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:**_____

Biology
Department of Natural Sciences
NSB 106 (806) 651-2940

Bachelor of Science Degree
BS.BIOL (102)

CORE CURRICULUM COURSES: 42 HOURS ♦ Specific course(s) required for this major are listed in the next section.	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, 1310; or THRE 1310 **Choose 1**	3	
American History (Core 60)		
HIST 1301, 1302, 2301, 2381, or 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)	
BIOLOGY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS: 51-63 HOURS **A grade of "C" or better must be earned in all courses required for major.**		
UNIVERSITY CORE REQUIREMENTS: 15 HOURS ♦		
CORE 20 MATH 1314*, 1316*, or 2412*[3]	3	
CORE 30 BIOL 1406[3] and 1407*[3] **or** BIOL 1411[3] and 1413[3]	6	
CORE 90 ENGL 1302* Academic Writing & Research **OR** ENGL 2311* Intro. to Professional & Technical Comm.	3	
CORE 90 BIOL 1406L[1] and 1407L[1] **OR** 1411L[1] and 1413L[1]; **and** Fourth hour from MATH 2412[1], fourth hour from other Core 30 course, or IDS 1071	3	
BIOLOGY ELECTIVES: 20-28 HOURS—SEE NOTE **Take six biology courses (2000, 3000 or 4000 level) of which five must include laboratories.**		
BIOLOGY ELECTIVE WITH LAB		
BIOLOGY ELECTIVE WITH LAB		
BIOLOGY ELECTIVE WITH LAB		
BIOLOGY ELECTIVE WITH LAB		
BIOLOGY ELECTIVE WITH LAB		
BIOLOGY ELECTIVE		

ADDITIONAL MAJOR REQUIREMENTS: 16-20 HOURS		
CHEM 1411*, 1411L Chemistry I	4	
CHEM 1412*, 1412L Chemistry II	4	
GEOL 1403, 1403L Physical Geology **AND** GEOL 1404, 1404L Historical Geology **OR** PHYS 1401*, 1401L General Physics I **AND** PHYS 1402*, 1402L General Physics II	8	
Take one of the following (if not taken for University Core): MATH 1316* Plane Trigonometry; MATH 1342 Elementary Statistical Methods; MATH 2412* Pre-Calculus; MATH 3360* Statistical Methods	0-4	
ADVANCED ELECTIVES—SEE NOTE		
ADVANCED ELECTIVES (Courses must be at 3000- or 4000-level) Additional advanced hours to provide a minimum of 36 hours selected from biology, chemistry, biotechnology, environmental science, geology, geosciences, mathematics or physics. (**NOTE**: Advanced hours taken for Biology Electives count towards these 36 hours.)		
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS **Covered by requirements for major.**	**OPTION**	
ELECTIVES—SEE NOTE		
ELECTIVES (**NOTE**: As needed to provide a total of 120 hours.)		
MINIMUM HOURS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE DEGREE	**120**	

* Indicates prerequisites—see catalog for more information.
** Or an equivalent course (second year, second semester) in a foreign language.

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: Biology, B.S. **BS.BIOL (102)**

Year 1: Fall		Year 1: Spring	
CORE 10 (Communication) – ENGL 1301 or 1311	3	CORE 30 (Life & Phys. Sci.) – BIOL 1407 or 1411	3
CORE 20 (Mathematics) – MATH 1314, 1316, or 2412 (4th hour from 2412 counts toward Core 90)	3	CORE 90 (Component Area Option) – BIOL 1407L or 1411L	1
CORE 30 (Life & Phys. Sci.) – BIOL 1406 or 1413	3	CORE 90 (Component Area Option) - ENGL 1302 or 2311	3
CORE 90 (Component Area Option) – IDS 1071	1	MATH 1316 Plane Trig **or** 2412 Pre-Calc **or** MATH 1342 Elem Stats **or** MATH 3360 Statistical Methods	0-4
CORE 90 (Component Area Option) – BIOL 1406L or 1413L	1	CHEM 1411/1411L Chemistry I	4
CORE 60– See checklist for options[1]	3	CORE 70 - POSC 2305	3
Total:	14	Total:	14-18
Year 2: Fall		**Year 2: Spring**	
BIOL Elective 1 (see [2] below)	3-5	BIOL Elective 3 (see [2] below)	3-5
CHEM 1412/1412L Chemistry II	4	BIOL Elective 4 (see [2] below)	3-5
BIOL Elective 2 (see [2] below)	4	CORE 50– See checklist for	3
CORE 10 – COMM Core option[1]	3	CORE 70 - POSC 2306	3
Total:	14-16	Total:	12-16
Year 3: Fall		**Year 3: Spring**	
BIOL Elective 5 (see [2] below)	3-5	BIOL Elective 6 (see [2] below)	3-5
GEOL 1403 Physical Geology **or** PHYS 1401 General Physics I	4	GEOL 1404 Historical Geology **or** PHYS 1402 General Physics II	4
Advanced Elective (see checklist or [3] below)	3-5	Advanced Elective (see checklist or [3] below)	3-5
CORE 60– See checklist for options[1]	3	Advanced Elective (see checklist or [3] below)	3-4
Total:	13-17	Total:	13-18
Year 4: Fall		**Year 4: Spring**	
Advanced Elective (see checklist or [3] below)	3-5	CORE 80 – See checklist for options[1]	3
Advanced Elective (see checklist or [3] below)	3-5	Additional Advanced Electives as needed to total 36 in science/math	TBD
Advanced Elective (see checklist or [3] below)	3-5	Additional Any-Level Electives as needed to total 120 hours overall	TBD
CORE 40– See checklist for options[1]	3		
Total:	12-18	Total:	TBD

[1] **CORE:** Biology 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] **Biology Electives:** Take six biology courses (2000-, 3000-, or 4000-level) of which five must include laboratories.

[3] **Advanced Elective:** Additional advanced hours (3000- or 4000-level) to provide a minimum of 36 hours selected from biology, chemistry, biotechnology, environmental science, geology, mathematics, or physics. The hours required for individual courses may range from 1-6 depending upon the courses selected. **Advanced hours taken for Biology Electives count toward these 36 hours.**

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.