

Guide to Transferring to MCB

MCB Advising Contact Information

Phone: (217) 333-6774

E-mail: advising@mcb.illinois.edu

MCB Undergraduate student web page: <http://mcb.illinois.edu/undergrad/>

Road MAP, weekly e-newsletter: <http://mailman.life.uiuc.edu/mailman/listinfo/map>

Facebook: [MCB Advising Facebook Group](#)

Office Location: The main MCB/IB advising office is located in **164A Burrill Hall**. Our advisors have offices in Burrill and Davenport. All appointments are scheduled through the main office by our receptionist or via our [online scheduler](#).

How To Make An Appointment

Please call 217-333-6774 during normal business hours, stop by 164A Burrill Hall or use our [online scheduler](#) to make an appointment with the advisor of your choice. Students in MCB are *not assigned an advisor*, but are free to meet with any of the MCB advisors that are available (see [staff bios here](#)).

ICT Requirements: Current Illinois undergraduates who wish to ICT into the College of LAS and declare MCB as a major, must first attend an [LAS information session](#), apply online and meet with an MCB advisor for approval. To meet with an MCB advisor, prospective ICT students can attend one of our [MCB informational meetings](#) or [make an individual appointment](#) with an advisor.

Official Degree requirements: <http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/academic-units/molecular-cell-bio/molecular-cellular-biology-concentration/>

Prerequisite/Placement Score information:

<u>Biology AP Exam Score</u>	<u>Course Credited</u>	<u>Credit hour</u>
3 or 4	IB 100	3
5	Integrative Biology 150 and Molecular and Cell Biology 150	8

Important: please discuss use of Biology AP credit with an MCB advisor.

Preferred Introductory course or courses:

MCB 150 (Molec & Cellular Basis of Life), highly recommended to be taken on this campus. Please note: AP credit may NOT be sufficient preparation for more advanced courses in this major. A placement/diagnostic exam is available that will assist students in evaluating their readiness to begin the MCB Core Courses. In addition, an online bridge course, MCB 215, is available during the summer semesters for students who need review prior to enrolling in MCB 250 or MCB 252. See a MCB advisor for more information.

IB 150 (Organismal & Evolutionary Biol), AP credit or equivalent credit from other universities is sufficient for this introductory course.

Successful students in MCB earn a C+ or better in both introductory Biology courses.

Recommended additional courses:

CHEM 102, 103, 104 and 105, Two semesters of general chemistry is required for the major and recommended prior to ICT. Successful students in MCB earn a C+ or better in all general chemistry courses. *All general chemistry must be complete before enrolling in MCB 250.*

The following MCB core courses must be taken sequentially as listed below. Students must complete one set of courses successfully before moving on to the next.

MCB 250 (Molecular Genetics) and MCB 251 (lab) should be completed prior to MCB 252 (Cells, Tissues & Devel.) and MCB 253 (lab) should be completed prior to MCB 354 (Biochem & Phys Basis of Life)

Suggested General Education courses:

MATH 220 or 221 – 1 semester of calculus is required for all MCB majors.

Please note: MATH 234 (Calculus for Business) will NOT fulfill the MCB requirement.

2nd Quantitative Reasoning Course: MCB students must take one additional math or statistics course in addition to calculus I. They may choose from the following:

MATH 231 (Calculus II) **or**

STAT 212 (Biostatistics)

Please note: no other stat class will be accepted to fulfill the MCB 2nd math course for students matriculating fall 2015 or later.

Other Considerations:

Study Abroad – MCB students are encouraged to study abroad as time allows. Students typically study abroad during their summer semesters or during their junior year. It is difficult to find equivalents to the MCB core courses abroad, but the MCB instructional program has developed discipline-specific study abroad programs for those students with health career or research interests that might be considered:

Newcastle, England Pre-Med and Pre-Dent Program

Two-semester program intended for junior year

Students must have completed MCB 250/251 and 252/253 prior to departure

Physician and Dentist Shadowing available

Opportunities for clinical experience

Volunteering and Research opportunities

Guaranteed advanced credit in MCB and advanced residency hours for LAS

See advisor for list of course options

SAO (MCB) Exchange: Stockholm University

One-Semester program intended for spring of junior year

Guaranteed advanced credit in MCB and/or Biochemistry

Honors -- The MCB Honors Concentration is designed for exceptional MCB Majors who demonstrate personal motivation to explore a fuller complement of experiences in biology during their undergraduate training. MCB honors students typically plan to enter graduate or professional programs to reach their career goals and want an intensive undergraduate education as preparation.

Honors students must

- fulfill all normal requirements of the MCB major;
- complete honors sections in the MCB core courses (MCB 250, 251, 252, 253, 354);
- complete four or more additional Advanced Honors Courses, typically taken as Juniors and Seniors (although Honors students are encouraged to begin MCB 290 research sooner);
- maintain minimum grade point averages, as required, based upon entry date into the Honors Concentration (see Honors Coordinator for details);
- other requirements may apply.

Interested students should attend an information session or meet with Shawna Naidu, Honors Coordinator. See <http://mcb.illinois.edu/undergrad/honors/> for more information.

Research Opportunities -- Students in MCB are encouraged to gain undergraduate research experience. Once students find a faculty mentor, they are able to earn course credit via MCB 290 Undergraduate Research. Students earn 1 credit hour for every 5 hours per week spent in the lab. They're encouraged to search for a faculty mentor during their sophomore year or early junior year. With a minimum of two semesters of MCB 290 credit, MCB students can enroll for MCB 492 Senior Thesis during their final semester. Please see <http://mcb.illinois.edu/undergrad/research.html> for more information.