West Texas A&M University
Advising Services
Degree Checklist
2026-2027
(For assistance completing this form, contact Advising Services at 806-651-5300)

NAME:_____ **WT ID:**_____ **DATE:**_____

Life Science (Grades 7-12) Certification
Department of Natural Sciences
NSB 106 (806) 651-2940

CORE CURRICULUM COURSES: 42 HOURS	HRS		
Communication (Core 10)			
ENGL 1301 Intro. to Academic Writing & Argumentation **OR** ENGL 1311 Writing About Ideas	3		
COMM 1315, 1318, or 1321	3		
Mathematics (Core 20)			
See **University Core Requirements** below	(3)		
Life and Physical Sciences (Core 30)			
See **University Core Requirements** below	(6)		
Language, Philosophy and Culture (Core 40)			
ANTH 2351, ENGL 2321*, 2326*, 2331*, 2341*, 2343*; HIST 2311, 2323, 2372; MCOM 1307; PHIL 1301, 2374; SPAN 2311*, 2312*/***, 2313*, 2315*, or 2371 **Choose 1**	3		
Creative Arts (Core 50)			
ARTS 1301, 1303, 1304; DANC 2303; MUSI 1306, 1307 (for music majors), 1310; or THRE 1310 **Choose 1**	3		
American History (Core 60)			
HIST 1301, 1302, 2301, 2381, 2382 **Choose 2**	6		
Government/Political Science (Core 70)			
POSC 2305 and 2306	6		
Social and Behavioral Sciences (Core 80)			
AGBE 2317*; COMM 2377; CRIJ 1301; ECON 2301, 2302; GEOG 1302; PSYC 2301; SOCI 1301 **Choose 1**	3		
Component Area Option (Core 90)			
See **University Core Requirements** below	(6)		
LIFE SCIENCE—7-12 CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: 79-85 HOURS **A Grade of "C" or better and a 2.75 GPA is required.^**			
UNIVERSITY CORE REQUIREMENTS: 15 HOURS			
CORE 20 MATH 1314* or 1324*	3		
CORE 30 CHEM 1411*[3] Chemistry I	3		
CORE 30 CHEM 1412*[3] Chemistry II	3		
CORE 90 ENGL 1302* Academic Writing & Research **OR** ENGL 2311* Intro. to Professional & Technical Comm.	3		
CORE 90 CHEM 1411L[1], 1412L[1] **and** Fourth hour from MATH 2412[1] (if taken for Core 20), fourth hour from other Core 30 course, or IDS 1071	3		
BIOLOGY REQUIREMENTS: 37-43 HOURS **(A grade of "C" or better and 2.75 GPA is required.^)**			
BIOL 1411, 1411L Botany	4		
BIOL 1413, 1413L Zoology	4		
BIOL 2420*, 2420L Applied Microbiology **OR** BIOL 2572*, 2572L Microbiology	4-5		
BIOL 3301 Genetics	3		
BIOL 3440, 3440L Anatomy and Physiology of Humans	4		
BIOL 4310, 4210L General Ecology	5		

Bachelor of Science Degree
Major: Biology
BS.BIOL.EDS (432) – TExES Exams: 160, 238

Choose one course in each of the following rows. At least two must have labs.			
BIOL 3420, 3420L Natural History of Vertebrates BIOL 4431, 4431L Ichthyology BIOL 4432*, 4432L Herpetology BIOL 4433*, 4433L Ornithology BIOL 4434*, 4434L Mammalogy **Choose 1**	4		
BIOL 3311* Arthropods and Public Health BIOL 3331 Parasitology BIOL 3510, 3510L Entomology BIOL 4460, 4460L Arachnology **Choose 1**	3-5		
BIOL 3304* Evolution BIOL 3385 Marine Biology BIOL/GEOL 3406*, 3406L Paleontology BIOL 3532*, 3532L Plant Classification BIOL 4335 Animal Behavior BIOL 4351* Conservation Biology BIOL 4425, 4425L Limnology **Choose 1**	3-5		
OTHER DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: 3-4 HOURS			
MATH 1316* Plane Trigonometry **OR** MATH 1342 Elementary Statistical Methods **OR** MATH 2412* Pre-Calculus **OR** MATH 3360* Statistical Methods	3-4		
EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: 27 HOURS **(A grade of "C" or better and 2.75 GPA is required.^)**			
EPSY 3341* Educational Psychology	3		
EPSY 3350 Children with Special Needs	3		
EPSY 4341* Educator Readiness and Performance	3		
EDPD 4330* Educational Methodology & Diverse Learners	3		
EDPD 4340* Classroom Management	3		
EDPD 4348 Data-Informed Instruction and Assessment	3		
EDRD 4386 Secondary Reading in Content Area	3		
EDPD 4398* Clinical Teaching – All Certificate Areas	3		
EDSE 4341* Clinical Teaching—Secondary	3		
ELECTIVES: 8-14 HOURS ♦			
ELECTIVES As needed to provide a total of 120 hours.	8-14		
MINIMUM HOURS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE DEGREE	**120**		

** Or an equivalent course (second year, second semester) in a foreign language.
^Transfer & WT GPA combined must be 2.75.

NOTE: This is NOT a degree plan. All undergraduate students must request an official degree plan from their academic dean's office by the time they have completed 30 credit hours.

WTAMU ADVISING SERVICES – 2026-2027 Curriculum Guide

Major: Life Science (7-12) Certification – Biology, B.S. BS.BIOL.EDS (432)

Year 1: Fall	
CORE 10 (Communication) – ENGL 1301 or 1311	3
CORE 20 (Mathematics) – MATH 1314 or 1324	3
CORE 60 (American History) – See checklist for options[1]	3
CORE 90 (Comp. Area Opt.) – IDS 1071	1
BIOL 1411/1411L Botany	4
Total:	14

Year 1: Spring	
CORE 10 (Communication) – COMM 1315, 1318 or 1321	3
CORE 30 (Life & Phys. Sci.) – CHEM 1411/1411L Chem. I **(4th hour goes toward Core 90)**	4
CORE 60 (American History) – See checklist for options[1]	3
CORE 90 (Comp. Area Opt.) – ENGL 1302 or 2311	3
BIOL 1413/1413L Zoology	4
Total:	17

Year 2: Fall	
CORE 30 (Life & Phys. Sci.) – CHEM 1412/1412L Chem. II **(4th hour goes toward Core 90)**	4
CORE 50 (Creative Arts) – See checklist for options[1]	3
CORE 70 (Govt./Political Sci.) – POSC 2305	3
BIOL 2420/2420L **or** BIOL 2572/2572L	4-5
Apply to EPP (Educator Preparation Program)	
Total:	14-15

Year 2: Spring	
CORE 70 (Govt./Political Sci.) – POSC 2306	3
MATH 1316, 1342, 2412 or 3360	3-4
BIOL 3301 Genetics	3
BIOL 3440 Anatomy & Physiology of Humans	4
EPSY 3341 Educational Psychology	3
Total:	16-17

Year 3: Fall	
CORE 40 (Lang., Phil. & Culture) – See checklist for options[1]	3
BIOL 4310/4210L General Ecology	5
Choose one course from Group 1, 2 or 3[2]	3-5
EDPD 4330 Educational Methodology & Diverse Learners	3
Total:	14-16

Year 3: Spring	
CORE 80 (Soc. & Behav. Sci.) – See checklist for options[1]	3
Choose one course from Group 1, 2 or 3[2]	3-5
EDPD 4348 Data-Informed Instruction and Assessment	3
EDRD 4386 Secondary Reading in the Content Area	3
EPSY 4341 Educator Readiness and Performance	3
Total:	15-17

Year 4: Fall	
Choose one course from Group 1, 2 or 3[2]	3-5
EDPD 4340 Classroom Management	3
EPSY 3350 Children with Special Needs	3
Electives – As needed to meet the 120 hours requirement	TBD
Total:	9+

Year 4: Spring	
EDPD 4398 Clinical Teaching – All Certificate Areas	3
EDSE 4341 Clinical Teaching – Secondary	3
Total:	6

[1] **CORE:** Life Science (7-12) Certification majors are required to take specific courses for Core 20, Core 30 and Core 90. For all other categories, they may select from any available options (see degree checklist). Apart from the major-specific core requirements, there is no set order in which core courses must be taken.

[2] **Choose one course from EACH group. At least two courses must have labs.**

- GROUP 1: BIOL 3420, 4431, 4432, 4433, 4434
- GROUP 2: BIOL 3311, 3331, 3510, 4460
- GROUP 3: BIOL 3304, 3385, 3406 (or GEOL 3406), 3532, 4335, 4351, 4425

Identified Marketable Skills	Top Three Local Employers or Industries/Professional Programs/Possible Career Opportunities

Additional notes:

- The core curriculum must total exactly 42 hours; excess hours must be moved to the major as an elective or a major requirement and stay within the 120-hour requirement or approved total submitted to the Coordinating Board for degree requirements. Some majors specify particular courses to meet core curriculum requirements when options are available.
- At least 36 hours of advanced work (3000- or 4000-level courses) for which tuition is paid must be earned at WTAMU. A maximum of six semester hours in religion (RELI) and six semester hours in physical education (PHED) courses can count toward a baccalaureate degree.

DISCLAIMER: This curriculum guide should be used in conjunction with the corresponding degree checklist for general planning purposes only. The degree checklist (later a student's official degree plan) should be referred to as the comprehensive list of all courses required for the degree. An official degree plan is required after completing 30 hours. Students should always seek the advice of their academic adviser before scheduling classes.