

BSCI - BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM

BSCI103 The World of Biology (4 Credits)

An introduction to modern biology for the non-science major. Major themes include molecular biology, cell biology, evolution and organismal biology. Relevance of study of biology to modern human life will be emphasized.

Additional Information: Not acceptable for degree requirements in Biological Sciences, Chemistry, or Biochemistry.

BSCI120 Insects (3 Credits)

A survey of the major groups of insects, their natural history, and their relationships with humans and their environment. Course not acceptable toward major requirements in Biological Sciences, Chemistry or Biochemistry.

BSCI124 Plant Biology for Non-Science Students (3 Credits)

A basic course in plant biology specifically designed for the non-science student. Emphasis is placed on an evolutionary and ecological approach to studying fundamental concepts and processes of plants, their place in the biosphere, the importance of plants to man, and the manner in which humans impact on plants and their environment. This course will not count toward graduation requirements for any student in Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Biochemistry or the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Restriction: For non-science majors only; and must not have completed BSCI105; and must not have completed BSCI170 or BSCI171.

Additional Information: CORE Life Sciences Lab (LL) Course only when taken concurrently with BSCI125.

BSCI125 Plant Biology Laboratory (1 Credit)

An introduction to the biology of plants with emphasis on the processes by which plants function, the diversity of plants, and the importance of plants to humans. This course will not count toward graduation requirements for any student in Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Biochemistry or the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. CORE Lab Science.

Corequisite: BSCI124.

Restriction: For non-science majors only; and must not have completed BSCI105; and must not have completed BSCI170 or BSCI171.

Additional Information: CORE Life Sciences Lab (LL) Course only when taken concurrently with BSCI124.

BSCI126 Pollinators in Crisis (3 Credits)

How are pollinators threatened by climate change, habitat destruction, and human interaction, and what are some ways to support and protect them? We will dissect the pollinator crisis, and in the process learn about insects, about the interaction of organisms in complex ecosystems, and about the human-nature interface. Students will work in groups that specialize in an aspect of pollinator biology and their challenges. Instruction will target methods for collecting information, interpretation of scientific information and the professional presentation of findings.

BSCI130 Calculus for Life Sciences I (1 Credit)

CALC FOR LIFE SCIENCES I

BSCI135 Amazing Green: Plants that Transformed the World (4 Credits)

In what profound ways have plants changed humanity and the world we live in today? An interactive way to learn about plants and science, focusing on how plants have changed human history, the biology of their growth, and the science behind their use.

BSCI145 The Insect Apocalypse: Real or Imagined? (4 Credits)

Could the ongoing global decline in insect populations portend the end of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems? An article in the New York Times, in 2018, declared an "Insect Apocalypse" that for the first time brought the general, unexplained declines in insects to the public and suggested a catastrophe awaits our planet. Scientists have documented the loss of insect species at a rate exceeding the extinction rates associated with the major geological events in Earth's history. Based on science and research, students will be provided with background of the diversity of the form and functions of insects, as well as how they evolved and persisted for 400 million years. The course, designed for students of any major, celebrates the incredible variation of insect life and what they do to support life on our planet. The course will highlight the use of scientific research to understand and respond to the global crisis.

BSCI151 Beyond Race: Human Biological Diversity (3 Credits)

Do racial labels have any practical use in understanding human biological diversity? Such categorizations are inextricably linked to racism, including a history of misuse in science going back hundreds of years, yet modern biological research and medicine often include the use of race. At its core, addressing this question requires understanding the balance between genetic and non-genetic factors underlying human diversity. The course will help students make an informed critique of the biological basis of race through the study of topics such as: basic biology, data analysis and experimental design, human evolution and genetics, and biomedical research and health outcomes.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI189I, BSCI150 or BSCI151.

Formerly: BSCI150.

BSCI155 Learning to Learn biology (4 Credits)

This course focuses on learning, understanding, and working with core ideas in biology to engage in scientific practice and applications. In the spirit of "integrated STEM learning", this course will focus on applications of biological principles particularly as they relate to design solutions for human needs and participation in socioscientific issues. A sub-thread of the course is attention to the content of the Middle School Science Praxis exam sections on "Scientific Inquiry, Methodology, Techniques and History" (a topic that runs through the course) and "Life Sciences" to prepare students in the MSMS major to excel on this section of the Praxis. A laboratory component of the course engages students in investigations using either tangible physical and biological models or computational models. These investigations align with the content structure of the main throughline of the course.

Cross-listed with: TLPL155.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI155 or TLPL155.

BSCI160 Principles of Ecology and Evolution (3 Credits)

Basic principles of biology with special emphasis on ecological and evolutionary biology.

Prerequisite: Must have math eligibility of MATH120 or higher.

Recommended: For Science majors.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI106 or BSCI160.

Formerly: BSCI106.

BSCI161 Principles of Ecology and Evolution Lab (1 Credit)

Basic laboratory principles of biology with special emphasis on ecological and evolutionary biology.

Prerequisite: Must have math eligibility of MATH120 or higher.

Corequisite: BSCI160.

Recommended: For Science majors.

BSCI170 Principles of Molecular & Cellular Biology (3 Credits)

Basic principles of biology with special emphasis on cellular and molecular biology.

Prerequisite: Must have math eligibility of MATH120 or higher.

Recommended: For Science majors.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI105 or BSCI170.

Formerly: BSCI105.

BSCI171 Principles of Molecular & Cellular Biology Laboratory (1 Credit)

Basic laboratory principles of biology with special emphasis on cellular and molecular biology.

Prerequisite: Must have math eligibility of MATH120 or higher.

Corequisite: BSCI170.

Recommended: For Science majors.

BSCI180 Principles Biology Laboratory (1 Credit)

Basic laboratory principles of biology with special emphasis on ecological, evolutionary, cellular, and molecular, and computational biology.

Prerequisite: Must have math eligibility of MATH120 or higher; and minimum grade of a C- in either BSCI160 or BSCI170 .

BSCI201 Human Anatomy and Physiology I (4 Credits)

Anatomy and physiology of the skeletal, muscular, neural, endocrine, and sensory systems. Course not acceptable toward major requirements in Biological Sciences, Chemistry or Biochemistry.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI170; or students who have taken courses with comparable content may contact the CMNS-Biology department.

BSCI202 Human Anatomy and Physiology II (4 Credits)

Anatomy and physiology of the cardiovascular, respiratory, immune, digestive, urinary and reproductive systems. Course not acceptable toward major requirements in Biological Sciences, Chemistry or Biochemistry.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI201; or students who have taken courses with comparable content may contact the CMNS-Biology department.

BSCI207 Principles of Biology III - Organismal Biology (3 Credits)

The diversity, structure and function of organisms as understood from the perspective of their common physicochemical principles and unique evolutionary histories.

Prerequisite: BSCI160 and BSCI170; and must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in CHEM131 and either BSCI180 or (BSCI161 and BSCI171).

BSCI213 The Public Microbe (3 Credits)

How are microbes essential for human health yet cause so much disease? This course covers basic concepts in microbiology as they relate to human- microbe interactions by surveying the diversity of microbial life, the role our resident microbiota play in human health, modes of disease tracking, and prophylactic and therapeutic measures designed to control the spread of infectious disease.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI213 or BSCI223.

BSCI222 Principles of Genetics (4 Credits)

Principles and mechanisms of heredity and gene expression. Considers plant, animal, and microbial organisms.

Prerequisite: BSCI170 and (BSCI180 or BSCI171); or (BIOE120 and BIOE121); and CHEM131 and CHEM132; and either (CHEM231 and CHEM232) or (BSCI160 and BSCI161 or BSCI180) .

BSCI223 General Microbiology (4 Credits)

How have microorganisms exploited every conceivable ecological niche, and how have humans harnessed this diversity to improve medicine, agriculture, and biotechnology? The course covers fundamental concepts in morphology, physiology, genetics, immunology, ecology, and pathogenic microbiology. Applications of microbiology to medicine, the food industry, and biotechnology.

Prerequisite: BSCI170 and (BSCI180 or BSCI171); or BIOE120 and BIOE121.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI223 or BSCI283.

BSCI238 Special Topics in Biology Student Initiated Courses (1 Credit)

Student Initiated Course (STIC) in Biology. Course will be student initiated and taught under close supervision of faculty mentor. Student instructor and faculty mentor must generate proposal and have approval of the Biological Sciences Program to offer a BSCI238 STIC. BSCI238 cannot be applied to the degree requirements of any biological sciences major.

Repeatable to: 5 credits if content differs.

BSCI258 College Park Scholars Internship (1-3 Credits)

Credit to be determined by CPS Director. Must be completed by end of sophomore year.

Restriction: For College Park Scholars - Life Sciences students only.

Repeatable to: 6 credits if content differs.

Additional Information: Course not acceptable towards in Biological Sciences, Chemistry, or Biochemistry.

BSCI279 Supplemental Study (1-3 Credits)

Research or special study to complement a course taken previously which is not fully equivalent to current departmental requirements. Credit according to work done.

Prerequisite: Permission of CMNS-Biological Sciences UG Program.

Repeatable to: 6 credits.

BSCI283 Principles of Microbiology (4 Credits)

What makes microorganisms genetically, physiologically, and biochemically unique among organisms in the tree of life? An introduction to microorganisms designed for science majors. Genetic principles underlying microbial abilities; microbial structure-function relationships; metabolism, physiology, and ecology of microorganisms; interactions between microorganisms (including pathogens) and their hosts.

Prerequisite: BSCI222.

Restriction: Must be in a major within Biological Sciences; or permission of CMNS-Cell Biology & Molecular Genetics.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI223 or BSCI283.

Additional Information: Priority given to BSCI, BCHM and CHEM majors.

BSCI289 Off-Campus Internship (1-3 Credits)

Elective credit for formally established off-campus research internship.

Permission of Director of Outreach required.

Prerequisite: Permission of CMNS-Biological Sciences UG Program.

Repeatable to: 5 credits if content differs.

Additional Information: Course not acceptable toward major requirements in the Biological Sciences.

BSCI300 Strategies for Success (1 Credit)

Students often face an increased emphasis on critical thinking, pressure from a typically higher credit hour load, and a faster pace of exposure to new material when moving from lower- to upper-level coursework. The Biological Sciences program designed this course to help all transfer students make successful transitions, both academically and socially, to the University of Maryland at Shady Grove.

Restriction: Must be in a major in USG-Universities at Shady Grove; and must be in Biological Sciences: Physiology & Neurobiology program.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI300 or BSCI339R.

Formerly: BSCI339R.

BSCI328 Special Topics in Entomology (1-4 Credits)

Lectures, seminars, mini-courses and other special instruction in various entomological subjects.

Repeatable to: 6 credits if content differs.

BSCI329 Instructional Assistance Practicum (1-3 Credits)

Students serve as instructional assistants in selected undergraduate biology courses. Roles and responsibilities are determined on a course-specific basis and approved by the College Undergraduate Program Committee.

Prerequisite: Permission of CMNS-Biological Sciences UG Program.

Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

Additional Information: Course not acceptable toward major requirements in the Biological Sciences.

BSCI330 Cell Biology and Physiology (4 Credits)

Biochemical and physiological mechanisms underlying cellular function. Properties of cells which make life possible and mechanisms by which cells provide energy, reproduce, and regulate and integrate with each other and their environment.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in CHEM131 and CHEM132. And minimum grade of C- in BSCI170 and BSCI171; or minimum grade of C- in BSCI105.

Restriction: Must not have completed BSCI230.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI230 or BSCI330.

Formerly: BSCI230.

BSCI331 Cell Biology and Physiology (3 Credits)

Biochemical and physiological mechanisms underlying cellular function. Properties of cells which make life possible and mechanisms by which cells provide energy, reproduce, and regulate and integrate with each other and their environment.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in (CHEM131 and CHEM132), (BSCI170 or BIOE120), and (BSCI180 or BSCI171).

Restriction: Must not have completed BSCI230 or BSCI330.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI330, BSCI331, or BSCI230 .

Formerly: BSCI330.

BSCI332 Cell Biology and Physiology Laboratory (1 Credit)

Laboratory exercises in cell biology and physiology.

Prerequisite: Must have completed with a minimum grade of C- or be concurrently enrolled in BSCI331 or BSCI230.

Restriction: Must not have completed BSCI330.

BSCI333 Principles of Paleontology (4 Credits)

A review of the theory, principles, and applications of Paleontology. A systematic overview of the morphology, evolution, and relationships of the major fossil-producing taxa.

Prerequisite: GEOL102; or (BSCI207 or BSCI392); or permission of CMNS-Geology department.

Cross-listed with: GEOL331.

Restriction: Permission of instructor is required of non-degree seeking students.

Credit Only Granted for: GEOL331 or BSCI333.

BSCI334 Mammalogy (3 Credits)

Introduction to the biology of mammals, including evolution, physiological, and behavioral specializations.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI207. And minimum grade of C- in BSCI160 and BSCI161; or minimum grade of C- in BSCI106.

BSCI335 Mammalogy Laboratory (1 Credit)

Lab and field techniques for the study of mammals, focusing on their identification, anatomy, histology, spatial distribution, ecology, and behavior.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI160, (BSCI180 or BSCI161), and BSCI207; and must have completed with a minimum grade of C- or be concurrently enrolled in, BSCI334.

BSCI337 Biology of Insects (4 Credits)

An overview of the biology, evolution and diversity of insects and their relatives. Insect morphology, physiology, behavior and ecology; the impact of insects on humanity and the management of pest insect populations; assembly of an insect collection is required.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI160 and (BSCI180 or BSCI161).

BSCI338 Special Topics in Biology (1-4 Credits)

Lectures, seminars, mini-courses and other special instruction in various biological subjects.

Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

BSCI339 Selected Topics in Biology (1-4 Credits)

Lectures, seminars, and other selected instruction courses in various biological subject matter.

Prerequisite: Permission of CMNS-Biology department.

Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

BSCI342 Biology of Reproduction (3 Credits)

The biology of the reproductive system with emphasis on mammals and, in particular, on human reproduction. Hormone actions, sperm production, ovulation, sexual differentiation, sexual behavior, contraception, pregnancy, lactation, maternal behavior and menopause.

Prerequisite: BSCI170 and (BSCI180 or BSCI171); or permission of the Harriet Tubman Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; or permission of CMNS-Biological Sciences UG Program.

Cross-listed with: WGSS326.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI342, WMST326 or WGSS326.

Formerly: WMST326.

BSCI343 Cellular Mechanisms of Aging and Disease (3 Credits)

Explore how alterations in normal cellular and molecular processes lead to both aging and a variety of non-infectious human diseases currently plaguing our society. Students will read, analyze, and discuss current primary and secondary literature in the field of cell biology and biomedicine.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in either BSCI330 or BSCI331 and BSCI332.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI339I or BSCI343.

Formerly: BSCI339I.

BSCI348 Special Topics in Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics (1-3 Credits)

Presentation and discussion of special subjects in the field of cell biology and molecular genetics. A maximum of three credit hours of BSCI348 may be applied to the BSCI major.

Repeatable to: 8 credits.

Additional Information: A maximum of 8 credits of any BSCI348 course(s) can be applied to one or more undergraduate degrees. Any credits completed beyond the first 8 will be included in the total earned credits and factored into the GPA but not applied to any undergraduate degree.

BSCI349 Biological Sciences Research Internship (1-3 Credits)

Technical biological sciences research conducted in an off-campus laboratory.

Restriction: Must be in the Biological Sciences major; and permission of instructor.

Repeatable to: 9 credits.

Additional Information: Students must contact the instructor for permission and have an off-campus mentor prior to enrolling in the course.

BSCI353 Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience (3 Credits)

Students will gain an appreciation of neuroscience as the nexus of chemistry, physics, and biology. Additionally, they will gain an understanding of how: both individual and networks of neurons function as variable electrical circuits; our nervous systems transduce signals from the outside world and sets-off molecular cascades; the behavior of a neuron can be changed and or remain the same in response to changing variables. Techniques used to study the nervous system at a cellular and molecular level will be discussed.

Prerequisite: 1 course with a minimum grade of C- from NEUR200, BSCI207, BSCI330 or BSCI331.

Corequisite: Must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in PHYS132 or equivalent course.

Cross-listed with: NEUR306.

Credit Only Granted for: NEUR306 or BSCI353.

BSCI355 Neurobiology of Extraordinary Senses (3 Credits)

From the polarization of light in the sky, to the Earth's magnetic field— we are surrounded by a universe of invisible cues. Organisms as diverse as bacteria, birds, insects, and fish rely on these hidden stimuli to navigate, communicate and forage. We will explore the organization and function of the extraordinary sensory systems that allow organisms to detect these cues. We will consider both the environmental and evolutionary context within which these sensory systems must function, and the history behind key discoveries in each system. Readings will include primary scientific literature and book chapters. Students will give in-depth presentations on a pre-selected topic, and discuss readings each week in a journal club-style format.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI353 or NEUR306.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI355, BIOL708J or NACS728I.

BSCI357 Neurobiology of Chemosensory Systems (3 Credits)

Chemosensation is essential for all forms of life, orchestrating several physiological processes, such as feeding, sexual behaviors, and body homeostasis. This course will review the function of chemosensory systems, including olfaction, gustatory and central chemoreception, among others. Through lectures and discussion of papers, we will examine the cell biology, systems neuroscience, and evolutionary aspects in these chemosensory systems.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI353 or NEUR306.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI339D, BSCI357, BIOL708Q, or NACS728J.

Formerly: BSCI339D.

BSCI358 Special Topics in Biological Sciences at Shady Grove (1-4 Credits)

Elective credit designed to allow undergraduate students to partake in focused academic experiences, to gain exposure to emerging issues, or to learn specialized content not represented in the main curriculum.

Restriction: Must be a Biological Sciences-Shady Grove major.

Repeatable to: 12 credits if content differs.

Additional Information: Credit cannot be applied to the requirements of any Biological Sciences Major.

BSCI360 Principles of Animal Behavior (3 Credits)

Study of animal behavior with emphasis on its evolution and function. Topics include genetic basis of behavior, communication, aggression, foraging, cooperation, mate selection, and relevance for conservation.

Prerequisite: BSCI160 and BSCI161; or BSCI106. And BSCI170 and BSCI171; or BSCI105. And BSCI222.

BSCI361 Principles of Ecology (4 Credits)

Basic principles of population, community, and ecosystem ecology. Use of these principles to predict possible consequences of human-caused changes in the environment and to understand the level of uncertainty of those predictions.

Prerequisite: BSCI160 and BSCI161; or BSCI106. And (MATH130, MATH136, or MATH140).

BSCI363 The Biology of Conservation and Extinction (3 Credits)

Ecology, evolutionary biology, and paleontology will be applied to the study of conservation, species invasions, and extinction.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI361.

BSCI366 Environmental Physiology of Animals (3 Credits)

Explores the physiological, morphological, ecological, and behavioral adaptations of aquatic and terrestrial animals that help them manage environmental challenges. The course considers both diverse adaptations among animal lineages and striking convergence among different animal lineages and systems, as well as the physical laws that drive this convergence. Impacts of climate change on the physiology and ecology of animals are highlighted across the course.

Prerequisite: BSCI207.

BSCI370 Principles of Evolution (3 Credits)

Understanding evolutionary processes in a natural and human environment, including adaptation; DNA sequence, protein, and genome evolution; evolution of developmental mechanisms; mechanisms of evolutionary change (mutation, natural selection, drift); epidemiology; coevolution and biological control; speciation; comparative methods; extinction and conservation; human evolution.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI160, (BSCI222 or HLSC322), and (BSCI180 or BSCI161).

BSCI373 Natural History of the Chesapeake Bay (3 Credits)

Consideration of the major groups of organisms associated with the Chesapeake Bay and current issues that determine humans' present and future uses for the Chesapeake and its biota.

Cross-listed with: ENST373.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI373 or ENST373.

BSCI374 Mathematical Modeling in Biology (4 Credits)

Students will learn empowering mathematical techniques through the understanding of biological models. Models are chosen from a variety of biological disciplines. Mathematical skills that will be developed along the way include: solving non-linear difference equations, eigenvector analysis, and the implementation of these algorithms as computer models.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in MATH136 or MATH141.

Cross-listed with: HLSC374.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI374, BSCI474, or HLSC374.

Formerly: BSCI474.

Additional Information: The HLSC374 version of this course is restricted to students in the Honors College Integrated Life Sciences program.

BSCI378H Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics Department Honors Seminar (1 Credit)

Required seminar for all students participating in departmental honors research program.

BSCI379 Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics Department Research (1-3 Credits)

This course is arranged to provide qualified majors an opportunity to pursue research problems under the supervision of a faculty member of the department.

Prerequisite: Permission of CMNS-Biological Sciences UG Program or Cell Biology & Molecular Genetics department.

Repeatable to: 8 credits.

Additional Information: A maximum of 8 credits of any version of BSCI379 can be applied to one or more undergraduate degrees. Any research credits completed beyond the first 8 will be included in the total earned credits and factored into the GPA but not applied to any undergraduate degree.

BSCI379H Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics Department Honors Research (1-4 Credits)

Student should consult program guidelines. Research project carried out under guidance of faculty advisor.

BSCI381 Molecular Neuroethology (3 Credits)

The brain generates a tremendous variety of behaviors, but how it achieves these feats remains largely unknown. Genetics and molecular tools yield fundamental insights into how the brain senses its environment and determines an appropriate course of action. This course will describe modern genetic manipulations (eg, CRISPR editing) and neuronal interventions (e. g., optogenetics), and discuss the quantification of behavioral outputs. Course consists of lectures plus readings and group discussions of primary scientific literature.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI222; and minimum grade of C- in BSCI353 or NEUR306.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI339W, BSCI381, or BIOL709W.

Formerly: BSCI339W.

BSCI389 Entomology Department Research (1-3 Credits)

Credit to be determined by the department. A maximum of 8 credits of any version of BSCI389 can be applied to one or more undergraduate degrees. Any research credits completed beyond the first 8 will be included in the total earned credits and factored into the GPA but not applied to any undergraduate degree.

Prerequisite: Permission of CMNS-Biological Sciences UG Program.

Repeatable to: 8 credits if content differs.

BSCI392 Biology of Extinct Animals (3 Credits)

A survey of extinct animals that have few, if any, direct living descendants. The principles governing the functional design of animals will be used to infer life styles for extinct, and frequently bizarre, organisms.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI160 and (BSCI180 or BSCI161).

Cross-listed with: GEOL391.

Credit Only Granted for: GEOL391 or BSCI392.

BSCI393 Biology of Extinct Animals Laboratory (1 Credit)

An overview of the techniques used in paleobiological reconstructions of extinct animals.

Prerequisite: Must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in BSCI392.

Cross-listed with: GEOL392.

Credit Only Granted for: GEOL392 or BSCI393.

BSCI398H Biology Department Honors Seminar (1 Credit)

Required seminar for all students participating in departmental honors research program.

BSCI399 Biology Department Research (1-3 Credits)

Research and/or integrated reading in biology under the direction and close supervision of a member of the faculty.

Prerequisite: Permission of the Biology Department.

Restriction: Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.

Repeatable to: 8 credits if content differs.

Additional Information: A maximum of 8 credits of any version of BSCI399 may be applied to one or more undergraduate degrees. Any research credits completed beyond the first 8 will be included in the total earned credits and factored into the GPA but not applied to any undergraduate degree.

BSCI399H Biology Department Honors Research (1-2 Credits)

A laboratory research problem; required each semester during honors participation and culminating in an honors thesis.

BSCI400 Animal Diversity and Evolution (3 Credits)

Focuses on deep-level diversity of animals and their evolutionary relationships, unique and repeated transitions in the course of animal evolution, and the evolutionary mechanisms that have shaped and continue to shape animal diversity. The course takes an integrative organismal approach to understanding animal evolution, considering morphology, development, physiology, life history, and ecology. It also explores how patterns of animal diversity have changed through time and the processes affecting animal diversity in our changing world.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI160 and BSCI207.

BSCI401 Animal Communication (3 Credits)

Examining the mechanisms by which animal produce and receive signals in each sensory modality; and quantifying the type and amount of information conveyed in signals and how animals attend to such information.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI160 and (BSCI180 or BSCI161) and CHEM237 or both CHEM231 and CHEM232.

Recommended: A course in animal behavior or biopsychology.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI401, BSCI338W or BIOL708W.

Formerly: BSCI338W.

BSCI403 Biology of Vision (3 Credits)

An upper level undergraduate course on the physical, molecular, and neural basis of vision.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI207, NEUR306, or BSCI353.

Recommended: BSCI222.

BSCI404 Cell Biology from a Biophysical Perspective (3 Credits)

An approach to cell biology by focusing on mechanisms and unifying physical paradigms. It will not assume a great deal of factual biological knowledge, but will expect a background that prepares students to think mechanistically and quantitatively.

Prerequisite: BSCI331 or BSCI330 .

Recommended: PHYS121 and PHYS122; or completion of PHYS131 and PHYS132 recommended.

Jointly offered with: BIOL704, BIPH704.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI404, BIOL704, or BIPH704.

Formerly: BSCI338O.

BSCI405 Population and Evolutionary Genetics (3 Credits)

Genetic variation within a population provides the basis for future evolution as well as a record of past evolution. The genomics revolution provides data on this variation that, together with mathematical models, allow us to read this record to reconstruct evolutionary trajectories. Examples will focus on hominin and pathogen evolution. In the lab, students will use models to explore how genetic variation (allele frequencies) changes over time and space.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI222; and 1 course with a minimum grade of C- from (MATH131, MATH136, MATH141). Jointly offered with BIOL709.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI405, BSCI339J, or BIOL709C.

Formerly: BSCI339J.

BSCI406 Membranes and Biological Interfaces (3 Credits)

An interdisciplinary approach to membrane biology, starting with the physical chemistry of interfaces and model systems and continuing into transport, excitability, and signaling. The course is oriented toward students with broad backgrounds in biology and biophysics. Success in the course will come from a background that prepares students to think mechanistically and quantitatively rather than having substantial factual biological knowledge.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI330 or (BSCI331 and BSCI332).

Recommended: PHYS122; or PHYS132; or (PHYS260 and PHYS261).

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI339R, BSCI406, or BIOL709R.

Formerly: BSCI339R.

BSCI407 Behavioral Genetics (3 Credits)

Behavior represents an organism's most dynamic phenotype and allows an animal to respond immediately to both internal and external cues.

We will explore the genetic and epigenetic mechanisms that underlie behavioral variation and the associated neurological, hormonal, and developmental pathways. We will examine modern approaches used to study behavioral genetics in model and non-model systems, and in humans. Using case studies, we will explore a range of complex phenotypes including those related to mating, parental care, aggression, circadian rhythm, locomotion, learning, anxiety, and addiction.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI222.

BSCI410 Molecular Genetics (3 Credits)

An advanced genetics course emphasizing the molecular basis of gene structure and function in the context of modern approaches to the genetics of humans and model organisms.

Prerequisite: BSCI222. And must have completed CHEM233; or (CHEM231 and CHEM232).

BSCI411 Bioinformatics and Integrated Genomics (4 Credits)

Computational methods for the study of biological data. Pairwise and multiple sequence alignment, genome assembly and annotation, RNAseq analysis, and structural bioinformatics. Introduction to UNIX, Python, and R in the context of biological sequence data. Previous computational experience is not necessary.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI222.

Recommended: BSCI410.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI380 or BSCI411.

Formerly: BSCI380.

BSCI412 Microbial Genetics (4 Credits)

A laboratory/lecture based course that covers the fundamentals of mutation, mobile genetic elements and transmission genetics of microbial organisms using both classical and molecular approaches.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in (BSCI222 or HLSC322) and (BSCI223 or BSCI283).

BSCI413 Recombinant DNA (3 Credits)

An advanced course presenting the tools and procedures of genetic engineering. Theory and practical applications of recombinant DNA techniques to understanding eukaryotic gene structure and expression.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in (BSCI223 or BSCI283) AND minimum grade of C- in (BSCI331 or BSCI330) AND minimum grade of C- in (BSCI222 or HLSC322).

BSCI414 Recombinant DNA Laboratory (3 Credits)

An advanced course offering hands-on experience in performing recombinant DNA experiments. All current molecular biology techniques used for cloning prokaryotic genes, analyzing the gene products, and modifying the genes will be performed. Techniques include isolation of DNA, use of restriction enzymes; cloning procedures, PCR analysis, and Southern hybridizations. Lecture material focuses on interpretation of results generated in the laboratory.

Prerequisite: BSCI222.

BSCI415 Molecular Genetics Laboratory (3 Credits)

Problem solving laboratory organized around extended projects that employ different approaches toward linking gene and function.

Prerequisite: Must have completed with a minimum grade of C-, or be concurrently enrolled in, BSCI410.

Restriction: Junior standing or higher.

BSCI416 Human Genetics (3 Credits)

Approaches to human genetics and applications to biology and medicine focusing on specific human genetic topics using primary research papers as the main resource.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI410.

Recommended: BSCI330.

BSCI417 Microbial Pathogenesis (3 Credits)

Current research in microbial pathogenesis and the molecular and cellular basis of bacterial disease. Comprehensive overview of the molecular basis of pathogenesis with a focus on model microbial systems to illustrate mechanisms of disease pathogenesis. Topics covered: how microorganisms attach to and enter cells; how host cells are damaged by microbial products; how the host responds to invasion; and host-pathogen evolution.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in (BSCI222 or HLSC322); and minimum grade of C- or better in (BSCI223 or BSCI283).

Restriction: Junior standing or higher.

BSCI420 Cell Biology Lectures (3 Credits)

Molecular and biochemical bases of cellular organization and function in eukaryotes.

Prerequisite: (BSCI331 or BSCI330) and (BSCI222 or HLSC322) and CHEM237 or (CHEM231 and CHEM232).

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI420 or BSCI421.

BSCI422 Principles of Immunology (3 Credits)

The immune system in health and disease. Presentation and analysis of the cellular and molecular processes that comprise the immune system.

Prerequisite: BSCI222.

Recommended: BSCI330; and (BSCI223 or BSCI283).

Restriction: Junior standing or higher.

BSCI423 Immunology Laboratory (2 Credits)

Current techniques for assessment of immune status and evaluation of the immune response, including monoclonal antibody production, Western blotting, cytokine assays, ELISA and flow cytometry.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in (BSCI222 or HLSC322); and must have completed with a minimum grade of C-, or be concurrently enrolled in, BSCI422.

Recommended: BSCI223 or BSCI283.

Restriction: Junior standing or higher.

BSCI424 Pathogenic Microbiology (4 Credits)

The role of bacteria and fungi in the diseases of humans with emphasis upon the differentiation and culture of microorganisms, types of disease, modes of disease transmission, prophylactic, therapeutic, and epidemiological aspects.

Prerequisite: BSCI223 or BSCI283.

BSCI425 Advanced Cell Biology Lab Practices (2 Credits)

Experimental techniques used to study the molecular, structural, and spatial organization of plant and animal cells. Using a combination of in vitro assays aimed at analyzing macromolecular and subcellular components and in vivo analyses designed to reveal the inner architecture of a typical eukaryotic cell, students will have an opportunity to: improve some of the basic technical and conceptual skills they acquired in an introductory cell biology course; develop a more sophisticated understanding of the nature of experimental cell manipulation; and tackle the ongoing challenge of articulating their findings in both written and oral communication.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in YBSCI330 or (BSCI 331 and 332)? AND minimum grade of C- in (BSCI222 or HLSC322), AND minimum grade of C- in YCHEM237 or (CHEM231 and CHEM232)?; and must have completed with a minimum grade of C-, or be concurrently enrolled in, BSCI420.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI421, BSCI425, or BSCI348C.

BSCI426 Global Change Biology (3 Credits)

Explore the biology of past, present and future global change and its impacts on the diversity of life. Focus on mechanisms of global change; organismal responses to that change, examples of past change, estimates of future change, and approaches to mitigation.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI207.

Recommended: BSCI361 and BSCI370.

BSCI430 Developmental Biology (3 Credits)

Structural, functional and regulatory events and mechanisms that operate during development to produce an integrated, multicellular organism composed of a multitude of differentiated cell types.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in (BSCI222 or HLSC322) and minimum grade of C- (BSCI331 or BSCI330).

BSCI431 The Origin and Evolution of Nervous Systems (3 Credits)

Explore how brains change through evolution along the animal tree of life. By comparing the nervous system structure and development across the animal kingdom, this course aims to reveal common designs and mechanisms that generate behavior, and to inform our understanding of how biology builds minds. Topics include the origins of neurons, the universal molecular patterning of brain development across invertebrates and vertebrates, the evolution of neurotransmission, comparative mechanisms of learning and memory, and what in our brain makes us human.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in NEUR200 or BSCI207.

BSCI432 Systems View of Cell Biology (3 Credits)

An integrated understanding of cell biology based upon reading of literature, discussion of new findings, and quantitative simulations. Exploration of ten topics including Heredity, Curing Diseases, and Synthesizing Life.

Prerequisite: BSCI330 or (BSCI331 and BSCI332).

BSCI433 Biology of Cancer (3 Credits)

Causes and consequences of neoplastic transformations at the biochemical and cellular levels.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in (BSCI222 or HLSC322) and minimum grade of C- in (BSCI331 or BSCI330).

BSCI436 RNA Biology and Therapeutics (3 Credits)

The prediction of RNA structure from its sequence, and how the many types of cellular and viral RNAs function in and regulate cellular processes. Use of RNA-based drugs for controlling disease through RNA targeting, editing and vaccines.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI330 OR (BSCI331 and BSCI332) and minimum grade of C- (BSCI222 or HLSC322).

Recommended: BSCI410.

Restriction: Must have junior standing or higher.

BSCI437 General Virology (3 Credits)

Discussion of the physical and chemical nature of viruses, virus cultivation and assay methods, virus replication, viral diseases with emphasis on the oncogenic viruses, viral genetics, and characteristics of the major virus groups.

Prerequisite: BSCI222; or permission of CMNS-Biological Sciences UG Program.

Restriction: Junior standing or higher.

BSCI439 Undergraduate Advanced Selected Topics in Biology (1-4 Credits)

Lectures, seminars, mini-courses, and other special instruction in various biological subjects.

Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

BSCI440 Mammalian Physiology (4 Credits)

A study of the cardiovascular, hemopoietic, gastrointestinal, renal and respiratory systems. Chemical and endocrine regulation of physiological functions in mammals. Course does not count as an upper level lab for BIOL majors (see BSCI441).

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in (BSCI330 or BSCI331) AND minimum grade of C- in Y(CHEM237 OR CHEM231 and CHEM232)?.

Credit Only Granted for: BIOE340, BSCI440, or BSCI450.

BSCI441 Mammalian Physiology Laboratory (2 Credits)

Laboratory exercises in experimental mammalian physiology.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in either BSCI330 OR minimum grade of C- (BSCI331 and BSCI332).

Corequisite: Must have completed with a minimum grade of C-, or be concurrently enrolled in, BSCI440.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI441 or BSCI451.

BSCI442 Plant Physiology (4 Credits)

An in-depth examination of the unique molecular and physiological principles necessary to understand how plants grow and respond to the environment at the cellular and organismal levels. Plants evolved unique metabolism and survival strategies, so students should be prepared to enter a world that may be new to them.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI170 and (BSCI180 or BSCI171); or minimum grade of C- in PLSC201 and PLSC206; and minimum grade of C- in CHEM231 and CHEM232; or minimum grade of C- in CHEM237.

Cross-listed with: PLSC400.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI442 or PLSC400.

BSCI443 Microbial Physiology (3 Credits)

Microbial cellular and population growth. Fermentation metabolism, physiology of anaerobiosis, and energy conservation and transformation in bacterial membranes. Efficiency of energy utilization for growth. Membrane structure and transport. Bacterial motility and chemotaxis. Regulation of bacterial chromosome replication, RNA and protein synthesis. Control of metabolic pathways. Bacterial stress responses. Antimicrobials.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI223 or BSCI283; and minimum grade of C- in BCHM461 or BCHM462.

BSCI446 Advanced Systems Neuroscience (3 Credits)

Neural development, neurobiology of sensation and perception, motor and integrative systems organization in the central nervous system. Neural systems dysfunction as related to medical pathologies and discussion of contemporary neuroscience methods used to understand brain function.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI353 or NEUR306.

BSCI447 General Endocrinology (3 Credits)

Functions and dysfunctions of the endocrine system with special reference to mammals.

Prerequisite: BSCI330 or BSCI331; and CHEM247 or (CHEM241 and CHEM242).

BSCI450 Mammalian Systems Physiology (3 Credits)

A study of the cardiovascular, hemopoietic, gastrointestinal, renal, and respiratory systems. Chemical and endocrine regulation of physiological functions in mammals.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in either BSCI330 or (BSCI331 and BSCI332); and minimum grade of C- in CHEM233 or (CHEM231 and CHEM232).

Credit Only Granted for: BIOE340, BSCI440, or BSCI450.

BSCI451 Mammalian Systems Physiology Laboratory (2 Credits)

Laboratory exercises in experimental mammalian physiology.

Prerequisite: Must have completed with a minimum of C- or be concurrently enrolled in either BSCI440 or BSCI450.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI441 or BSCI451.

Formerly: BSCI441.

BSCI452 Diseases of the Nervous System (3 Credits)

An advanced course covering the neuroanatomy, function, and organization of the nervous system and its implication for pathology and disease.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI330; and must have completed with a minimum of C- or be concurrently enrolled in either BSCI353 or NEUR306.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI452, BIOL708E, or NACS728N.

BSCI453 Biology of Hearing (3 Credits)

Acoustic and neural basis of hearing. The auditory system will be described with a comparative approach across species.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI207 or NEUR200.

Recommended: BSCI353 or NEUR306.

BSCI454 Neurobiology Laboratory (2 Credits)

Basic neuroanatomical techniques, intracellular and extracellular recordings of electrical potentials from nerve and muscle.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI330 or (BSCI331 and BSCI332); must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in BSCI353; and must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in PHYS122, PHYS132, or PHYS142.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI454, BSCI455, NEUR405, or PSYC401.

BSCI455 Neuroscience Laboratory (4 Credits)

Students will utilize neurophysiological techniques to examine fundamental principles of neurons and neural circuits. This course will reinforce content from prerequisite NEUR courses. Students will also strengthen skills in experimental design and scientific writing.

Prerequisite: NEUR306 or BSCI353; and PHYS132.

Recommended: NEUR305.

Cross-listed with: NEUR405.

Credit Only Granted for: PSYC401, NEUR405, BSCI455 or BSCI454.

BSCI456 Advanced Cellular Neuroscience (3 Credits)

Readings and discussion in cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying synaptic structure/function relationships, synaptic potentiation/depression, dendritic integration, homeostatic plasticity, and nervous system development including neurogenesis, axon guidance, synaptogenesis, and activity-dependent development among other topics.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI353 or NEUR306.

Recommended: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI440 or another upper-level neuroscience course.

Jointly offered with: NACS644.

Restriction: Permission of CMNS-Biology department.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI339X, BSCI456, or NACS644.

Formerly: BSCI339X.

BSCI462 Population Ecology (3 Credits)

Theory of population growth and regulation, life tables, and theory of competition and predation, evolution in ecological settings, community structure and dynamics.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in (MATH136 or MATH140) AND minimum grade of C- in BSCI361.

BSCI464 Microbial Ecology (3 Credits)

Interaction of microorganisms with the environment, other microorganisms and with higher organisms. Roles of microorganisms in the biosphere. Microorganisms and current environmental problems.

Prerequisite: BSCI223 or BSCI283; and (CHEM271 or CHEM277); or permission of the instructor.

BSCI467 Freshwater Biology (4 Credits)

Biology and ecology of freshwater invertebrates in lotic and lentic habitats, their adaptation to aquatic life, their function in aquatic ecosystems, and their relationship to environmental deterioration. Laboratory will include field trips, demonstrations, and identifications.

Prerequisite: BSCI160.

BSCI471 Molecular Evolution (3 Credits)

Patterns of DNA sequence variation within and between species, caused by nucleotide changes and the movement of transposable elements. Theories of molecular evolution, such as the neutral theory. Molecular clock hypothesis: its importance as a practical empirical tool in molecular genetics and systematics and its theoretical foundation.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in (BSCI222 or HLSC322).

BSCI473 Marine Ecology (3 Credits)

Courses in evolution and animal behavior are strongly recommended. A detailed analysis of the evolutionary ecology of marine invertebrates; emphasis on testing of theories and on current literature.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI207.

BSCI475 Sexual Selection in Nature (3 Credits)

Sexual selection drives some of the most spectacular, if not bizarre, traits in nature. We will explore how organisms select and compete for mates and fertilization success, and how this powerful and pervasive evolutionary force shapes sexual traits and regulates species boundaries. We will focus on the key theories in the field and discuss recent and classic research papers. This is a student-directed class: course topics and materials will be selected based on student interests and involvement. On occasion, experts in the field will be invited to class to discuss their research.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI207; or permission of instructor.

Recommended: BSCI360 or BSCI370. Jointly offered with BIOL708.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI338X, BSCI475, or BIOL708X.

Formerly: BSCI338X.

BSCI476 Evolutionary Genomics (3 Credits)

Application of genomics to understanding evolutionary processes, including genome evolution, organismal evolution, genomic diversity across the tree of life, human evolution and disease. Relevant concepts of evolutionary genetics and genome biology will be covered.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI222.

Recommended: BSCI370.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI476 or BIOL708C.

BSCI477 Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Disease (3 Credits)

Parasites are a ubiquitous feature of ecological communities, and can strongly impact population growth, extinction risk, community structure and biodiversity, as well as pose serious risks to human health and food security. This course will cover basic principles of disease ecology, including; the diversity of parasitic organisms and transmission modes, host and pathogen traits for defense and infection, mathematical models of disease spread, the impacts of disease at different ecological scales, and host-parasite co-evolution. In the latter half of the course we will apply these basic concepts to current real-world problems in disease ecology including emerging infectious diseases in humans, wildlife and agriculture. We will use examples from plants, animals and humans to about an equal degree. This course will have a strong quantitative focus, and completion of the math series is recommended.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in (BSCI361 or BSCI370) AND minimum grade of C- in (MATH136 or MATH140).

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI477 or BIOL708D.

BSCI480 Arthropod Form and Function (4 Credits)

Survey of the morphological, systematic and physiological diversity of the phylum Arthropoda.

Prerequisite: Permission of CMNS-Entomology (AGNR).

BSCI481 Insect Diversity and Classification (4 Credits)

A summary of the morphology, systematics and evolution of insects and techniques for their collection, preservation and identification. Emphasis is placed on the diversity of insects in North America, particularly Maryland and adjacent regions. An insect collection is required.

Prerequisite: BSCI337.

BSCI482 Insect Physiology and Molecular Biology (4 Credits)

Physiological and biochemical functions of insects. Insect endocrinology, neurobiology, sensory physiology, integument and molting, development and metamorphosis, immunity, metabolism and related topics.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI337.

BSCI483 Insects, Pathogens, and Public Health (3 Credits)

Explores how mosquitoes, ticks, and other blood-feeding arthropods shape human and animal health, from direct injury to the spread of globally important vector-borne diseases.

Prerequisite: BSCI207.

BSCI487 IPM: Science-Based Decision Making for Sustainable Pest Management (4 Credits)

Long-term global food security requires a sustainable increase in agricultural productivity to ensure the availability and accessibility of safe and nutritious food. Agricultural pests reduce global food production and threaten its sustainability. This course explores sustainable pest management in agroecosystems using the integrated pest management (IPM) paradigm. IPM is an ecosystem-based strategy that focuses on long-term prevention of pests or their damage through a combination of techniques such as biological control, habitat manipulation, modification of cultural practices, and use of resistant varieties. Pesticides are used only after monitoring indicates they are needed according to established guidelines, and treatments are made with the goal of removing only the target organism. Pest control materials are selected and applied in a manner that minimizes risks to human health, beneficial and non-target organisms, and the environment.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI160 AND minimum grade of C- in (BSCI180 or BSCI161).

Restriction: Must have earned a minimum of 90 credits.

Credit Only Granted for: BSCI487 or ENTM609.

BSCI488 Summer Biology Institutes (1-8 Credits)

Prerequisite: Permission of CMNS-Biological Sciences UG Program.

Repeatable to: 12 credits if content differs.

BSCI494 Animal-Plant Interactions (3 Credits)

Theoretical, conceptual and applied aspects of evolutionary and ecological interactions between plants and animals. This course gives an overview of major ideas, historical controversies, and current research on animal-plant relationships. We will explore the mechanisms and evolution of plant defenses and animal counter-adaptations, behavioral ecology and interactions across trophic levels, the role of microbial communities in mediating interactions, and how these interactions color human experience through food and medicine. The course will have a blended lecture/discussion format and will include field walks to collect herbivory data and observe animal-plant interactions.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI361 or BSCI370.

BSCI497 Insect Pests of Ornamentals and Turf (4 Credits)

The recognition, biology and management of insects and mites injurious to ornamental shrubs, trees, greenhouse crops, and turf. Emphasis on Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in BSCI160 AND (BSCI180 or BSCI161) OR minimum grade of C- in (PLSC110 and PLSC111) OR minimum grade of C- (PLSC112 and PLSC113).