

SCHOOL OF MOLECULAR & CELLULAR BIOLOGY

Instructional Program



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. Students must successfully complete at least 120 hours to be eligible for graduation. For an appointment, call (217) 333-6774 or use our online scheduling system at mcb.illinois.edu/advising.

FIRST 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 equivalent (3–4 hrs) First Year Enrichment Course: LAS 101 or 122 (1 hr) Options: language, general education**, 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 equivalent (3–4 hrs) Options: language, general education**, or elective (0–5 hrs) TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14–16
SECOND 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) Choose 1–2 of the following: (1–6 hrs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math/Stat: Begin or continue if necessary* • Language: Begin or continue, if necessary • Research: MCB 290 • General-Education Course** • Elective Course TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14–17	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 Choose 1–2 of the following: (1–6 hrs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language: Begin or continue, if necessary • Research: MCB 290 • General-Education Course** • Elective Course TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14–17
THIRD 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: (5–10 hrs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Education Course** • Anatomy & Physiology: MCB 244 and/or MCB 245* • Research: MCB 290 • Elective Course TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14–18	Approved Advanced MCB course or lab** (2–4 hrs) Physics: Continue PHYS sequence, if necessary (4–5 hrs) OR Additional Approved Advanced MCB course or lab (2–4 hrs) Choose 2–3 of the following: (6–10 hrs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Education Course** • Anatomy & Physiology: MCB 246 and/or MCB 247* • Research: MCB 290 • Elective Course TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 14–18
FOURTH YEAR	
SEMESTER 7	SEMESTER 8
1 or 2 Approved Advanced MCB courses or lab** (1–8 hrs) Choose 2–3 of the following: (6–10 hrs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Education Course** • Anatomy & Physiology: MCB 244 and/or MCB 245* • Research: MCB 290 • Elective Course TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 12–18	1 or 2 Approved Advanced MCB courses or lab** (2–8 hrs) Choose 2–3 of the following: (6–10 hrs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Education Course** • Anatomy & Physiology: MCB 246 and/or MCB 247* • Research or Senior Thesis: MCB 290 or 492 • Elective Course TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 12–18

* Statistics is highly recommended to prepare for the MCAT and medical school.

** At least one course in psychology and sociology should be taken. Three to four social/behavioral science courses are recommended.

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

+ Anatomy & Physiology courses are required for many allied-health professions, but not MD programs.

** Approved advanced courses can be found at <http://go.mcb.illinois.edu/MCBAAC>. Courses that may be of particular interest to pre-med students include, but are not limited to, cell biology, immunology, microbiology, neurobiology, and physiology.