

BIOLOGY MAJOR CHECKLIST

NAME: _____ CLASS: _____
ADVISOR: _____

REQUIREMENTS:

To complete a major, students should take the following biology courses:

1. **Introductory courses:** BIOL-181 and BIOL-191. See below for Placing Out instructions.
2. **Four upper-level courses** in Biology. The upper-level courses must include three laboratory courses (or four for students omitting both Intro labs) and at least one course from each of the three areas ("Bins") listed below. Only four courses are required for students electing to do Honors. These four courses do not include courses for non-majors or Special Topics courses.
3. **Fifth course:** A Seminar course OR the departmental Honors Program.

Off Campus: to count toward the major, courses taken off campus must be approved by the Department.

INTRODUCTORY COURSES:

Placing Out: Students wishing to place out of either Biology 181 or Biology 191 must first seek Departmental approval (see Karen Racz for form) and provide written documents verifying an AP score of 5. Students placing out of BIOL-181 must substitute a course from Bin III (Evolutionary Explanations); students placing out of BIOL-191 must substitute a course from Bin I (Molecular and Cellular Mechanisms). Students who place out must take a minimum of four semesters of laboratory work (Placing out of 1: 1 Intro + 3 upper-level labs; Placing out of both: 4 upper-level labs).

BIOL-181 AC: _____ Placed out: _____ Off campus: _____
BIOL-191 AC: _____ Placed out: _____ Off campus: _____

If placing out of BIOL-181: Additional Course (Bin III) _____
If placing out of BIOL-191: Additional Course (Bin I) _____

UPPER-LEVEL COURSES: Please circle/fill in below.

<u>Course Requirement:</u>	<u>AC Courses:</u>	<u>Off Campus Course:</u>
<i>I. Molecular & Cellular Mechanisms</i>	251 291 301 310 330 331 400	Off campus: _____
<i>II. Integrative Processes</i>	201 221 241 260 271 351 370 380 381	Off campus: _____
<i>III. Evolutionary Explanations.</i>	211 230 281 320 321	Off campus: _____
<i>IV. Fourth Upper-Level Course</i>	_____	Off campus: _____
<i>V. Seminar or Honors</i>	404 410 420 414 424 430 434 440 444 450 454 460 464 Honors? _____	

Which are your 3 lab courses? _____

Comprehensive Exam: Passed: _____ Date: _____

Last Updated: April 1, 2014 TLR

BIOLOGY MAJOR CHECKLIST (continued)

Physical Sciences: Students are required to take two courses in chemistry—Chemistry 151/155 and Chemistry 161 or above—and two courses in Mathematics and/or Physics at the level of Math 111 and Physics 116 or above. Students with Advanced Placement scores may satisfy the requirement by taking upper-level courses.

1. Chemistry 151/155 or equivalent: _____
2. Chemistry 161 or equivalent: _____
3. Mathematics 111 or Physics 116/123 or equivalent: _____
4. Mathematics 111 or Physics 116/123 or equivalent: _____

Please note:

- Seminar courses count as Biology major courses but not for any particular Bin area.
- Non-majors courses—106, 108, 110, 114 and 131—and Special Topics courses do not count toward the major.
- Honors students must still satisfy distribution and lab requirements.
- Majors are expected to take at least 3 of the 5 courses beyond BIOL-181/191 at Amherst College unless approved in advance by the Department.
- A Biology course cannot be counted towards the Biology major if it is also being used to meet the requirements of another major, unless the course in question is required by both majors.
- **In order to count toward the major, all courses taken off campus must be approved by petitioning the Department and cannot be approved by your Advisor alone.** It is better to do this in advance. For off-campus courses note the institution, number and course name and when approval was granted. In petitioning, indicate which AC course you want to substitute and your reasons. Include a copy of the catalog description of the course you are substituting and any additional pertinent information. If your Honors project is done off campus, you are expected to follow the same guidelines as students working on campus, and assignment of levels of Honors and grades will be made by the Department, taking into consideration recommendations by your Advisor.

The Biology Major, 6 different ways:

	2 Semesters of Intro	1 Semester of Intro	-0- Semesters of Intro
Distribution Requirement:	3 areas	3 areas	3 areas
Minimum Lab Requirement:	2 Intro + 3 Upper = 5 labs	1 Intro + 3 upper = 4 labs	-0- Intro + 4 upper = 4 labs
Upper-Level Course Requirements:			
a) No Honors	5	6	7
b) With Honors	4 + 3 thesis	5 + 3 thesis	6 + 3 thesis