A Guide for STEM Activities at Yale for First-Year Students

2018-2019

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Rationale for writing this guide

Dear first-year students,

I do a lot of advising for undergraduates majoring in STEM, and am surprised by how often Yale undergraduates (even upper-level students) don’t know where STEM information vital to their academic success is located on the Yale web space. This lack of knowledge is due in part to the sheer amount of information out there and to the multiple advising resources available at Yale. While these resources are important, first-years can easily get overwhelmed with so much information.

This guide highlights existing information and web links to help STEM majors navigate Yale resources more efficiently. While it is written with the first-year student in mind, more senior STEM students might also benefit from my career advice on medical and graduate schools.

There are three pieces of advice that I would like to offer to any first-year student, based on my own undergraduate experiences: (1) find a non-distracting place to study, away from your dorm, and go there every day to get your work done, (2) use course-based peer tutors for all your introductory STEM classes, if needed, and (3) go to your professors’ office hours. I describe these points in greater detail below.

Note that the advice for pre-meds and pre-grads is just that - advice. It’s not a plan set in stone for you to follow exactly, but a guide to get you started. It is essential for you to reach out to your first-year counselors (FroCos), residential college deans, heads of colleges, academic advisers, peer mentors and professors to get their take on what you want to accomplish at Yale. This is one reason why you chose Yale - the support here is incredible and we all want you to succeed in whatever you do.

Please help me make this guide better by giving me suggestions on additional information that I should include that could benefit you. I welcome any student to reach out to me. My e-mail is s.chang@yale.edu. I love eating breakfast or lunch with undergrads, so contact me to grab a meal.

Best,

Sandy Chang, MD/PhD
Associate Dean of Science and QR Education
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Proper E-mail Etiquette is Important to Make a Good First Impression

You won’t believe how many undergrads address me with “Yo, Hey, Dude” in their e-mail messages. While these salutations are OK with your friends, do not use them to address your professors or deans! Proper e-mail etiquette is important to make a good first impression! The below was taken from an informative article written by Megan Roth, USA Today College, [http://college.usatoday.com/2012/03/15/five-things-to-remember-when-e-mailing-a-professor/](http://college.usatoday.com/2012/03/15/five-things-to-remember-when-e-mailing-a-professor/).

Follow these rules when emailing your professor:

1. **Be Formal**

   Always use a proper salutation when emailing a professor — even if you know the professor personally or professionally. Use “Dear” to begin the email and address him or her by the name you would use if speaking to the professor in person (Dear Dr. _____ or Dear Ms. ____). If your professor asks you to address him/her by first name, still use “Dear” to set up a respectful tone for the letter.

2. **Specify**

   Specify who you are by first and last name, and specify which class you are taking before diving into the specifics. Professors often teach anywhere from two to six classes per semester and usually have hundreds of students to serve. State your name, the class you are taking and the course section (the professor might teach three sections of your course and will need to know which one you attend).

3. **Be thorough**

   Any time you send a message, you should have two things in mind: goal and audience. Your audience here is a professor, who is an authority figure. Your goal could be any number of things, from clarifying the reading assignment to asking for an extension. Whatever your goal may be, you’ll want to anticipate any questions the professor may have and incorporate the information into your message. For example:

   Dear Professor Smith,
   My name is John Green and I attend your ENC4214 section 9 course. I missed class on Tuesday and would like to find out the assignment for Thursday. The syllabus only lists a reading assignment, but I wanted to make sure nothing is due to hand in Thursday. Thank you for your help.
   Sincerely,
   John Green

   The example above shows that John indicated that he had already checked the syllabus. This saves time and allows the professor to simply respond, “Yes, there is a written
assignment and it is _____” or “No, there is no written assignment,” knowing that John has already gone to the syllabus.

4. Be kind

Professors are people, too. They have friends, families, hobbies and favorite foods. So, when you email a professor, remember that you are not writing to an entity, a building or a computer — you are communicating with a real person. Be kind, be thankful and never come across as demanding. This can be accomplished with the “You Attitude,” a concept that asks you to consider yourself as the reader. What words or sentences would be off-putting? For example:

“Get back to me as soon as possible.” This sentence is demanding, pushy and gives a direct command — something you want to avoid. After all, you are communicating with a higher-up.

“Please advise me at your convenience.” This conveys respect and awareness. The professor is not a public servant and doesn’t need to do anything as soon as possible for you.

Using the “You Attitude” establishes goodwill and respect and increases the chances you will receive the help you need. It also won’t hurt to thank the professor at the end of the email, which establishes good rapport (see the example above).

5. Proofread

Perhaps the most important and final step - proofreading ensures that you come across as professional and caring. An email full of errors and faulty sentence structure is sure to enflame a busy professor. After all, if your writing is unclear, the reader has to work to understand what you want. Do the work on your end and make the message clear and easy to read. For a short message, don’t get fancy. Use simple syntax (subject-verb-object) and proofread for run-on sentences, misspellings and other errors.

Together these tips will make emailing your professor a breeze.

Risa Sodi, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs & Director of Advising and Special Programs, has a terrific website, [https://advising.yalecollege.yale.edu](https://advising.yalecollege.yale.edu), that contains numerous other resources that you will find useful.
How to Hit the Academic Ground Running

The first key to academic success at Yale is to know what your professor expects from you. Academic Strategies, https://academicstrategies.ctl.yale.edu/, a part of the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), is a very valuable website that teaches you how to start smart in your classes. This link, https://academicstrategies.ctl.yale.edu/starting-smart, contains invaluable information. Read EVERYTHING in it, then read it again.

A second key to academic success is to use the tutoring service, if needed, for all your intro STEM classes. I can’t stress this enough. USE THE COURSE-BASED PEER TUTORS! This is especially true for large STEM intro classes. Visit this link, https://ctl.yale.edu/tutoring/quantitative-reasoning-science, to find out more about this essential resource.

Each residential college also host science and quantitative reasoning (QR) peer tutors with unique specialties with drop-in hours, https://ctl.yale.edu/tutoring/quantitative-reasoning-science/drop-residential-college-mathscience-tutors.

You can also request individual peer tutors, if needed. For more information contact Dr. Purushothaman, kailas.purushothaman@yale.edu.

A third key to success is to go to your professors’ office hours every week. They have this time set aside especially for you to ask questions about anything related to class work. Professors often use this time to review a difficult topic or p-set, or to review contents covered in an upcoming exam. If you don’t go, you will miss out on these VALUABLE nuggets of wisdom. Going to office hours is also a great opportunity to interact with your professors.

Many STEM departments will be rolling out a new peer mentor program for their majors this year. Juniors and seniors chosen by the departmental Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) will function as ambassadors to teach first-year students more about their majors. Reach out to the DUS in a major you are interested in, get the e-mail address of a peer mentor and then grab a meal with one of them. Upper-level students are one of the best resources to get the low-down of a particular major.

Finally, those of you in the STARS I Program will have your own peer mentors assigned to you. Take advantage and meet with them often, they are an invaluable source of STEM information. If your STARS I mentor cannot answer a question, she/he will direct you to other STARS I mentors who can. You are also free to get in touch with other STARS peer mentors to ask them questions. https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/stars/stars-i-academic-year-program
Recommended Small Enrollment Science Classes for First-Years

Our introductory biology, chemistry and physics courses are fabulous and well taught, and you need to take all of them if you are a MBB/MCDB/EEB/BME major and/or pre-med. But they are large classes, and some first-years might find it intimidating to get to know their professors. The solution is to take one large intro science class and a smaller science class on some science topic that interests you. Below are the small STEM classes that I recommend you shop. They come in two flavors; first-year seminars or Course-based Undergraduate Research Experience (CURE) classes.

First-year STEM Seminars  https://yalecollege.yale.edu/academics/special-academic-programs/first-year-seminar-program
These classes delve into a specific topic in detail. They are capped at 18 students (classes are typically much smaller), so you really get to know your professor and classmates well. If you love to interact closely with a professor and to talk about science in a small group setting, this is your type of class. Many professors also take their seminar classes on cool field trips; I took mine to the Museum of Natural History in NYC last year and we ate amazing Greek food. I loved teaching first-year seminars so much that I’m teaching TWO this year. Be aware that there is a lottery for these classes, so you might not get into the one you want. Remember, you only get to take these classes as first-years, so don’t miss the opportunity!

Fall 2018

* APHY 050a / PHYS 050a, Science of Modern Technology and Public Policy  Daniel Prober
Examination of the science behind selected advances in modern technology and implications for public policy, with focus on the scientific and contextual basis of each advance. Topics are developed by the participants with the instructor and with guest lecturers, and may include nanotechnology, quantum computation and cryptography, renewable energy technologies, optical systems for communication and medical diagnostics, transistors, satellite imaging and global positioning systems, large-scale immunization, and DNA made to order. SC RP MW 2:30pm-3:45pm

* EVST 007a, The New England Forest  Marlyse Duguid
Exploration of the natural history of southern New England, with specific focus on areas in and around New Haven. Pertinent environmental issues, such as climate change, endangered species, and the role of glacial and human history in shaping vegetative patterns and processes, are approached from a multi-disciplinary framework and within the context of the surrounding landscape. Th 1pm-5pm

* G&G 010a / EVST 010a, Earth, Resources, Energy, and the Environment  Mary-Louise Timmermans
Humankind’s interactions with, and place within, the natural world. Plate tectonics and natural disasters, biological evolution and mass extinction, human evolution, population growth and ecology, industrial resources, groundwater and pollution, fossil fuels and energy transitions, the carbon cycle and greenhouse gases, paleoclimates, current global warming, alternative energies, and a planetary perspective on the Earth as a singular oasis in space. SC TTh 11:35am-12:50pm

* MB&B 060a, Molecular Medicine  Sandy Chang
The main purpose of this course is to use benign and malignant hematological disorders to introduce fundamental concepts in molecular and cellular biology. Students emerge from this course with a firm understanding of the molecular pathways perturbed in various hematological disorders and the therapeutics currently used to exploit these pathways for disease treatment. Through lectures and reading of primary scientific literature, students learn about landmark discoveries in hematology and how these discoveries contribute to understanding of the normal hematopoietic system, and when perturbed, how diseases arise. Students also learn to (1) read primary scientific literature, (2) synthesize this material to present to the class and (3) learn how to write a short grant proposal. These skills are essential for any successful scientist or physician, and it’s important to master them early. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program. Prerequisite: score of 5 on the AP Biology exam or AP Chemistry exam. SC MW 1pm-2:15pm
MCDB 065a, The Science and Politics of HIV/AIDS  Robert Bazell
Study of the basic virology and immunology of HIV/AIDS, along with its extraordinary historical and social effects. Issues include the threat of new epidemics emerging from a changing global environment; the potential harm of conspiracy theories based on false science; and how stigmas associated with poverty, gender inequality, sexual preference, and race facilitate an ongoing epidemic. For all first-year students regardless of whether they are considering a science major. SC TTh 2:30pm-3:45pm

MCDB 050a, Immunology and Microbes  Paula Kavathas
Introduction to the immune system and its interaction with specific microbes. Attention both to microbes that cause illness, such as influenza, HIV, and HPV, and to microbes that live in harmony with humans, collectively called the microbiome. Readings include novels and historical works on diseases such as polio and AIDS. SC RP TTh 1pm-2:15pm

PHYS 040a / ASTR 040, Expanding Ideas of Time and Space  C. Megan Urry
Discussions on the nature of time and space. Topics include the shape and contents of the universe, special and general relativity, dark and light matter, and dark energy. Observations and ideas fundamental to astronomers’ current model of an expanding and accelerating four-dimensional universe. SC TTh 11:35am-12:50pm

SCIE 030a and SCIE 031b, Current Topics in Science  Douglas Kankel
A series of modules in lecture and discussion format addressing scientific issues arising in current affairs. Topics are selected for their scientific interest and contemporary relevance, and may include global warming, human cloning, and the existence of extrasolar planets. Credit for SCIE 030 upon completion of SCIE 031; one course credit is awarded for successful completion of the year’s work. SC  ½ Course cr per term F 1:30pm-3pm

Spring 2019

ASTR 030b, Search for Extraterrestrial Life  Michael Faison
Introduction to the search for extraterrestrial life. Review of current knowledge on the origins and evolution of life on Earth; applications to the search for life elsewhere in the universe. Discussion of what makes a planet habitable, how common these worlds are in the universe, and how we might search for them. Survey of past, current, and future searches for extraterrestrial intelligence. WR, SC TTh 1pm-2:15pm

CPSC 035b, Twenty-First Century Electronic and Computer Music Techniques  Scott Petersen
Exploration of twenty-first century electronic and computer music through the diverse subjects and issues at the intersection of technology and new music. How computers have changed and challenged the analysis, composition, production, and appreciation of music over the last fifty years. Knowledge of basic music theory and the ability to read Western musical notation is assumed. TTh 2:30pm-3:45pm

MATH 077b, Math as a Creative Art  Patrick Devlin
This course focuses on the creative process central to mathematical reasoning rather than mechanical manipulation of symbols. Unlike a typical math class, this course deals entirely with the aesthetics of math, and no prior mathematical background is required or assumed. Topics include puzzles, strategy games, social networks, symmetries, number theory, infinity, and beyond. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program. QR TTh 9am-10:15am

MB&B 050b, Topics in Cancer Biology  Sandy Chang
Introduction to cancer as a genetic disease, with a focus on major discoveries in cancer biology that offer mechanistic insights into the disease process. A brief history of cancer; influence of the genomic revolution on cancer diagnostics; molecular defects underlying specific cancers; current and future cancer therapeutics. Patient case studies highlight specific molecular pathways and treatment strategies. Enrollment limited to first-year students with a strong background in biology and/or chemistry, typically demonstrated by a score of 5 on Advanced Placement examinations. SC MW 1pm-2:15pm

MCDB 040b, The Science and Politics of Cancer  Robert Bazell
Fundamentals of cell biology, Darwinian evolution, immunology, and genetics that underlie cancer; the history of cancer science and treatment; historical and current policy issues. Enrollment limited to first-year students. SC TTh 1pm-2:15pm

MCDB 050a, Immunology and Microbes  Staff
Introduction to the immune system and its interaction with specific microbes. Attention both to microbes that cause illness, such as influenza, HIV, and HPV, and to microbes that live in harmony with humans, collectively called the microbiome. Readings include novels and historical works on diseases such as polio and AIDS. Enrollment limited to first-year students. SC RP TTh 1pm-2:15pm

Course-based Undergraduate Research Experience (CURE) Classes
Through funding from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Yale has designed courses intended to increase hands-on research experiences for first-year students and sophomores via lab courses that have no prerequisites. These CURE classes mix lectures with hands-on research projects and are an excellent way for first-years and sophomores without previous research experiences to learn about research
methodologies in a specific discipline. E-mail the course instructors for further information. Some class enrollments may be capped.

**Fall 2018**

**BENG 205 Discovery and Design in Biomedical Research.** Dr. Jay Humphrey (jay.humphrey@yale.edu) and Dr. Alyssa Siefert (alyssa.siefert@yale.edu)

This course will introduce a clinical dilemma, that is, a medical or surgical need, and help students to learn how to work together effectively to identify a solution that stems from a multi-disciplinary approach. Toward this end, we will focus on precision regenerative medicine as an illustrative area of study for it involves aspects of bioengineering, materials science, immunobiology, mechanobiology, computational modeling, and experimental design. We will also advance to hands-on fabrication and materials testing (i.e., data collection and analysis). To focus our study, we will consider in detail the design of a drug-eluting, tissue engineered vascular conduit for surgical treatment of a congenital heart defect that is diagnosed and treated in early childhood. This topic also offers the opportunity to understand contributions from diverse areas of clinical collaboration, including surgery and cardiology. Because the solution is open-ended it will enable a true classroom directed research experience. Although focused on a single clinical need, all of the methods learned will be generally applicable to a host of clinical needs.

**Exploring the Microbial World.** Dr. Iain Dawson (iain.dawson@yale.edu)

This laboratory will introduce beginning undergraduate students to STEM research, through an immersive experience in a real-world research project. Students will work with the common soil bacterium, Bacillus mycoides. B. mycoides has a unique filamentous and spiraling growth pattern and individual B. mycoides isolates display either clockwise or counter-clockwise chirality. Students will isolate their own B. mycoides strains and characterize their growth patterns under different conditions. Additionally, students will work on developing methods and tools for future research, such as ways to isolate individual cells and constructing fluorescently tagged lines to study cell and filament growth. Coursework will focus on developing student skill sets in microbial laboratory practice and developing critical thinking through legitimate participation in, and importantly designing, an ongoing laboratory investigation.

**Spring 2019**

**ANTH 148L Hormones and Behavior.** Dr. Claudia Valeggia (claudia.valeggia@yale.edu), Dr. Eduardo Fernandez-Duque (eduardo.fernandez-duque@yale.edu), and Dr. Margaret Corley (margaret.corley@yale.edu)

This is a laboratory-based course designed for freshmen and sophomore students. It focuses on the interaction between hormones and behavior from an evolutionary and developmental perspective. From the start of the semester, you will begin to gain competency in basic laboratory techniques (pipetting, diluting, aliquotting, etc.) in a laboratory section. During the first five weeks of the course, you will also be introduced to the interactions between hormones and behavior, drawing from literature both on human and non-human primates in a seminar section. You will learn about research design and the scientific method by reading and discussing primary scientific literature. During the last 6 weeks of the course, students will work together (in groups of 2 or 3) to design and carry out a small research project related to hormones and behavior and will present your findings in a final group presentation. One goal of this course is to get individuals from groups traditionally underrepresented in STEM involved in scientific research at Yale. No prior laboratory experience is required and underrepresented minorities are encouraged to apply.

**Introduction to Experimental Archaeology.** Dr. Ellery Frahm (ellery.frahm@yale.edu) and Dr. Roderick McIntosh (roderick.mcintosh@yale.edu)

Experimental archaeology lies at the intersection of anthropological archaeology, STEM, and the television show "Mythbusters." Through the replication of ancient technologies, we can test models that explain the dynamic behavioral and natural processes which led to the formation of the archaeological record. Students explore the elements of good experimental design, procedure, and assessment by carrying out research of their own designs and working together in peer groups, resulting in an in-class presentation, scientific poster, and project portfolio.

**Self-Driving Cars: Theory and Practice.** Dr. Man-Ki Yoon (man-ki.yoon@yale.edu)

This course will explore the theory and practice of building self-driving cars using advanced computing technologies. The topics range from embedded system programming, sensor fusion, and control theory to the basics of planning and routing algorithms as well as machine learning with computer vision. Over the course of the semester, students will design and implement miniaturized self-driving cars that will autonomously navigate through an indoor track, ending with an autonomous racing competition and a project report/poster of their work.

**E&B 175L Virus Discovery and Evolution.** Dr. Alita Burmeister (alita.burmeister@yale.edu)

An introduction to empirical research with a hybrid between lab exercises and mentored research on bacteriophage, which are viruses that infect bacteria. A general goal of this course is for each student to decide whether they want to continue with undergraduate research. Specific learning objectives and assessments focus on experimental design, hypothesis testing, data analysis, and presentation. Students will practice these skills and conduct independent research projects. Students will gain basic experience with methods and principles from microbiology, genetics, ecology, and evolutionary biology.
Biology Laboratory Courses
If you are eager to do undergraduate research in biology but have no previous lab experience, you might want to consider taking one of the MCDB lab courses below. Dr. Moreno does a great job making Yale undergrads familiar with the latest techniques in biological research, and prepares them to think like a scientist. After taking her lab course(s), you'll hit the ground running when you do research in a Yale bio lab over the summer. Her labs are great for preparing students who want to secure a Yale First-Year Summer Research Fellowship, https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/yale-college-first-year-summer-research-fellowship-sciences-engineering, or a position in the STARS Summer Research Program, https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/stars/stars-i-summer-research-program.

Also, if you are pre-med and are NOT doing any biology related research, you will need to take two semesters of biology lab. These labs are very good choices.

Fall 2018
MCDB 221La, Model Organisms in Biological Research Maria Moreno
An introduction to research and common methodologies in the biological sciences, with emphasis on the utility of model organisms. Techniques and methods commonly used in biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, and molecular and developmental biology; experimental design; data analysis and display; scientific writing. With permission of instructor or concurrently with or after BIOL 101, 102 or 103. WR, SC ½ Course cr HTBA

Spring 2019
MCDB 201Lb, Molecular Biology Laboratory Maria Moreno
Basic molecular biology training in a project-based laboratory setting. Experiments analyze gene function through techniques of PCR, plasmid and cDNA cloning, DNA sequence analysis, and protein expression and purification. Instruction in experimental design, data analysis, and interpretation. Concurrently with or after MCDB 200, or with permission from instructor. For freshmen and sophomores interested in research integrated laboratory experience. Special registration procedures apply. Interested students must contact the instructor and attend an organizational meeting during the first week of classes. WR, SC ½ Course cr HTBA

STEM classes without prerequisites
If you are looking to fulfill a SC or QR credit, and want to take a class without any prerequisites, look here for a list of Science Courses without prerequisites, https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/academics/faculty-resources/science-courses-without-prerequisite, and here for Quantitative Reasoning courses without prerequisites, https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/academics/courses/qr-courses/qr-courses-without-prerequisite.
Undergraduate Research

Undergraduates in labs with caring mentors tell me that doing independent research is the most rewarding activity during their Yale career. I think all STEM majors should try doing some form of independent research for at least a summer. If you hate it, fine, you’ve tried it. If you love it, well, I don’t have to tell you how thrilling making new discoveries can be. I love it so much I made it my career. You can too.

The Science and QR website, [https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/](https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/), should be your go-to place if you are interested in independent research with a lab at Yale. It contains information on why and when you should do research, how to find a mentor, and fellowships that support undergrad STEM research. Read every section, especially the sections titled, “Entering Research” and “Choosing a Mentor”. Then read those sections again. Be sure to also check out the schedule for my monthly workshops on how to find a mentor, how to write a research proposal, etc. on the link above.

The Yale Center for International and Professional Experience also has a website, [https://funding.yale.edu/fellowships](https://funding.yale.edu/fellowships), that contains information on fellowships and funding as well as other summer opportunities; although most of these are not STEM fellowships.

Another useful website is, [https://yura.yale.edu/](https://yura.yale.edu/). The Yale Undergraduate Research Association created a database that allows you to type in key science words to look up Yale researchers working in those areas. Very cool and very helpful.

Are you a woman and/or a student from an underrepresented group? Then the STARS Programs might be for you. Check out these amazing programs, [https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/stars](https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/stars). They have been supporting STEM students since 1995!

Have you already found a great lab, but need funding? Here’s what you should look at, [https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/yale-science-engineering-research/fellowship-grants](https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/yale-science-engineering-research/fellowship-grants). There is a fellowship specifically to support first-year students, [https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/yale-college-first-year-summer-research-fellowship-sciences-engineering](https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/yale-college-first-year-summer-research-fellowship-sciences-engineering), and a fellowship to support sophomores and juniors, [https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/yale-undergraduate-research/fellowship-grants/yale-college-deans-research-fellowship](https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/yale-undergraduate-research/fellowship-grants/yale-college-deans-research-fellowship).

If you are on financial aid and want to do research in an institution back home over the summer, now you can! Check out this link for more information on the Domestic Summer Award (DSA) that you can be used to fund a research position, [https://ocs.yale.edu/yale-college/domestic-summer-award-dsa](https://ocs.yale.edu/yale-college/domestic-summer-award-dsa).

Please note that there is no funding available for students doing research during the academic term except for the STARS II program which can provide financial support in your junior and senior years, [https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/stars/stars-ii-program](https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/stars/stars-ii-program).
Do you want to do STEM research in a foreign country? Find a professor who is willing to host you, formulate a research project and apply for the Tetelman and Bates Fellowships, https://science.yalecollege.yale.edu/yale-undergraduate-research/fellowship-grants/tetelman-fellowship-international-research-sciences.
Places to Study
(courtesy of Grace Kim ‘20)

It is essential for you to find a good, safe, quiet place to study, ideally away from your
dorm room (too many distractions). I always studied in the Sterling library stacks, floor
3M. It’s nice and quiet up there, and a bit spooky which made me work fast. I stayed there
every night from 6PM onwards until I finished studying. Get your study routine down, and
stick to it. Be smart, make sure where you study is safe, especially if you are studying by
yourself. Below are some places to study in and around Yale.

Residential Colleges:
- Computer Labs
- Buttery (especially silent and empty in the mornings to mid-afternoon)
- Common Room (for collaborative study—go here if you want to talk)
- Library (for quiet, independent study)
- Dining hall (some dining halls are open for studying at night)
- Seminar Rooms
- Student Meeting Spaces

Science Hill
- KBT (Klein Biology Tower) Café
  - Located on top of science on the first floor of Klein Biology Tower
  - Great for grab & go use of your breakfast swipe (8:00-10:30am) and lunch swipe (11:00am-
    2:30pm)
- Kroon Hall School of Forestry & Environmental Studies
  - Go to the third floor for desks and windows
- CSSI (Center for Science and Social Science Information)
  - Located at the basement of KBT
  - Large computer lab and library (double screens, Matlab/Solidworks/R installed on most computers)
  - Open until 11pm (Monday through Thursday)
  - Study space with limited computers open 24/7
- Divinity School Library
  - Way up science hill—take the Blue (going up)/Red (coming down) line shuttle if needed
  - Beautiful, peaceful library with lots of light (Recommend: The Day Reading Room)
  - Your lunch swipe works in the Divinity School Refectory
- Rosencrantz Hall Political Science building
  - Across the street from the new colleges
  - Lots of light, couches, tables
  - Multiple floors to study at with a computer room in the basement
- CEID (Center for Engineering, Innovation, and Design)
  - Located between SSS and Watson Hall
  - Rooms with whiteboard walls available upstairs as well
  - A lot less popular in the mornings on weekends (can get really crowded during exam seasons)
  - group study, computers with technical programs installed
  - Get membership for 24/7 swipe access here: http://ceid.yale.edu/member/#membership
- Watson Hall
  - CS Department building across from Grove Cemetery
  - Has study space on 2nd floor

Hillhouse Ave
- Watson Center
  - Across the skating rink on Sachem Street
  - Classrooms and study spaces throughout
- 17 Hillhouse
  - 1st floor computer labs, printers, and whiteboard walls
  - Study spaces and whiteboards on upper levels as well
- Dunham Lab
  - Has computer lab on first floor with technical programs installed
  - Classrooms and whiteboards throughout
• Mason Lab
  ○ Common room (1st floor right inside entrance)

On Old Campus
• Phelps Hall
  ○ Located on the left as you walk through Phelps Gate into Old Campus
  ○ Classrooms with bright lighting and white boards
• LC (Linsly-Chittenden Hall)
  ○ Located across from Connecticut Hall on Old Campus
  ○ Classrooms and seminar rooms throughout
  ○ Top floors tend to be the most empty

Libraries
• Sterling Library Link to Study Spaces (Reservation Links included): http://web.library.yale.edu/places/to-study
  ○ Would highly recommend signing up for the Sterling Library Tours (emails sent out for sign-ups during the fall semester) which teaches you about library resources, such as your personal librarian, how to find books yourself with a call number, and how the Yale library system is organized

Link has all the different available locations but some recommendations for locations more commonly used by undergraduate students:
  ○ Bass Library
    ▪ Located on Cross Campus underground
    ▪ Can reserve rooms on the lower level for group study/meeting
  ○ Sterling Library
    ▪ Located on Cross Campus; big center building
    ▪ Linonia and Brothers reading room (through main doors and take a right after you pass security; more comfortable atmosphere than the more popular Starr Reference Room)
    ▪ Stacks (straight through the main doors and up the elevator to any floor; has individual desks along the walls)

Coffee Shops
• Jojo’s
  ○ Located on the corner of Park and Chapel
  ○ Great coffee and food (and they give free food to the homeless, so supporting them is good!)
  ○ Relatively quiet
  ○ Limited tables and seating
• Koffee?
  ○ Located off Whitney on Audubon Street
  ○ Good coffee, hipster ambience, comfy seating
• Blue State Coffee
  ○ Has two locations: Wall Street and York Street
  ○ Wall St is closest Very standard coffee shop feel, lots of table
• Book Trader
  ○ Located at Chapel and York Street
  ○ Great coffee, lots of tables, outdoor seating
• Willoughby’s
  ○ Has two locations: behind TD (Timothy Dwight College) on the corner of Church and Grove or across from JE (Jonathan Edwards College) on York Street
  ○ Good iced coffee and tea
  ○ Lots of tables
• Starbucks
  ○ Located on College Street across from Old Campus
  ○ The normal Starbucks atmosphere
  ○ Often crowded and busy
  ○ Good energy booster if you are having trouble staying awake; a bit distracting if you are trying to focus
Advice for Pre-Meds

Going to medical school to become a physician is a big decision to make, so make sure you know what you are in for. Besides four years at Yale, there are four years of medical school, four to seven years of residency, one to two years of fellowship, and THEN you get to practice medicine. That’s a long road. Make sure it’s really what YOU want to do. I recommend that you volunteer for at least one year in a hospital to get hands-on experience taking care of patients, and make sure you like doing this before committing to a career in medicine.

Yale undergrads do well when it comes to applying to med schools, with almost 90% getting into a US medical school. Compare this with the ~45% national average. This high acceptance rate is unrelated to a student’s major. For example, our English majors do as well as our MB&B majors in terms of medical school acceptances. I’m not saying that all of you will get into Yale Med or Harvard Med, but getting into any US medical school means that you will receive solid training in basic science/clinical medicine to become a good doctor. Remember, the secret is that for your future career, the quality of your residency program counts more than the medical school you attended. So, don’t stress out, do the best you can in your classes, volunteer in a hospital, and you’ll have a good chance of becoming a doctor.

To get into medical school, you must take classes to satisfy the pre-med requirement. Yale does not have a “pre-med major”. To help you think about when/what you should take, I’ve listed a typical pre-med curriculum below. Disclaimer: I sit on the MD/PhD committee at Yale Medical School so I am familiar with what Yale Medical School requires, but the specific class requirements sometimes vary from state to state. Below are my recommendations only, not the final word, but it applies to most med schools in the US.

You will need to decide by the end of sophomore year whether you want to go directly into med school after graduation from Yale, or whether you want to take a year or more off (a gap year). If you don’t take a gap year, you must finish all your pre-med requirements by the end of junior year. Many undergrads take a gap year to finish a research project or participate in clinical research. Med schools like students with gap year experience. My suggestion is that you to take one or two years after graduating from Yale to do something interesting before applying to med school.

The Office of Career Strategy, https://ocs.yale.edu/, is the place to get started if you are considering medical school. This link, https://ocs.yale.edu/yale-college/career-options, will help you begin your medical school application process. Make an appointment to speak with the wonderful OCS health professionals during the beginning of your sophomore year, when you are sure medical school is for you. While OCS professionals are terrific at giving great advice, they are busy working with current juniors so don’t be surprised if they do not get back to you immediately. Look out for my career talks on, “Things to consider for medical and graduate schools”, on the Science & QR website, if you need additional information.
My recommendations when to take specific pre-med classes
*This applies to any major at Yale.

If you do not want to take a gap year:

First-year:
General Chemistry
Gen Chem Lab
[or Freshmen Organic + Orgo Lab]
Math 112 or 115 or 116 (depending on your preparation)
English 114 and 120 (or another WR credit)
Take a small STEM class (First-year seminar or CURE class)

Summer: Do research at Yale and start volunteering at a hospital/patient care facility.

Note: If you are choosing between taking either gen chem or intro bio during your first-year, my recommendation is to take gen chem first. The chem sequence has to be taken in order (gen chem, orgo, biochem) and if you don’t start taking it during your first-year, you will either have to take a chem class in the summer or during your senior year (which means you will have to take a gap year). Math is tricky - you need a year of calculus for med school, but most (not all - check your favorite schools) med schools will accept one semester of college calculus if you got a 5 in BC calculus in HS. If you didn't take BC in HS, you will need to take two semesters of calculus at Yale.

Sophomore year:
Organic Chemistry + lab
[or one semester of Biochemistry]
Intro Bio Sequence
Psychology (1 semester)
Statistics (1 semester)
WR course

Summer: Do research at Yale or at another institution. Start volunteering if you haven’t started already. Or finish that language requirement in a foreign country.

Junior year:
Biochemistry (1 semester)
Physics 170 or 180 or 200 + lab
Research for credit (if your major allows for this)
Study for MCATS

Summer: Apply to med schools

Note: If you didn’t do any research in the biological sciences over the summers you will need to take 2 semesters of biology lab courses - this requirement varies among med schools.
Senior year:
Medical school interviews.

If you are going to take a gap year:

Freshman year:
General Chemistry
Gen Chem Lab
[or Freshmen Organic + Orgo Lab if you place in]
Math 112 or 115 or 116 (depending on your preparation)
English 114 and 120 (or another WR credit)
Take a small STEM class (First-year seminar or CURE class)

Summer: Do research at Yale and start volunteering at a hospital/patient care facility.

Same notes apply as above.

Sophomore year:
Organic Chemistry + lab
[or one semester of biochemistry]
Intro Bio Sequence
WR course

Summer: Research at Yale or at another institution. Start volunteering if you haven't started already.

Junior year:
Biochemistry (1 semester)
Psychology (1 semester)
Research for credit (if your major allows for this)

Summer: Continue doing research and volunteering.

Senior year:
Physics 170 or 180 or 200 + lab
Statistics (1 semester)
Research for credit

Study for MCATS and apply to med schools.

Note: If you didn’t do any research in the biological sciences over the summers you will need to take two semesters of biology lab courses-this requirement varies among med schools.

1 year after graduating from Yale:
Med school interviews
**Additional things to consider**

While good grades and a good MCATs score are important, medical schools are also looking for students with extensive clinical volunteering activities, demonstrated community service commitments and leadership qualities. Below are just a few of the programs that you might want to explore and possibly get involved in. Please note that these are only a sampling of the vast array of opportunities available at Yale and New Haven. While these programs have all received high marks from my students who participated in them, it is important for you to make sure they are right for you.

**For physician shadowing:**

https://yalemedicalprofessionsoutreach.wordpress.com/shadowing/physician-shadowing/

**Clinical volunteering opportunities:**

Elder Horizons:
https://www.ynhh.org/about/research-education/elder-horizons-program.aspx

Haven Free Clinic:
https://www.ynhh.org/about/research-education/elder-horizons-program.aspx

Yale New Haven Hospital Volunteering:
https://www.ynhh.org/about/community/volunteers.aspx

**Service work:**

The Dwight Hall https://dwighthall.org/ link is great site to explore the numerous service programs for you to get involved in.

Teach at Yale splash-sprout: https://yale.learningu.org/
Advice for Students Interested in Pursuing a PhD Degree

Getting a PhD means a career in science. You can go the academic route and climb that tenure ladder, or work as a scientist in industry. In any case, getting a graduate degree makes you much more marketable than working in a job right after you graduate from Yale. The last statement generally does not apply to engineering majors or computer science majors, where getting a Masters or a PhD is not usually as important as it is for those in the biological or physical sciences. The Office of Career Strategy, https://ocs.yale.edu/, is the place to get started if you are considering graduate school. For a typical PhD track, it’s five years in a PhD program, followed by four years as a postgraduate doctorate (a postdoc) before you apply for an academic position. Doing a postdoc might not be as important if you are going into industry. STEM PhD programs are tuition-free and you get a stipend of ~$30,000 a year to live on. Getting paid to do science is great, if you love doing it!

All Yale STEM departments do a great job preparing their majors academically to succeed in graduate school. In general, undergrads should do the BS track, and take the hardest classes offered by that major. Below are some of the things I look for when I look at applications for Yale’s PhD graduate program in the biological sciences.

1. **How good is the letter of recommendation from the research mentor(s)?**
   This is the first thing I look at. An outstanding mentor’s letter is essential to getting into a top grad school. Make sure you know your mentor well, both on a scientific and a personal level. Talk your mentor about his/her career as a scientist, and why you want to go that route.

2. **How much independent research did the candidate accomplish?**
   Going into grad school means that you must love doing research for many years. It helps if you have done significant bench work as an undergraduate, demonstrate that you truly love science and are good at it. So, get into a lab the summer after your first-year and every summer after that, and do research for credit during your junior and senior academic years.

3. **Did the candidate publish?**
   It helps tremendously if you can get an authorship on a publication before you apply to grad school. It often pays to do a “postbac” in your lab after graduating from Yale to get that publication. Talk to your research mentor about this opportunity a year before you need the position.

4. **Good grades do matter.**
   A lot of students assume that grades don’t matter as much for getting into grad school vs. med school. While there’s some truth to that, good grades are still important to get into the very best graduate schools. Do the best you can, especially in your STEM classes. The same goes for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), but Yale students shouldn’t have any problems doing well on it.
5. Can the candidate describe his/her research in detail?
Here’s where the interview’s important. I’ve faced plenty of applicants who look great on paper but can’t talk about their research, or only have a superficial grasp of what it is that they tried to accomplish. Don’t be that person. You need to know your research inside and out.
Advice for Students Interested in the MD/PhD Program

For those of you interested in combining basic science research interests with medicine, then the MD/PhD combined degree program that trains physician-scientists is for you. This is what I did after graduating from Yale. This is typically a seven-year program; two years of medical school followed by four years of PhD, with a final year of clerkships. Then you do a residency (four to seven years) followed by (or concurrently) with a postdoc (four years). This is a long journey; I was 36 before I landed my first real job as an Assistant Professor. But the MD/PhD program is extremely rewarding if you like doing medically relevant research and apply it to the bedside. In addition, it’s free: medical school tuition is waived, and you get paid a ~$30,000 stipend during your PhD years, just like any STEM graduate student. MD/PhD physician-scientists typically do 80% research and 20% clinical activities. Using myself as an example, I run a basic science cancer research lab and sign out clinical chemistry cases 1 week out of every month. You are expected to obtain independent grant funding to support your research, and mentor graduate and medical students.

Please visit this link to see the latest outcome survey for those enrolled in a MD/PhD program, [https://members.aamc.org/eweb/upload/AAMC-National-MDPhD-Program-Outcomes-Study-2018.pdf](https://members.aamc.org/eweb/upload/AAMC-National-MDPhD-Program-Outcomes-Study-2018.pdf).

The National Institute of Health (NIH) funds the Medical Scientists Training Program (MSTP), but almost all medical schools also have their own funding to support additional MD/PhD students. Examine this link for more information about the MSTP, [https://www.nigms.nih.gov/Training/InstPredoc/Pages/PredocOverview-MSTP.aspx](https://www.nigms.nih.gov/Training/InstPredoc/Pages/PredocOverview-MSTP.aspx).

**Note:** If you are a student supported by the MSTP and after your MD/PhD training decide NOT to do academic research but to go into private practice, you will have to pay back to the federal government the tuition and stipend that supported your educational training. Remember, this program is to train future ACADEMIC physician-scientists, not private practice physicians.

To get into a MD/PhD program, you need to do everything I outlined in the pre-med and graduate school sections. Yale undergrads competitive for this program are usually STEM majors with intensive research experiences. Grades matter, and undergraduate publications are a definite plus. Come and talk to me if you are interested in this challenging program.
STEM Major Roadmaps

The Yale College Deans Office, in consultation with the Directors of Undergraduate Studies, has undertaken a project designed to help students compare majors and navigate their ways through them. They have created a series of very useful “roadmaps”, https://registrar.yale.edu/students/major-roadmaps, or visual representations, guiding students through various majors. Many majors offer multiple paths, and the maps are designed to facilitate comparison. The roadmaps and typical course sequences are visually uniform so that students may easily compare one major with another at a glance. As a faculty advisor, I use them frequently.

The following pages are roadmaps for most of the STEM majors at Yale. Maps for the STEM majors that do not appear here are forthcoming.
### Biomedical Engineering

#### Degrees Offered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BS</th>
<th>Bioimaging Specialization</th>
<th>BS</th>
<th>Biomechanics &amp; Mechano-biology Specialization</th>
<th>BS</th>
<th>Biomolecular Engineering Specialization</th>
<th>BS</th>
<th>Systems Biology Specialization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Prerequisites for entering the major

- BS: BIO 101 and 102, or higher in MCDI or MBAB with DUS permission
- CHEM 161 or higher and ENAS 194
- MATH 115, 120 or ENAS 151; PHYS 180, 181, 205L, and 206L (or 165L and 166L with DUS permission)

#### Requirements for each degree

- **12 term courses**
  - totaling at least 11 course credits beyond prerequisites
  - BENG 249, 350, 351, 352, 353, 355L, 356L
  - 3 of following courses: MENG 185, 280, 361, BENG 404, 410, 411, 434, 435, 453, 455, 456, 457, 458
  - 3 of following courses: BENG 404, 410, 411, 434, 435, 453, 455, 456, 457, 458
  - 3 of following courses: BENG 404, 410, 411, 434, 435, 453, 455, 456, 457, 458

- **2 term courses in life sciences**
  - from prereq and req courses

#### Senior Requirements

- BENG 480 and Senior Project (BENG 474 or BENG 473 and 474)

#### Substitutions

- Relevant course with DUS permission

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### Biomedical Engineering

#### Degrees Offered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BS</th>
<th>Bioimaging Specialization</th>
<th>BS</th>
<th>Biomechanics &amp; Mechano-biology Specialization</th>
<th>BS</th>
<th>Biomolecular Engineering Specialization</th>
<th>BS</th>
<th>Systems Biology Specialization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Prerequisites for entering the major

- BS: BIO 101 and 102, or higher in MCDI or MBAB with DUS permission
- CHEM 161 or higher and ENAS 194
- MATH 115, 120 or ENAS 151; PHYS 180, 181, 205L, and 206L (or 165L and 166L with DUS permission)

#### Requirements for each degree

- **13 term courses**
  - totaling at least 11 course credits beyond prerequisites
  - BENG 249, 280, 350, 351, 352, 353, 355L, 356L
  - 3 of following courses: MENG 185, 280, 361, BENG 404, 410, 411, 434, 435, 453, 455, 456, 457, MENG 361
  - 3 of following courses: BENG 404, 410, 411, 434, 435, 453, 455, 456, 457, MENG 361
  - 3 of following courses: BENG 404, 410, 411, 434, 435, 453, 455, 456, 457, MENG 361

- **2 term courses in life sciences**
  - from prereq and req courses

#### Senior Requirements

- BENG 480 and Senior Project (BENG 474 or BENG 473 and 474)

#### Substitutions

- Relevant course with DUS permission
### Chemistry

#### Degrees Offered
- **BA Chemistry**
- **BS Chemistry**
- **BS Chemistry (Intensive Major)**
- **BS/MS Chemistry**

#### Prerequisites for entering the major
- **General Chemistry I and II**
  - (CHEM 161 and 165 or CHEM 163 and 167)
  - CHEM 134L and 136L
- **Integral Calculus**
  - (MATH 115)
- **Introductory Physics**
  - 170 or higher
  - (PHYS 180, 200 or 260)

#### Requirements for each degree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Type</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Intensive + 4 grad courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Application by end of 5th term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>CHEM 490 during 5th/6th term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Research between Jr/Sr year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **2 Semesters Organic Chemistry (with Labs)**
  - CHEM 174 or 220 and CHEM 175, 221, or 230. CHEM 222L and 223L
- **Physical Chemistry**
  - CHEM 332 or 328
- **2 Physical Chemistry courses (with 1 Lab)**
  - CHEM 332, 333 and 330L
- **Inorganic Chemistry**
  - CHEM 252
- **PHYS 171, 181, 201, or 261**

- **4 Addtl course credits**
  - At least 1 lecture, 1 lab

- **5 Advanced course credits**
  - At least 2 lectures and 1 lab

#### Senior Requirements
- **Senior Seminar**
  - CHEM 400
- **2 Semesters Research**
  - CHEM 490 or CHEM 400 + advanced additional course
- **2 Semesters Research**
  - CHEM 490

- **4 Semesters Research**
  - including 2 in CHEM 990

#### Substitutions
- **Up to 2 relevant advanced science courses in other departments for advanced chem courses**
- **N/A**
Four Possible Paths Through the Major in Chemistry

### Possible BA Sequence

#### Fall
- Year 1: CHEM 161, 134L, & MATH pre-req
- Year 2: CHEM 220, 222L, & PHYS pre-req
- Year 3: CHEM 332
- Year 4: CHEM 400 & 1 Elective

#### Spring
- Year 1: CHEM 165, 136L, & MATH pre-req
- Year 2: CHEM 221, 223L, & 252
- Year 3: CHEM 226L & 1 Elective
- Year 4: 1 Elective

### Possible Intensive Sequence

#### Fall
- Year 1: CHEM 163, 134L, & MATH pre-req
- Year 2: CHEM 220, 222L, & PHYS pre-req
- Year 3: CHEM 332 & 330L
- Year 4: CHEM 490 & 2 Electives

#### Spring
- Year 1: CHEM 167, 136L, & MATH pre-req
- Year 2: CHEM 221, 223L, 252, & PHYS pre-req
- Year 3: CHEM 333, 226L, & 1 Elective
- Year 4: CHEM 490 & 1 Elective

### Possible BS Sequence

#### Fall
- Year 1: CHEM 161, 134L, & MATH pre-req
- Year 2: CHEM 220, 222L, & PHYS pre-req
- Year 3: CHEM 332 & 330L
- Year 4: CHEM 490 & 2 Electives

#### Spring
- Year 1: CHEM 165, 136L, & MATH pre-req
- Year 2: CHEM 221, 223L, & 252
- Year 3: CHEM 333, 252, & 251L
- Year 4: CHEM 490 & 1 Elective

### Possible BS/MS Sequence

#### Fall
- Year 1: CHEM 174, 222L, MATH & PHYS pre-req
- Year 2: CHEM 330L & 332
- Year 3: CHEM 490 & 2 Electives
- Year 4: CHEM 990 & 2 Electives

#### Spring
- Year 1: CHEM 175, 223L, MATH & PHYS pre-req
- Year 2: CHEM 333, 252, & 251L
- Year 3: CHEM 490 & 2 Electives
- Year 4: CHEM 990 & 2 Electives
# Cognitive Science

## Degrees Offered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BA</th>
<th>BS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## Prerequisites for entering the major

CGCS 110

## Requirements for each degree

14 term courses, for a total of 13.5 course credits (including prereq and senior req)

CGSC 395

- 1 course from 4 of the following six areas:
  - Computer Science (CPSC 201)
  - Economics and Decision Making (ECON 159)
  - Linguistics (Ling 10, 116, 217, 130, 232, 253)
  - Neuroscience (CGSC 201, MCDB 320, PSYC 160 or 270)
  - Philosophy (Phil 126, 182, 269, 270, 271)
  - Psychology (PSYC 110, 140, 139)

6 courses in a specific topic or area

## Senior Requirements

1 skills course
- BA: (CPSC 112 or 202, Ling 224, PSYC 200 or 270)
- BS: (PSYC 200, or another course with DUS permission)

CGSC 491
- BA: (Nonempirical senior essay)
- BS: (Empirical research and senior essay)
### Degrees Offered

- **BA Computer Science**
- **BS Computer Science**

### Prerequisites for entering the major

- None
- None

### Requirements for each degree

- **BA Computer Science**
  - 10 term courses
  - CPSC 201
  - CPSC 202 or MATH 244
  - CPSC 223, 323, and 365 (or 366)
  - 4 intermediate or advanced CPSC courses

- **BS Computer Science**
  - 12 term courses
  - CPSC 201
  - CPSC 202 or MATH 244
  - CPSC 223, 323, and 365 (or 366)
  - 6 intermediate or advanced CPSC courses

### Senior Requirements

- **Senior Project (CPSC 490)**

### Substitutions

- Advanced courses in other departments with DUS permission
Four Possible Paths Through the Major in Computer Science

**CPSC BA**

**Fall**
- Year 1: CPSC 201
- Year 2: CPSC 202 (or MATH 244) & CPSC 323
- Year 3: 1 Elective
- Year 4: CPSC 490

**Spring**
- Year 1: CPSC 223
- Year 2: CPSC 365 (or 366) & 1 Elective
- Year 3: 1 Elective
- Year 4: 1 Elective

**CPSC BA Soph Start**

**Fall**
- Year 1: CPSC 201
- Year 2: CPSC 202 (or MATH 244) & CPSC 223
- Year 3: CPSC 323 & 1 Elective
- Year 4: CPSC 490 & 1 Elective

**Spring**
- Year 1: CPSC 223
- Year 2: CPSC 365 (or 366) & 1 Elective
- Year 3: 1 Elective
- Year 4: 1 Elective

**CPSC BS**

**Fall**
- Year 1: CPSC 201
- Year 2: CPSC 202 (or MATH 244) & CPSC 323
- Year 3: 2 Electives
- Year 4: CPSC 490

**Spring**
- Year 1: CPSC 223
- Year 2: CPSC 365 (or 366) & 1 Elective
- Year 3: 2 Electives
- Year 4: 1 Elective

**CPSC BS Soph Start**

**Fall**
- Year 1: CPSC 201
- Year 2: CPSC 202 (or MATH 244) & CPSC 223
- Year 3: CPSC 323 & 1 Elective
- Year 4: CPSC 490 & 2 Electives

**Spring**
- Year 1: CPSC 223
- Year 2: CPSC 365 (or 366) & 1 Elective
- Year 3: 2 Electives
- Year 4: 2 Electives
# Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

## Degrees Offered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (Track 1)</th>
<th>BA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (Track 2)</th>
<th>BS Ecology and Evolutionary Biology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intro Biology sequence (BIOL 101, 102, 103, and 104)</td>
<td>2 term lecture in general Chemistry (CHEM 161, 165 or CHEM 163, 167) with labs (CHEM 134L, 136L)</td>
<td>5.5 course credits (not incl senior req)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 term organic Chemistry (CHEM 174 or 175, or CHEM 220 or 221) with lab (CHEM 222L or 223L)</td>
<td>2 terms Physics (PHYS 170, 171, or higher)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 term Mathematics MATH 115 or higher or S&amp;SD 101-106</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Prerequisites for entering the major

- Intro Biology sequence (BIOL 101, 102, 103, and 104)
- 2 term lecture in general Chemistry (CHEM 161, 165 or CHEM 163, 167) with labs (CHEM 134L, 136L)
- 1 term organic Chemistry (CHEM 174 or 175, or CHEM 220 or 221) with lab (CHEM 222L or 223L)
- 2 terms Physics (PHYS 170, 171, or higher)
- 1 term Mathematics MATH 115 or higher or S&SD 101-106

## Requirements for each degree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.5 course credits (not incl senior req)</th>
<th>3.5 course credits (not incl senior req)</th>
<th>5.5 course credits (not incl senior req)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E&amp;EB 220</td>
<td>E&amp;EB 290 and E&amp;EB 295 or BENG 350 and MCDB 300</td>
<td>BA requirements in either track</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E&amp;EB 225</td>
<td>E&amp;EB 291L</td>
<td>2 elective courses, one must be lecture, other can be seminar or labs (&gt;200 level)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Senior Requirements

1 term independent study (E&EB 470) or Senior Essay

## Substitutions

Two upper-level courses in G&G (excluding paleobiology courses), MATH, CPSC, or ENAS for organic chem and lab. Second term of organic chem and lab and up to two terms of physics labs allowed as electives. Courses from other departments may also be suitable as electives. All substitutions require permission of the DUS.
# Environmental Studies

## Degrees Offered

### BA Environmental Studies

- **Prerequisites for entering the major:** None

- **Requirements for each degree:**
  - 13 course credits (incl senior project)
  - 6 core courses, of which at least:
    - 1 course in statistics or mathematics (S&DS 101 or above, or MATH 112 or above) and
    - 2 humanities and social sciences courses (EVST 120, 226, 255, 340, or 345) and
    - 2 natural sciences courses, with Sc designation (EVST 191L, 200L, 223, 242, E&EB 115 or 145; G&G 120 or 140; G&G 125 or MCDB 123; CHEM 161 or 165; EVST 202L, 221, 234L, 244, 200, 362, or G&G 126L; or CDE 508)
  - 6 courses in concentration, of which at least:
    - 1 adv seminar (200 level or higher) that exposes students to primary literature, extensive writing requirements, and experience with research methods
  - One or two-term research project and colloquium (EVST 496)

### BS Environmental Studies

- **Prerequisites for entering the major:**
  - 1 course from EVST 202L, 221, 234L, 244, 290, 362, or G&G 126L
  - MATH 112 or above (excl MATH190)
  - PHYS 170 or above or S&DS 101 or above
  - 2 term lecture sequence in chemistry or CHEM 170 or 167
  - 2 terms from BIO 101 and 102 or BIO 103 and 104 or G&G 125 or MCDB 123

- **Requirements for each degree:**
  - 12 course credits, beyond prereqs, incl senior project
  - 2 core courses in the humanities or social sciences (EVST 120, 226, 255, 340, or 345)
  - 2 natural science core courses (EVST 200, 223, 242, or G&G 140)
  - 6 courses in concentration, of which at least:
    - 1 adv seminar (200 level or higher) that exposes students to primary literature, extensive writing requirements, and experience with research methods
    - 3 courses with Sc designation
    - 2 courses that provide interdisciplinary context
  - Two-term research project and colloquium (EVST 496)
## History of Science and Medicine

### Degrees Offered

- **BA**
  - History of Science, Medicine, and Public Health

### Prerequisites for entering the major

- None

### Requirements for each degree

- **12 course credits**
  - (including senior req)

- **7 courses in pathway:**
  - 2 HSHM courses
  - 1 seminar in HSHM or HIST (100 or higher)
  - 3 electives from any dep (approved by faculty advisor)
  - 1 science course (approved by faculty advisor)

- **3 additional HSHM electives,**
  - including 1 seminar and 1 course outside major pathway

### Senior Requirements

- **Yearlong project (Hshm 490, 491)**
  - or
- **One term project (Hshm 492)**
  - and 1 additional HSHM elective
Three Possible Paths Through the Major in History of Science, Medicine, and Public Health

### First-year Start, Preference for Seminars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>HSHM First-Year Seminar</td>
<td>HSHM Lecture</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pathway Elective</td>
<td>HSHM Seminar (in pathway)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>HSHM Seminar (not in pathway); HSHM Lecture (in pathway)</td>
<td>History Seminar (in pathway); Pathway Elective</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Senior Project (HSHM 490); Pathway Elective (SC course)</td>
<td>Senior Project (HSHM 491); Pathway Elective</td>
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### Sophomore Start, Junior Year Abroad

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<th>Spring</th>
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<thead>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>HSHM Lecture</td>
<td>HSHM Lecture (in pathway); HSHM Seminar (in pathway)</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pathway Elective (abroad)</td>
<td>Pathway Elective (abroad); Pathway Elective (SC course, abroad)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Senior Project (HSHM 490); HSHM Seminar; HSHM Lecture (not in pathway)</td>
<td>Senior Project (HSHM 491); HSHM Lecture (in pathway); Pathway Elective</td>
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</table>

### Junior Start, Double Major

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<th>Year</th>
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<th>Spring</th>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>HSHM Seminar; Pathway Elective (SC course); Pathway Elective (in other major)</td>
<td>HSHM Lecture (in pathway); HSHM Lecture (not in pathway); Pathway Elective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Senior Project (HSHM 490); HSHM Seminar (in pathway); Pathway Elective (in other major)</td>
<td>Senior Project (HSHM 491); HSHM Lecture (in pathway); HSHM Course</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Mathematics**

### Degrees Offered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BA Mathematics</th>
<th>BS Mathematics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Prerequisites for entering the major

- MATH 120 or equivalent (e.g. completing MATH 231)
- 10 term courses numbered 222 or higher, and 2 addtl adv courses in physical sciences approved by DUS
- MATH 230 and 231 or MATH 222 or 225 and MATH 250

### Requirements for each degree

- 2 courses in each of 3 categories chosen from:
  - Analysis
  - Algebra and Number Theory
  - Statistics and Applied Mathematics
  - Geometry and Topology
  - Logic and Foundations
- Courses from at least 2 of 3 core areas: Algebra, Real Analysis, and Complex Analysis
  (One course may count towards one core area and one category. Core area and category designations for each course are listed in OCI)
- Senior Seminar (MATH 480) or Senior Essay (MATH 475) and oral report, with DUS permission
- Courses in all 3 core areas; 2 MATH grad courses or equivalent independent study counted among the required courses

### Substitutions Permitted

- Certain courses in Applied Mathematics, Computer Science, Engineering & Applied Science, Economics, Philosophy, Physics, Statistics & Data Science, or other departments, with DUS permission

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*Published Summer 2018*
### Mechanical Engineering

#### Degrees Offered

- **BS**
  - Mechanical Engineering
- **BS**
  - Engineering Sciences (Mechanical)
- **BA**
  - Engineering Sciences (Mechanical)

#### Prerequisites for entering the major

- **BS**
  - MATH 112 and 115
  - PHYS 180 and 181 or 200 and 201
  - ENAS 151 or equivalent
  - 2 labs:
    - 1 from PHYS 165L or 205L
    - 1 from PHYS 166L or 206L, or equivalents

- **BA**
  - PHYS 170 and 171
  - 2 labs:
    - 1 from PHYS 165L or 205L
    - 1 from PHYS 166L or 206L, or MENG 286L

#### Requirements for each degree

- **BS**
  - 21 term courses beyond prereqs (incl senior req)
    - ENAS 130 and 194
    - EENG 200
    - MATH 222 or 225
    - MENG 185, 211, 280, 285, 286L, 325, 361, 363L, 383, 389, 390
    - 3 technical electives chosen in consultation with DUS (only one of MENG 471, 472, 473, or 474)
    - 1 term course in chemistry numbered CHEM 161 or higher
  - **BA**
    - 12 term courses beyond prereqs (incl senior project)
      - MENG487L and MENG 488L (taken in senior year)
      - MENG 404; MENG 471, 472, 473, or 474; MENG 487L and 488L; MENG489; or another upper-level design course chosen in consultation with DUS

- **Substitutions**
  - Relevant course with DUS permission

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**Published Summer 2018**
# Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry

## Degrees Offered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry</td>
<td>11 courses (including senior req)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry</td>
<td>13 courses (including senior req)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS/MS Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry</td>
<td>12.5 courses (including senior req) and 8 graduate courses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Prerequisites for entering the major

- Two terms of General Chemistry with lab
- Intoductory Biology
  - BIOL 101, 102, 103, and 104
- Two terms of Calculus
  - MATH 112, 115, or 116
- One term of Organic Chemistry with lab

## Requirements for each degree

- Core Biochemistry and Biophysics Courses
  - MB&B 251L, 300, 301, and 302
- Second term of Organic Chemistry with lab and
  - One term of Physical Chemistry
- Two terms of Physics
  - numbered PHYS 170 or higher

## Senior Requirements

- 1 MB&B elective and 1 QR elective
- 2 MB&B electives, 1 QR elective, and 1 Science elective

## Senior Project

- (MB&B 490)

## Intensive Research

- (MB&B 570a and MB&B 571b)
# Neuroscience

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degrees Offered</th>
<th>BS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisites for entering the major</td>
<td>BIOL 101, 102, 103, and 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One of S&amp;DS 103, 105, 262, or PSYC 200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Requirements for each degree</td>
<td>18.5 courses (including senior req)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NSCI 160 and NCSI 320</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 lab course</td>
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<tr>
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<td>11 electives, including at least:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 systems/circuits/behavior core courses</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 molecular/cellular/biological core courses</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 quantitative core course</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 basic allied core course</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 adv allied core course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(no more than 2 other allied core courses)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Requirements</td>
<td>2 courses in empirical research</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(non-empirical may be substituted for one or both terms for a BA degree)</td>
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</table>
## Possible Paths Through the Major in Neuroscience

### Possible Distribution of Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>BIOL 101-102 and 1 Elective</td>
<td>BIOL 103-104 and PSYC 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>NSCI 160 and 1 Elective</td>
<td>2 Electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MCDB 320, 1 Elective, and 1 lab (or in spring)</td>
<td>2 Electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Senior Research and 2 Electives</td>
<td>Senior Research and 2 Electives</td>
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</table>

### Potential Electives by Emphasis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elective pool</th>
<th>Quantitative</th>
<th>Systems/Cognitive</th>
<th>Cellular/Molecular</th>
<th>Premed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stats Prereq (1)</td>
<td>S&amp;DS 238 or 262</td>
<td>PSYC 200</td>
<td>S&amp;DS 105</td>
<td>S&amp;DS 105</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab course (0.5 or 1)</td>
<td>NSCI 258</td>
<td>NSCI 240</td>
<td>NSCI 321L</td>
<td>NSCI 321L</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circuits and Systems (2+)</td>
<td>NSCI 340</td>
<td>NSCI 340</td>
<td>NSCI 340</td>
<td>NSCI 340 or 352</td>
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<td>NSCI 442</td>
<td>NSCI 341</td>
<td>NSCI 360</td>
<td>NSCI 360</td>
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<tr>
<td>Molecular and Cellular (2+)</td>
<td>NSCI 324 or 325</td>
<td>MCDB 202</td>
<td>MCDB 200</td>
<td>MCDB 205</td>
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<td></td>
<td>MCDB 310</td>
<td>MCDB 205 or 210</td>
<td>MCDB 300 or MB&amp;B 300</td>
<td>MCDB 300 or MB&amp;B 300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quantitative (1+)</td>
<td>MATH 120</td>
<td>MATH 112 or 115</td>
<td>MATH 115 or 120</td>
<td>MATH 115 or 116</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MATH 225</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MATH 246</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic Allied (1+)</td>
<td>PHYS 180</td>
<td>PHYS 170</td>
<td>CHEM 161</td>
<td>CHEM 161</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>CHEM 165</td>
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<td>CHEM 174</td>
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<td>PHYS 171</td>
<td>PHYS 171</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Allied (1+)</td>
<td>CPSC 112</td>
<td>CPSC 100 or 112</td>
<td>CPSC 112</td>
<td>CPSC 100 or 112</td>
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<td>CPSC 475</td>
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<td></td>
<td>BENG 445 or S&amp;DS 361</td>
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<tr>
<td>Degrees Offered</td>
<td>BS Physics</td>
<td>BS Physics (Intensive)</td>
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<td>-----------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prerequisites for entering the major</td>
<td>PHYS 170/171 or 180/181 or 200/201 or 260/261 with Math coreqs; PHYS 205L/206L or PHYS 165L/166L</td>
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<tr>
<td>Requirements for each degree</td>
<td>8 courses (including senior req)</td>
<td>10 courses (including senior req)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PHYS 301 or other advanced math course</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PHYS 401, 402, and either APHY 439 or PHYS 440 (in sequence)</td>
<td>PHYS 410; 440; 441, 430, 420 (in sequence); PHYS 382L</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 advanced electives with DUS approval</td>
<td>1 advanced elective with DUS approval</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Requirements</td>
<td>PHYS 471 or 472</td>
<td>PHYS 471 and 472</td>
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## Two Possible Paths Through the Major in Physics

### PHYS BS

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th><strong>Fall</strong></th>
<th><strong>Spring</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>PHYS 180 or 200 or 260; ENAS 151 or Math 120</td>
<td>PHYS 181 or 201 or 261; MATH 222</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>PHYS 301; PHYS 401</td>
<td>PHYS 402; PHYS 205</td>
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<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Advanced elective (PHYS 344); PHYS 206</td>
<td>PHYS 440</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>PHYS 471; Advanced elective</td>
<td>Advanced elective</td>
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### PHYS BS Intensive

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<th><strong>Spring</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>PHYS 180 or 200 or 260; ENAS 151 or MATH 120</td>
<td>PHYS 181 or 201 or 261; MATH 222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>PHYS 301; PHYS 410</td>
<td>PHYS 440; PHYS 206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>PHYS 441</td>
<td>PHYS 471</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>PHYS 420</td>
<td>Advanced elective</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Statistics & Data Science

### Degrees Offered
- **BA**
- **BS**

### Prerequisites for entering the major
- MATH 120, ENAS 151, MATH 230 or equivalent

### Requirements for each degree

#### BA
- **11 term courses**
  - beyond prereqs, incl senior req
  - MATH 222 or 225
  - 2 courses from Core Probability and Statistics
  - 2 courses from Computational Skills
  - 2 courses from Methods of Data Science
  - 3 Electives chosen from any discipline area with DUS approval

#### BS
- **14 term courses**
  - beyond prereqs, incl senior req
  - MATH 222 or 225
  - 2 courses from Core Probability and Statistics
  - 2 courses from Computational Skills
  - 2 courses from Methods of Data Science
  - 2 additional Electives from any discipline except Data Science in Context and Methods in Application Areas, with DUS approval

#### Senior Requirements
- Senior Seminar (S&DS 490)
  - or
- Senior Project (S&DS 491 or 492)
  - or
- Statistical Case Studies (S&DS 425)