ZOOLOGY MAJOR (B.A.)

https://colsa.unh.edu/biological-sciences/program/ba/zoology-major

Description

Built upon the common background of the biology core curriculum, the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Zoology is designed for students to create an interdisciplinary or dual major, particularly if they want to pursue public relations, teaching, or other careers in combination with a liberal arts background. Students have more flexibility when choosing courses from the biology core and may enter this program as freshmen or transfer in from other liberal arts or science programs.

New England Regional Student Program

The bachelor’s degree in zoology is one of the specialized curricula recognized by the New England Board of Higher Education and participates in the New England Regional Student Program. Please refer to the Tuition Break Online Database for a list of eligible New England States.

General Science Certification

See Department of Education

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Minimum Credit Requirement: 128 credits

Minimum Residency Requirement: 32 credits must be taken at UNH

Minimum GPA: 2.0 required for conferral*

Core Curriculum Required: Discovery & Writing Program Requirements

Foreign Language Requirement: Yes

All Major, Option and Elective Requirements as indicated.

*Majors GPA requirements as indicated.

Major Requirements

Minimum grade of D# or better is required in CHEM 411, PHYS 401, and MATH 424B (if taken); minimum grade of C# or better is required in all other courses. ZOOL 600, BIOL 695, ZOOL 795, or ZOOL 799H may substitute for one elective with academic advisor approval, but only if taken for at least four credits. These four credits may be spread over multiple semesters if they are consecutive and with the same faculty mentor. Students must fulfill a foreign language requirement in lieu of one advanced elective.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 411</td>
<td>Introductory Biology: Molecular and Cellular</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 412</td>
<td>Introductory Biology: Evolution, Biodiversity and Ecology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 528</td>
<td>Applied Biostatistics I</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>or MATH 424B</td>
<td>Calculus for Life Sciences</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 541W</td>
<td>Ecology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>BMCB 501</td>
<td>Biological Chemistry</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEM 411</td>
<td>Introductory Chemistry for Life Sciences</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEN 604</td>
<td>Principles of Genetics</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>or ANSC 612</td>
<td>Genetics of Animals</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHYS 401</td>
<td>Introduction to Physics I</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZOOL 406</td>
<td>Professional Perspectives in Zoology</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>ZOOL 518</td>
<td>Comparative Morphology and Biology of Vertebrates</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZOOL 625</td>
<td>Principles of Animal Physiology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZOOL 690</td>
<td>Evolution</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 780</td>
<td>Capstone Companion Course</td>
<td>1</td>
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Zoology Electives

Animal Survey Courses (Choose 1)

- MEFB 628 Marine Invertebrate Evolution and Ecology
- MEFB 717 Lake Ecology
- MEFB 755 Biological Oceanography
- MEFB 773 Physiology of Fishes

Zoology Electives

- ZOOL 613W Animal Survey Courses (Choose 1)
- ZOOL 726 Conservation Behavior (C)
- ZOOL 733W Behavioral Ecology (C)
- ZOOL 736 Genes and Behavior (C)
- ZOOL 740 Acoustic Ecology
- ZOOL 777W Neuroethology (C)
- ZOOL 795 Independent Investigations in Zoology
- ZOOL 799H Honors Senior Thesis

Shoals Courses:

- MEFB 600 Coastal Habitat Field Research Methods
- MEFB 605 Introduction to Applied Science Communication
- MEFB 606 Marine Parasitology and Disease
- MEFB 610 Field Ornithology
- MEFB 630 Evolution and Marine Diversity
- MEFB 635 Marine Mammal Biology
- MEFB 630 Biodiversity and Biology of Marine Invertebrates
MEFB 674  Ecology and Marine Environment  4
MEFB 702  Sustainable Marine Fisheries  4
MEFB 714  Field Animal Behavior  4
MEFB 730  Underwater Research  4
MEFB 741  Sharks: Biology and Conservation  4
MEFB 751  Research in Marine Biology  4
MEFB 754  Anatomy and Function of Marine Vertebrates  4

Study Abroad Courses:
NR 660  Ecology and Biogeography of New Zealand  5
NR 661  Restoration Ecology and Ecosystem Management in New Zealand  4
NR 662  Environmental Policy, Planning and Sustainability in New Zealand  3
NR 663  Applied Directed Research in New Zealand  4

1 A single course cannot be used for both a core requirement and an elective (e.g., ZOOL 542 cannot be used to fulfill the animal survey requirement and as an elective).
2 A 600, 695, 795, or 799 experience may substitute for one elective with academic advisor approval, but only if taken for at least four credits. These four credits may be spread over multiple semesters if they are consecutive and with the same faculty mentor.

Capstone Experience
As part of the University of New Hampshire’s Discovery Program requirements, all students must complete a capstone experience during their senior year (after earning at least 90 credits). The capstone experience for students majoring in Biology consists of BOTH (1) an approved individual experience AND (2) the successful completion of the BIOL 780 Capstone Companion Course. Students will not be approved for graduation until capstone certification has been granted.

1) The individual experience
The individual experience may be satisfied through various forms of experiential learning (e.g., Honors thesis, mentored research project, internship) or a course denoted with a “(C)” in the courses listed above. The individual experience must fulfill at least one of the University’s capstone criteria:

- synthesizes and applies disciplinary knowledge and skills
- fosters reflection on undergraduate learning and experience
- demonstrates emerging professional competencies
- applies, analyzes, and/or interprets research, data, or artistic expression
- explores areas of interest based on the integration of the prior learning

Before beginning any capstone individual experience, students MUST SUBMIT A COMPLETED CAPSTONE APPROVAL FORM to their Program Coordinator.

Students can obtain this form on the Department’s Capstone page or from their Program Coordinator. Here they will describe their proposed individual experience and how it fulfills at least one of the University’s capstone criteria listed above. If the student is selecting a “(C)” course for their individual experience, they should obtain the course syllabus from the instructor for information about the course’s content and learning objectives.

2) Enrollment in BIOL 780 Capstone Companion Course

Students will also be required to enroll in BIOL 780 (1 cr.) during the semester of their individual experience. BIOL 780 is offered every Fall and Spring semester.

- If the individual experience is a two-semester thesis, BIOL 780 should be taken during the second semester.
- If the individual experience occurs during the summer (e.g., internship), BIOL 780 should be taken during the Fall semester that immediately follows.
- Note: Because BIOL 780 is not offered during the summer, students cannot complete their individual experience during the summer and graduate during that same August. Summer experiences could only be used as individual capstone experiences if completed the summer before the student’s senior year.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students demonstrate that they understand basic principles of Zoology.

- Understand the biodiversity and ecological roles of selected animal taxa.
- Demonstrate understanding of animal physiology and structure at the cellular and organismal levels.
- Describe and apply key principles and mechanisms of evolution and genetics.
- Comprehend the relationship between organisms and their environments.

Students demonstrate that they can undertake scientifically valid methods of inquiry.

- Demonstrate proficiency in searching, reading, and understanding scientific literature.

Students demonstrate that they can think critically and analytically.

- Analyze and present data using appropriate quantitative and graphical tools.

Students demonstrate that they can communicate effectively.

- Develop effective written and oral communication skills for conveying scientific information effectively to a wide audience.

Students practice science responsibly and ethically, and acknowledge the influence of cultural and historical biases in the sciences.