Two Schools, One Community

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How to Apply

• Apply to the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (LAS)
• Choose Biology as your major

• Typical Early Action Deadline mid-Nov
• Regular Application Deadline early Jan

• Application information: https://admissions.Illinois.edu/
• Major information: https://biology.Illinois.edu/
Michael Kim,
Senior in MCB and Chemistry
Two Schools, One Community

Shared first year
Builds a foundation
Allows for exploration
* These are the typical prerequisites for most pre-health professional programs *

Shared Supporting Coursework

– 2 semesters Intro Biology
  200-level labs
– 2 semesters General Chemistry
  with labs
– 1 semester Organic Chemistry
  with lab
– 1 semester of Calculus/Statistics
– At least 2 semesters of Physics
  with labs
### Shared Freshman Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intro Biology (IB 150 or MCB 150), 4 hrs</td>
<td>Intro Biology (IB 150 or MCB 150), 4 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Begin Chemistry, 3 – 5 hrs</td>
<td>Continue Chemistry, 3 – 5 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math or Composition (RHET or Equiv.), 3 – 5 hrs</td>
<td>Math or Composition (RHET or Equiv.), 3 – 5 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Year Enrichment, LAS 101 or LAS 122, 1 hr</td>
<td>Options: Language, Gen Ed, Elective, 0 – 5 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Options: Language, Gen Ed, Elective, 0 – 5 hrs</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Suggestions for High School Preparation

• 4 years English, required
• 2 years Social Science required
  • 4 recommended
• 3 to 3.5 years Math required
  • 4 recommended
• 2 years lab sciences required
  • 4 recommended
Suggestions for High School Preparation

• Challenge yourself with Advanced or AP classes.
• Take as much biology and chemistry as you have time for.
• Finish through 4th level of a language other than English
• No minimum GPA or Test Scores
  • Admissions will review your application holistically
  • Competitive scores: 29 ACT, 1321 SAT, 3.63/4.0 GPA
• Essay is important
• Activities and/or work experience show time management
## Sophomore Year, Students Choose Their Major

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Integrative Biology (IB)</th>
<th>Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organic Chemistry with Lab</td>
<td>Continue Supporting Coursework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Semesters of Physics</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry with Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biostatistics</td>
<td>2 – 3 Semesters of Physics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IB 202 Physiology with Lab</td>
<td>Core Coursework for Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IB 203 Ecology with Lab</td>
<td>MCB 250/251 Molecular Genetics with Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IB 204 Genetics with Lab</td>
<td>MCB 252/253 Cell &amp; Develop. Bio with Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IB 302 Evolution with Lab</td>
<td>MCB 354 Biochemistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 hours Minimum at 300/400 level</td>
<td>Advanced Courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Course from 2 of the following:</td>
<td>15 hours Minimum at 300/400 level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organismal &amp; Evol. Biology</td>
<td>Must come from approved course list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavior, Ecol. &amp; Environ.</td>
<td>Biochemistry, Microbiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrative Anat. &amp; Physio</td>
<td>Cell &amp; Developmental Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Molecular Physiology, Neuroscience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Biophysics and Quantitative Biology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Advanced Course Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Integrative Biology</th>
<th>Molecular &amp; Cellular Biology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marine Biology</td>
<td>Microbiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ornithology (study of birds)</td>
<td>Introduction to Neuroscience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genes and Behavior</td>
<td>Mechanisms of Human Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Behavior</td>
<td>Immunology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Biology</td>
<td>Gene Expression and Regulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy</td>
<td>Bacterial Pathogenesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paleoclimatology</td>
<td>Computing in Molecular Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Modeling</td>
<td>Global Biosecurity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insect Ecology</td>
<td>Basic Human Pathology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecology and Human Health</td>
<td>Cell Structure and Dynamics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Study Abroad is Possible!

Newcastle, England
Pre-Med, Pre-Dent Program

Vienna, Austria

Pavia, Italy

Stockholm, Sweden

Learn More
https://mcb.illinois.edu/undergrad/opportunities/study_abroad/
Majoring in Molecular & Cellular Biology at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

View full video at https://biology.illinois.edu/biology-menu/student-features
Majoring in Integrative Biology at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

View full video at https://biology.illinois.edu/biology-menu/student-features
What can you do with a Biology degree?

The sky's the limit!

**Traditional Healthcare**
Traditional healthcare (medicine, nursing, pharmacy) is not limited to being a practitioner. It also includes support roles, education, and clinical research.

**Research**
Our alums conduct research in academia, as well as in government institutions, clinical settings, and for publicly- and privately-owned companies.

**Biotechnology**
Biotechnology is the application of biological knowledge to develop products, across a variety of disciplines such as agriculture, healthcare, research, and diagnostics.

**Non-traditional Healthcare** (Allied Health)
The healthcare field extends far beyond traditional roles, such as analysis, consulting, medical products, and pharmaceuticals.

**Communication & Outreach**
Biology alums engage with the public in many ways - through advertising, informal and formal education, and directing programs.

...policy, law, business, sustainability and conservation, and more!

Learn about these and other career options at:

www.biology.illinois.edu/careers
Healthcare

Conservation & Environment

Business, law, and policymore!

Research & Biotechnology

Communication

Education & Communication

Non-traditional Healthcare
Community of Support

11 Professional Advisors

- Act as your first resource on campus
- Guide students into appropriate courses
- Assist with career planning
- Recommend co-curricular activities
- Refer to appropriate campus resources

“I felt like I was at home with my family whenever I stepped into the Advising Office, and I know that helped me to succeed in my classes and my research. You guys all really go above and beyond to make every MCB student feel welcomed…” Kevin Stehlik, MCB class of 2020
Community of Support

- Dedicated Faculty and Grad Students
- Alumni Mentoring Programs
- Community Spaces
- Learning Centers
- Peer Mentoring Program
- Community events
- and more!

“The community was amazing. Everyone was so helpful and willing to teach/mentor” – IB Senior
Research

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Biology at Illinois

Over 50% of our undergraduate students have research experience
Student Leaders

Accomplished
Successful
Involved

Ask them anything!

leaders@biology.illinois.edu
AP CREDIT FAQ
Suggestions for incoming Biology and Biochemistry students at Illinois

BIOLOGY CREDIT
We strongly suggest you do not use biology credit. How can you choose between IB or MCB if you haven’t experienced both on this campus? You need a strong biology foundation to move on in the curriculum successfully. In addition, many professional programs do not accept AP credit for required courses.

CHEMISTRY CREDIT
AP credit is awarded for the general chemistry lectures, but not the laboratories. If you plan to study MCB, IB, or Biochemistry we strongly recommend you do not use chemistry AP credit and instead receive a strong foundation in CHEM 102 and 104. CHEM 104 especially, spends half of the time preparing you for the next chemistry in the sequence.

PHYSICS CREDIT
Generally speaking, it’s fine to use Physics AP credit but only if you are not planning to apply to a professional program that requires it. Remember that many professional programs do not accept AP credit for required courses.

CALCULUS CREDIT
If you are planning to take Calculus 2 we strongly recommend you have a conversation with your academic advisor before deciding to use your Calculus AP credit. If you are not planning to take higher level math courses, you can use your AP credit for your major requirement.

OTHER CREDIT
It is fine to use other AP credit as long as you are sure that the courses are not requirements for a professional program you are interested in applying to after graduation. In addition, AP credit doesn’t factor into your GPA. Keep in mind that your science and overall GPA numbers are important when applying to professional programs.

For additional information, make sure to talk with your advisor and visit: https://admissions.illinois.edu/apply/freshman/college-credit-ap
Biology and Chemistry:

– We strongly suggest you do not use credit
– How can you choose IB or MCB if you haven’t experienced both on this campus?
– Need foundation to move on in the curriculum successfully
– Many professional programs do not accept AP credit for required courses
Everything Else:

– Generally speaking, it’s fine to use other AP credit, but remember two things:
  • AP credit doesn’t factor into your GPA, and your science and overall GPA numbers are important
  • Many professional programs do not accept AP credit for required courses (like physics)
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