



LOUISE DILWORTH DAVIS
COLLEGE of
SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
Department of Biology

2027 Advising Guide for the Biology BA Degree and Biology Minor (catalog years of 2026 or later)

This guide provides students with information regarding the specific degree requirements associated with completion of the BA degree in Biology and minor in Biology. Official degree requirements, including core course requirements, may be found in the TCU Undergraduate Catalog.

Biology BA Requirements

Program Description: The BA is provided for the student who has a strong interest in the biological sciences but who desires a broader-based area of study or who is interested in pursuing multiple majors. The degree is appropriate for students interested in graduate or health-related professional schools but may require additional coursework to fulfill certain prerequisites.

Earning a BA degree at TCU requires the successful completion of **120 total hours**. Of these hours, a minimum of 27 credit hours of Biology and 3 hours of associated courses are required. Students pursuing the BA degree must have a **minor** and meet a **foreign language** requirement (competency in a foreign language equivalent to the completion of a 4th semester (Intermediate II) course).

Required Biology courses

BIOL 10503 Unity and Cells

BIOL 10523 Introduction to Biological Investigation

BIOL 10513 Diversity and Organisms

BIOL 41000 Senior Assessment (taken in the last semester)

In addition to the courses above, **18 additional upper-division hours in Biology** are required.

- A minimum of 3 hours must be selected from:
 - BIOL 30403 Ecology & the Environment
 - BIOL 30603 Cellular, Molecular & Developmental Biology
- At least one course used to meet the 18-hour requirement must include a laboratory component.
- At least one additional course used to meet the 18-hour requirement must also include a laboratory component or be designated as literature intensive.
- A maximum of 3 hours for any combination of teaching and research courses (BIOL 40820, 40830, 40900, 40910, 40903, 40933) are permitted within the 18 hours. These courses may not be used to fulfill the upper-level laboratory requirement.
- The combination of BIOL 20204 and 20214 (A&P series) count toward the major as 4 hours and one laboratory course.

Associated Requirement

MATH 10043 Elementary Statistics

Biology Minor

Earning a Biology minor at TCU requires the successful completion of **21 hours** in Biology.

Recommended Biology courses

BIOL 10503 Unity and Cells

BIOL 10513 Diversity and Organisms

BIOL 10523 Introduction to Biological Investigation

BIOL 30403 Ecology & the Environment

or 30603 Cellular, Molecular & Developmental Biology

Of the 21 hours, a minimum of 9 hours of upper-division (30000 or above) courses are required.

- A maximum of 3 of these upper division hours may come from a combination of 1-hour seminar courses in biology.
- A maximum of 3 hours for any combination of teaching and research courses (BIOL 40820, 40830, 40900, 40910, 40903, 40933) are permitted within the 21 hours.

Special considerations for all students

Pass/No Credit: Two courses may be taken P/NC. No course applied toward the major/minor or associated requirements may be P/NC.

Transfer credits: BIOL 10503 may not be transferred to TCU. BIOL 10513, 10523, 30403, and 30603 may not be transferred to TCU after enrolling at TCU. Up to four courses may be transferred after enrolling at TCU.

GPA: A cumulative 2.0 GPA at TCU and a cumulative 2.0 GPA in biology courses is required for graduation.

Upper Division: At least 36 hours of coursework at 30000 level or above must be taken at TCU.

Research: BIOL 40911 may be required for students conducting research with some faculty, but does not count toward the major





Schedule of Biology Course Offerings for the Biology BA Degree and Biology Minor (catalog years of 2026 or later)

Spring 2027 Scheduled Course Offerings

Fall 2027 Anticipated Course Offerings

Year 1	Success in Biology and Pre Health (10101) Biology Recitation (10970) Unity of Life: Molecules to Cells (10503) Diversity of Life: Organisms to Ecosystems (10513) Introduction to Biological Investigation (10523)	Success in Biology and Pre Health (10101) Biology Recitation (10970) Unity of Life: Molecules to Cells (10503) Diversity of Life: Organisms to Ecosystems (10513) Introduction to Biological Investigation (10523)
Year 2	Cellular, Molecular & Developmental Biol (30603)	Ecology and the Environment (30403) Cellular, Molecular & Developmental Biol (30603)
Years 3 and 4	Lecture Courses Introductory Neuroscience (30463) Hormones and Behavior (30593) Human Parasitology (30803) Genetics (40123) Human Physiology (40403) **SPRING ONLY** Biochemistry II (50143) Functional Neuroanatomy (50463)	Lecture Courses Introductory Neuroscience (30463) Genetics (40123) Fundamentals of Biochemistry (40513) Biochemistry I (50133)
	Lab and/or Literature-Intensive Courses Anatomy & Physiology I* (LAB) Microbiology (LAB) (30304) Introduction to Marine Science (LIT or LAB) (30324) Human Anatomy (LAB) (30414) Natural History (LAB) (30613) Biology of Cancer (LIT) (40001) Conservation Genetics (LAB) (40153) Histology (LAB) (40203) Developmental Biology (LAB) (40224) Immunology (LIT or LAB) (40254) Structural Biology of Drug Design (LIT and LAB) (40523) Virology (LIT) (40603) Spatial Ecology (LAB) (40720) Biostatistics (LAB) (50123) Biochemistry Lab (LAB, W) (50502) Anthropogenic Disturbance of Wildlife (LIT) (50533)	Lab and/or Literature-Intensive Courses Anatomy & Physiology II* (LAB) Invertebrate Biology (LAB) (30104) Microbiology (LAB) (30304) Human Anatomy (LAB) (30414) Natural History (LAB) (30613) Biotechnology Lab Techniques (LAB) (40131) Molecular Basis of Human Disease (LIT) (40133) Immunology (LIT) (40254) Biostatistics (LAB) (50123)
	Other Courses Topics in Medicine (40110, 0.5 hrs) - Overview of Healthcare Careers I/II - Building a Resilient Career I/II - Becoming a Great Applicant Senior Assessment (41000; taken in the last semester)	Other Courses Current Research in Biology (40011) Topics in Medicine (40110, 0.5 hrs) - The Practice of Medicine - Introduction to Healthcare Professional Development in Biology (40701) Oncology and Community Health (50901) Senior Assessment (41000; taken in the last semester)
	Summer 2027: Global Perspectives in Health (SA) (40703)	Special Problems/Projects Courses (both semesters; 1-3 credit hours) Teaching of Introductory Level Biology (40820) Teaching of Advanced Biology (40830) Biological Research & Writing (W, LIT) (40903) Intro to Independent Research (LAB) (40900) Advanced Independent Research (40910) Discussions in Biological Research (40911) Senior Honors Research (W, LIT) (40933)

LAB = Upper-level Lab Course

W = Writing Emphasis Course

LIT = Literature-Intensive Course

SA = Study Abroad Course

*The combination of BIOL 20204 & 20214 counts as 4 hours of upper-division Biology hours and 1 lab course

Course offerings are subject to change; students are to consult the official course schedule to confirm course availability