

Typical MCB Major Four-Year Plan of Study

SCHOOL OF MOLECULAR & CELLULAR BIOLOGY

Instructional Program



(217) 333-6774 | advising@mcb.illinois.edu | mcb.illinois.edu/undergrad/advising

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This plan is to be used only as a guide. Many factors may affect the sequence and timing of courses. Course selections are best made in consultation with an MCB Advisor. For an appointment call (217) 333-6774, or use our online scheduling system at <http://go.illinois.edu/mcbappt>.

FRESHMAN YEAR	
SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
Intro Biology: MCB 150 or IB 150 (4 hrs) Chemistry: Begin gen CHEM sequence per placement (3-5 hrs) Math/Stat: Begin MATH sequence per placement (3-5 hrs) or Composition I: RHET, CMN, ESL or equiv. (3-4 hrs) First Year Enrichment Course: LAS 101 or 122 (1 hr) Options: Language, Gen Ed., or Elective (0-5 hrs) TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14-16	Intro Biology: MCB 150 or IB 150 (4 hrs) Chemistry: Continue general CHEM sequence (4 hrs) Math/Stat: Begin MATH sequence per placement (3-5 hrs) or Composition I: RHET, CMN, ESL or equiv. (3-4 hrs) Options: Language, Gen Ed., or Elective (0-5 hrs) TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14-16
SOPHOMORE YEAR	
SEMESTER 3	SEMESTER 4
Molecular Genetics & Lab: MCB 250 & MCB 251 (5 hrs)* Chemistry: Finish general CHEM or begin organic CHEM (4-6 hrs) Math/Stat: Begin or continue if necessary (3-5 hrs) Options: Language, Gen Ed., Elective, or Research (0-5 hrs) TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14-16	Cells, Tissues & Develop. & Lab: MCB 252 & MCB 253 (5 hrs) Chemistry: Finish organic CHEM, if necessary (2-6 hrs) or Physics: PHYS 101 or 211, if CHEM complete (4-5 hrs) or Advanced MCB course: See approved list** (1-4 hrs) Options: Language, Gen Ed., Elective, or Research (0-5 hrs) TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14-16
JUNIOR YEAR	
SEMESTER 5	SEMESTER 6
Biochemistry: MCB 354 (3 hrs) Physics: Begin or continue PHYS sequence (4-5 hrs) Choose 2-3 of the following: (6-9 hrs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research: MCB 290 • Continue CHEM, if necessary for minor or profession • General Education Course • Elective Course TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14-16	Advanced MCB course or lab: See approved list** (1-4 hrs) Physics: Continue PHYS sequence, if necessary (4-5 hrs) Choose 2-3 of the following: (6-9 hrs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research: MCB 290 • Additional Advanced MCB Course • General Education Course • Elective Course TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14-16
SENIOR YEAR	
SEMESTER 7	SEMESTER 8
2 Advanced MCB courses or lab: See approved list** (5-8 hrs) Choose 2 of the following: (6-8 hrs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research: MCB 290 • Additional Advanced MCB Course • General Education Course • Elective Course TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14-16	2 Advanced MCB courses or lab: See approved list** (5-8 hrs) Choose 2 of the following: (6-8 hrs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research or Senior Thesis: MCB 290 or MCB 492 • Additional Advanced MCB Course • General Education Course • Elective Course TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14-16

* General Chemistry 1 and 2 lectures (CHEM 102 and CHEM 104) must be completed before beginning MCB 250.

** Only courses taken from the approved advanced courses list, which can be found at <http://mcb.illinois.edu/undergrad/courses/advanced/> will count towards the MCB advanced hour requirement (15 hours needed, including 1 lab). Graduate level courses (500- or 600-level) will NOT count towards the advanced MCB requirement.