory Biology Core is composed of two lecture courses (BIOL 2101 & 2102) and one lab course (BIOL 2103L). Students may complete these courses in any order, and may enroll in multiple courses simultaneously.

The Intermediate Biology Courses expose students to the major fields in biology. All students complete a course in evolution, then choose three of five additional fields of study. Each of these courses include a laboratory component.

UNM Biology offers a wide range of Advanced Biology Courses. Students must complete at least one course from each of the following categories:
Cellular and Molecular Biology & Physiology (CMP)
Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology (EEO)
Integrative Biology (INT)

The Sophomore Biology Seminar Series introduces students to the research programs in the Department of Biology. The Senior Biology Seminar Series encourages students to engage with current research in the field of biology.

What should I do if I have completed courses in the former Biology major?

If you are a current Biology major and have completed:	This course should be taken next to continue your major:
No Biology coursework at the 2000, 300, or 400 levels	BIOL 2101, 2102, or 2103L
BIOL 2110C	BIOL 2102
BIOL 2410C	BIOL 2102
BIOL 303 & 303L	Begin the Intermediate Courses - 2 of 5 needed (BIOL 300C is complete)
BIOL 304 & 304L	Begin the Intermediate Courses - 1 of 4 needed (BIOL 304C is complete)
BIOL 351 & 352L or 360L or 386L (and BIOL 304 & 304L)	Begin the Advanced Courses (BIOL 304C is complete)

The UNM Biology Major is Changing

Questions?

Biology advising is available to help students navigate the new major. Contact them at bioadviz@unm.edu

Guide to the new Biology major

for current UNM Biology majors registering for Fall 2023 courses

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

Introductory Biology Core

Introductory core courses have no pre/co-requisites and can be taken in any order or taken together.

BIOL 2101 Molecules to Cells 3 Credits AND BIOL 2102 Organisms to Ecosystems 3 Credits AND BIOL 2103L Introductory Laboratory 1 Credit

Sophomore Biology Seminar Series

Students must complete 1 of 3 sophomore seminar courses.
Completion of the Introductory Core is recommended prior to enrollment in a sophomore seminar course.

BIOL 330 Sophomore Seminar (INT) 1 Credit OR BIOL 331 Sophomore Seminar (CMP) 1 Credit OR BIOL 332 Sophomore Seminar (EEO) 1 Credit

Intermediate Biology Courses

BIOL 2101, 2102, and 2103L are pre-requisites for all Intermediate Courses.
All students must complete BIOL 300C.

BIOL 300C Evolution 4 Credits

AND

Students must complete 3 of 5 additional Intermediate Courses with labs.

- BIOL 301C Molecular and Cell Biology 4 Credits
- BIOL 302C Genes to Genomes 4 Credits
- BIOL 304C Plant & Animal Physiology 4 Credits
- BIOL 310C Principles of Ecology 4 Credits
- BIOL 351 General Microbiology 3 Credits + BIOL 352L General Microbiology Lab 1 Credit

Senior Biology Seminar Series

Students must complete at least 1 credit of senior seminar courses.
Completion of the Intermediate Core is recommended prior to enrollment in a senior seminar course.

BIOL 430 Departmental Seminar 1 Credit OR BIOL 431 Brown Bag Seminar 1 Credit

Advanced Biology Courses

BIOL 2101, BIOL 2102, and BIOL 2103L are pre-requisites for all Advanced Courses.
All students must complete at least 3 (BA degree) or 6 (BS degree) 400-level courses with at least 1 from each of the breadth categories (CMP, EEO, INT).

Biology-related Elective Courses

All students must complete 2 additional courses (6-8 credits) of Biology-related Elective Courses (all biology courses, cross-listed biology courses, or biology-related courses that enhance students' knowledge and understanding of biology). Restrictions apply - students should consult with biology advising to ensure a course meets this requirement.

Biology Supportive Courses

Students should begin these classes as early as possible in-tandem with coursework in biology.
Students must complete MATH 1350 and 1 of 2 calculus courses.

MATH 1350 Introduction to Statistics 3 Credits AND MATH 1430 Applications of Calculus 3 Credits OR MATH 1512 Calculus I 4 Credits

Students must complete CHEM 1215, CHEM 1215L, CHEM 1225, and CHEM 1225L.
Additional chemistry coursework is required for some professional programs - students should consult with biology advising to ensure their chemistry coursework aligns with their career goals.

CHEM 1215 General Chemistry I 3 Credits + CHEM 1215L General Chemistry I Lab 1 Credit AND CHEM 1225 General Chemistry II 3 Credits + CHEM 1225L General Chemistry II Lab 1 Credit

Students must complete at least 1 of the following 3 categories of physical science.
Calculus-based physics is preferred by some professional programs - students should consult with biology advising to ensure their chemistry coursework aligns with their career goals.

- PHYS 1230 Algebra-Based Physics I 3 Credits AND PHYS 1240 Algebra-Based Physics II 3 Credits
- OR
- PHYS 1310 Calculus-Based Physics I 3 Credits AND PHYS 1320 Calculus-Based Physics II 3 Credits
- OR
- PHYS 1115 Survey of Physics 3 Credits AND GEOL 1110 Physical Geology 3 Credits

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