

# B.A. in Biological Sciences

## Academic Program Guide for **New First-Year Students** (Effective Fall 2026)

### Department of Biological & Biomedical Sciences

*Students who entered Rowan University prior to Fall 2026 should follow the guide for their program and start year in consultation with their advisor.*

## Rowan University Graduation Requirements for all Majors / Degrees

- Students must complete at least 120 semester hours (sh) of coursework that apply to their Rowan University degree.
- Students must have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 in Rowan University coursework. (Transfer courses/credit do not count toward the RU GPA.)
- A minimum of 30 sh of coursework must be completed at/through Rowan University.
- Only grades of “D-” or above may apply to graduation/degree requirements. (Some programs may set higher minimums.)
- Students must meet the Rowan Core and Rowan Experience Requirements.
  - An individual course can potentially satisfy one Rowan Core literacy and/or multiple Rowan Experience attributes.
  - Rowan Core and Rowan Experience designations are listed in course details in Section Tally ([www.rowan.edu/registrar](http://www.rowan.edu/registrar)) and may also be searched on that site under “Attributes.” A list of Rowan Core courses is here: <https://confluence.rowan.edu/display/AS/Rowan+Core+Course+List>.
- Students must apply for graduation and should do so for the term in which they will complete all program requirements.

## Program-Specific Graduation Requirements for this Major / Degree

- Students must receive a grade of C- or better in all introductory-level biology courses to progress to the subsequent course (BIOL 01100, 01101, 01200, and 01204).
- Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 in the courses specifically required for the major. (Transfer courses/credit do not count toward this GPA calculation.)

## Rowan Core Requirements<sup>1</sup>

*Students must satisfy all six Rowan Core Literacies. A minimum total of 3 sh of coursework is required to satisfy each Literacy.*

- (COML) Communicative Literacy: *Must be met by the following three courses or their official equivalents:*
  - COMP 01111 College Composition I (3 sh)     COMP 01112 College Composition II (3 sh)
  - CMS 04205 Public Speaking or CMS 04206 Digital Presentations (3 sh)
- (ARTL) Artistic Literacy                      *Recommendation from major:*
- (GLBL) Global Literacy                          *Recommendation from major:*
- (HUML) Humanistic Literacy                 *Recommendation from major:* PHIL 09261 (3 sh counted under non-program)
- (QNTL) Quantitative Literacy                 *Recommendation from major:* STAT 02260 (3 sh counted under non-program)
- (SCIL) Scientific Literacy                      *Recommendation from major:* CHEM 06100 or BIOL 01100 (4 sh counted under major)

Subtotal of credits counted in this section: 15 sh

## Rowan Experience Requirements

*Students must satisfy all three Rowan Experience attributes. Credits attached to the courses in this section will apply elsewhere.*

- (LIT) Broad-Based Literature Attribute    *Recommendation from major:*
- (WI) Writing Intensive Attribute             *Recommendation from major:* PHIL 09261 (3 sh counts under non-program)
- (RS) Rowan Seminar Attribute<sup>2</sup>             *Recommendation from major:* BIOL01129 (1 sh counted under major)

## Non-Program Courses (minimum 18 sh)

*Courses in this section cannot be in the major department.*

| Course #                    | Course Name                               | Course Attributes / Notes   | Sem/Yr | Grade | Credits |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--------|-------|---------|
| PHIL 09261                  | Philosophical Perspectives on Science -WI | Satisfies Humanistic Literacy and WI requirement  |        |       | 3       |
| STAT 02260 or<br>STAT 02280 | Statistics I or<br>Biometry               | Statistics I satisfies Quantitative Literacy;<br>Biometry requires Calculus 1 (MATH 01130) as a prereq. |        |       | 3-4     |
|                             |   |   |        |       |         |
|                             |   |   |        |       |         |
|                             |   |   |        |       |         |

Subtotal: 18 sh

<sup>1</sup> The Rowan Core requirements are waived for transfer students with an earned A.A. or A.S. degree from a NJ community/county college.

<sup>2</sup> The Rowan Seminar requirement is waived for all students transferring 24 or more approved credits into Rowan University at the time of initial entry.

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## Major Courses (50 sh)

### SUMMARY OF MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

- 34 sh of Foundational Courses
  - 16 sh of Upper-Level Courses
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- 50 sh total

### FOUNDATIONAL COURSES

| Course #                    | Course Name                          | Course Designations / Notes | Sem/Yr | Grade | Credits |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|-------|---------|
| BIOL 01100                  | Biology I                            |                             |        |       | 4       |
| BIOL 01101                  | Biology II                           |                             |        |       | 4       |
| BIOL 01200                  | Genetics                             |                             |        |       | 4       |
| BIOL 01204                  | Ecology                              |                             |        |       | 4       |
| BIOL 01129                  | Professional Development 1           | Satisfies RS                |        |       | 1       |
| BIOL 01131                  | Professional Development 2           |                             |        |       | 1       |
| CHEM 06100 or<br>CHEM 06001 | Chemistry I or College Chemistry I   |                             |        |       | 4       |
| CHEM 06101 or<br>CHEM 06002 | Chemistry II or College Chemistry II |                             |        |       | 4       |
| PHYS 00210                  | Physics I w/o Calculus               |                             |        |       | 4       |
| PHYS 00211                  | Physics II w/o Calculus              |                             |        |       | 4       |
| <b>Subtotal: 34 sh</b>      |                                      |                             |        |       |         |

### UPPER-LEVEL COURSES

| Course #                                     | Course Name  | Course Designations / Notes | Sem/Yr | Grade | Credits |
|--|--|-----------------------------|--------|-------|---------|
|  | Upper-level biology lab elective   | Must be at 300+ level       |        |       | 4       |
|  | Upper-level biology lab elective   | Must be at 400+ level       |        |       | 4       |
|  | Upper-level biology lab elective   | Must be at 400+ level       |        |       | 4       |
| BIOL 01132                                   | Professional Development 3   |                             |        |       | 1       |
| BIOL 01445 or<br>BIOL 06100 or<br>COSM 00352 | Special Topics or<br>Biological and Biomedical Research 1 or Co-op<br>in Science and Mathematics |                             |        |       | 3       |
| <b>Subtotal: 16 sh</b>                       |  |                             |        |       |         |

## Free Electives for this Major/Degree (37 sh)

*Students should choose Free Electives that satisfy any Rowan Core or Rowan Experience requirements that are not fulfilled by Major or Non-Program courses.*

| Course #               | Course Name | Course Attributes / Notes | Sem/Yr | Grade | Credits |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|--------|-------|---------|
|                        |             |                           |        |       |         |
|                        |             |                           |        |       |         |
|                        |             |                           |        |       |         |
|                        |             |                           |        |       |         |
|                        |             |                           |        |       |         |
|                        |             |                           |        |       |         |
|                        |             |                           |        |       |         |
|                        |             |                           |        |       |         |
|                        |             |                           |        |       |         |
|                        |             |                           |        |       |         |
| <b>Subtotal: 37 sh</b> |             |                           |        |       |         |

**Total Program Credits Required for this Major / Degree: 120 SH**

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## Sample Sequence

| First Semester  | Credit    | Second Semester   | Credit    |
|---|-----------|---|-----------|
| BIOL 01.100 Biology I   | 4         | BIOL 01.101 Biology II  | 4         |
| CHEM 06.100 Chemistry I (Scientific Literacy) OR<br>CHEM 06.001 College Chemistry I | 4         | CHEM 06.101 Chemistry II OR<br>CHEM 06.002 College Chemistry II | 4         |
| COMP 01.111 College Comp. I   | 3         | COMP 01.112 College Comp. II                                    | 3         |
| Artistic Literacy (Rowan Core)  | 3         | Global literacy (Rowan Core)                                    | 3         |
| BIOL 01.129 Professional Development 1  | 1         |   |           |
| <b>Term Total Credit</b>  | <b>15</b> | <b>Term Total Credit</b>  | <b>14</b> |
| Third Semester  | Credit    | Fourth Semester   | Credit    |
| BIOL 01.200 Genetics  | 4         | BIOL 01.204 Ecology   | 4         |
| STAT 00.260 Statistics I  | 4         | CMS 04.205 Public Speaking                                      | 3         |
| General Education Elective/Free Elective  | 3         | General Education Elective/Free Elective                        | 3         |
| General Education Elective/Free Elective  | 3         | General Education Elective/Free Elective                        | 3         |
| BIOL 01.131 Professional Development 2  | 1         | General Education Elective/Free Elective                        | 3         |
| <b>Term Total Credit</b>  | <b>15</b> | <b>Term Total Credit</b>  | <b>16</b> |
| Fifth Semester  | Credit    | Sixth Semester  | Credit    |
| PHYS 00.210 Physics I   | 4         | PHYS 00.211 Physics II  | 4         |
| PHIL 09.261 Philosophical Perspectives on Science-WI                                | 3         | Upper-level biology lab elective                                | 4         |
| General Education Elective/Free Elective  | 3         | General Education Elective/Free Elective                        | 3         |
| General Education Elective/Free Elective  | 3         | General Education Elective/Free Elective                        | 3         |
| General Education Elective/Free Elective  | 3         |   |           |
| <b>Term Total Credit</b>  | <b>16</b> | <b>Term Total Credit</b>  | <b>14</b> |
| Seventh Semester  | Credit    | Eighth Semester   | Credit    |
| BIOL 06.100 Biological and Biomedical Research I OR<br>BIOL 01.445 Special Topics   | 3         | Upper-level biology lab elective                                | 4         |
| Upper-level biology lab elective  | 4         | General Education Elective/Free Elective                        | 3         |
| General Education Elective/Free Elective  | 3         | General Education Elective/Free Elective                        | 3         |
| General Education Elective/Free Elective  | 3         | General Education Elective/Free Elective                        | 3         |
| BIOL 01.132 Professional Development 3  | 1         | General Education Elective/Free Elective                        | 3         |
| <b>Term Total Credit</b>  | <b>14</b> | <b>Term Total Credit</b>  | <b>16</b> |