Life and Environmental Sciences: Majors

- Biology
- Zoology
- Biochemistry
- Genetics and Cell Biology
- Microbiology
- Neuroscience
- Computational Neuroscience
Life and Environmental Sciences: Majors

- Animal Sciences
- Earth Sciences (geoscience)
- Environmental & Ecosystem Sciences
- Wildlife Ecology & Conservation Sciences
- Forest Ecology & Management

*Pre-Professional students can choose ANY major!*
Overview of Presentation

• Prepare you for your advising meeting and registration

• Go over first semester/first year plans
  • Freshman
  • Transfer students

• Walk through courses to be added to shopping cart
  • You will have time later with your OCs for schedule building
The Basics!

WSU is a semester school: 16 weeks!

• How to convert quarter credits from community colleges to semester credits
  • Quarter credits x .67 = semester credits

• Minimum load is 12 credits for full time status (financial aid, scholarships)
• Maximum load is 18 credits; you will be charged extra to take over 18 credits

• Freshman typically take lower division courses; transfer students can take a mix of lower and upper division courses
  • Lower division = 100-200 level courses
  • Upper division = 300-400 level courses
Registration Tips

Typical load is around 15 credits

• 15 credits x 8 semesters = 120 credits (minimum required for Bachelor’s degree)

• Your load will be based on your individual situation
  • Academic abilities
  • Transfer credits
  • Other obligations – jobs, family, extra-curricular school activities

• Don’t be alarmed if your roommate or friends have different schedules
• It’s okay to give yourself a lighter load as you transition to WSU
Tools Needed

• myWSU – my.wsu.edu
  • Registration, official messages, financial aid info, student account

• Schedule of Classes – schedules.wsu.edu
  • A full list of courses offered THIS semester for all subjects

• Transfer Clearinghouse – transfercredit.wsu.edu
  • Lets you look up how courses from another school transfer into WSU

• WSU Catalog – catalog.wsu.edu
  • Provides four-year plan for all majors
The Life Science Trifecta – Math, Chemistry, Biology

- All life science students take a combination of **math, chemistry and biology**
  - Most students will only take two of these classes in their first semester at WSU
  - Placement into ALL these classes is determined by ALEKS score
  - Transfer students may or may not need ALEKS, depending on what math courses you took
- Didn’t take the ALEKS?
  - You may not be able to enroll in the recommended courses tomorrow
  - Talk with your advisor about what to enroll in right now
  - Take the ALEKS as soon as possible
  - Let your advisor know your score so they can help you get into the appropriate courses
Math Placement

• Math 100 Basic Mathematics = ALEKS 0-39
• Math 103 Algebra Methods and Intro to Functions = ALEKS 40-69
• Math 106 College Algebra = ALEKS 70-79
  • A score of 75-79 gives you the option to take the accelerated Math 106/108 course
• Math 108 Trigonometry = you cannot score into Math 108
  • Math 108 is required to continue on to calculus!
• Math 140 or 171 Calculus for the Life Sciences or Calculus I
  • Math 140 = ALEKS 80 or above
  • Math 171 = ALEKS 83 or above

Life Science majors DO NOT take Math 105!!!
Can I be in a higher math?

Math Kitty says NO!

- It is very likely you have placed into the right course
- The ALEKS exam adapts to your skills
- An “A” is much better than a “C”
- A solid foundation is best!
Chemistry

Your ALEKS score may affect your Chemistry placement.

Your major will require one of the following combinations:

- CHEM 101 and 102
  - CHEM 101 prerequisites: Math 103, or a minimum ALEKS of 45
- CHEM 105 and 106
  - CHEM 105 prerequisites: Math 106, or concurrent enrollment, or minimum ALEKS of 80
  - Students who have not had high school chemistry and/or do not meet the prerequisites for CHEM 105 should take CHEM 103 first

How long ago did you take chemistry? What was your grade?

Did your school have a good chemistry program?
Biology

Your ALEKS score may affect your Biology placement

You will take both Biology 106 and 107

- Order does not matter
- **Biology 106 prerequisite:** ALEKS score of 40 or above OR previous three-credit biology course with lab
- **Biology 107 prerequisite:** One semester of college chemistry or concurrent enrollment

Life science majors DO NOT take Biology 101, 102, 105, or 140
Already Have College Credit?

- Make sure WSU has records of all credits taken:
  - AP/IB/Cambridge scores
  - Running Start
  - College in the High School
  - Other college/university credits

- Send OFFICIAL transcripts or scores to WSU Admissions
  - High school transcripts are NOT sufficient for Running Start/College in the High School courses.
  - We need a transcript from the college or university offering the course
SAMPLE Schedule for Freshman Life Science Majors

**Fall Semester**
- Math (3-4 cr)
- Chemistry or Biology (4 cr)
- History 105 or English 101, or Honors (3 cr)
- UCORE, Honors, and/or Intro course for major (3-6 cr)

**Spring Semester**
- Math, UCORE, or Honors (2-4 cr)
- Chemistry (4 cr)
- Biology (4 cr)
- History 105 or English 101, or Honors (3 cr)
SAMPLE Schedule for Transfer Students

Fall Semester

Math, if needed (2-4 cr)

Chemistry or Biology, if needed (4 cr)

Courses for major (3-8 cr)

UCORE course or elective (3-7 cr)
Not sure of your major? Relax!

- Most life science majors follow the same path
- Discuss options with your advisor, instructors, and TAs
- Try an introductory course:
  - ANIM_SCI 205, Companion Animal Nutrition
  - Biology 106, 107, or 210
    - Introductory Biology, Your Future in Life Sciences
  - SOE 100, 101, or 110
    - Introductory Geology, Environmental Science
  - MBIOS 101 or 138
  - NEUROSCI 105, Meet Your Brain
Prepare for your Advising appointment

• Work with your OCs to begin building your schedule
  • Log into myWSU, my.wsu.edu
  • Open schedules.wsu.edu and go to Fall 2022 for Pullman
  • UCORE: ucore.wsu.edu/students/categories-and-courses/
  • Honors: honors.wsu.edu/course-listings-summer-and-fall-2022/
  • Transfer Credit: transfercredit.wsu.edu/transfer-course-search-tool/

• Get familiar with the tools in myWSU
  • Academic Advising tile: see your ALEKS score and Transfer Credit Report
  • Manage Classes tile: look up courses to add to your shopping cart
We Advise, You Decide

What to expect on advising day:

• You will meet with an advisor in your major area

• Time is limited; your appointment will focus on your fall schedule

• Come with a list of courses you want to enroll in

• Prepare questions for your advisor to make the most of this time

• You will enroll in your classes on your own after meeting the advisor
After Advising Checklist:

- Submit final OFFICIAL transcripts and vaccination records
- Check myWSU to get your advisor's contact information
- Check WSU Email frequently
  - Add your advisor to "safe senders" list
- Email advisor with follow-up questions or concerns
- Attend WOW College Kick-Off Event
Questions?

Follow Us @WSUPullman
#WSUNewCougOrientation

Go Cougs!
Extra Slides and Slide designs for presentation customization
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- Understanding University Common Requirements (UCORE)
- Education Abroad
- Financial Aid and Scholarships
- Greek Life & the Recruitment Process
- Cougar Health Services
- Living and Dining Necessities
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"This is my first child going to college and I have been so nervous. Attending Alive! has helped me feel so much more relaxed about my daughter heading off to college. And the change in my daughter is amazing! She is no longer anxious and nervous about being away from home. She is excited to return in August. Thank You."
Contact Information

website
509-335-xxxx
email@wsu.edu
Follow Us @WSUPullman
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