

Minor in Biological Sciences - Minimum Requirements

	BIOL CORE COURSES (18 credits; 10 upper-level)	Pre-requisites/Co-requisites	credit
	BIOL 141 - Foundations of Biology: Cells, Energy & Organisms	MATH 150 or higher or placement in MATH 151	4
	BIOL 142 - Foundations of Biology: Ecology & Evolution	BIOL 141 and (MATH 150 or higher or placement in MATH 151)	4
	BIOL 302 - Molecular & General Genetics	BIOL 141, BIOL 142, CHEM 101/123, CHEM 102/124 (co-req), and (MATH 150 or higher or placement in MATH 151)	4
	BIOL 303 - Cell Biology	BIOL 141, BIOL 142, BIOL 302, CHEM 102, and (MATH 150 or higher or placement in MATH 151)	4
	BIOL Elective (BIOL3XX or 4XX lecture or lab course - see Note 5)	See catalog	2 - 4

Important Notes:

- 1) The BIOL minor may NOT be taken with a major in Biological Sciences (BIOL BA or BS), Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (BIOC), Biology Education (BIOE), Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (BINF), or Translational Life Sciences Technology (TLST) because of complete overlap in requirements.
- 2) At least two of the courses used for BIOL minor requirements must not be used in the fulfillment of the coursework of another major, minor or certificate.
- 3) BIOL 141, BIOL 142 and BIOL 302 are considered an academic sequence. Once you pass BIOL 302 you may not go back and repeat BIOL 141 or BIOL 142.
- 4) Students must earn a "C" or better in all minor courses AND course prerequisites.
- 5) At least half of the required BIOL courses and electives must be completed in residence: for the BIOL minor, at least three of five BIOL classes must be taken at UMBC.
- 6) BIOL 396, 397, 398, 399, 495, 497H, 499, 499L and 499H may NOT be used for the Elective requirement. The BIOL elective class must be taken at UMBC.
- 7) The Biological Sciences Department evaluates completion of minor requirements based on COURSES completed, not CREDITS completed, because equivalent courses taken elsewhere may not be the same number of credits as the UMBC course they replace.
- 8) Under exceptional circumstances, the Department may waive or alter a BIOL degree requirement. Students seeking to petition for a waiver must consult with their academic adviser, then may submit a 'Petition for Waiver/Substitution of Program Requirements' form, found here: <https://biology.umbc.edu/undergrad/forms-links/>.