

2025-2026 Old Dominion University Catalog

Bachelor of Science in Biology with a Major in Secondary Education (6-12) (BS) (w/ VCCS Equivalencies)

Sample four year curriculum with a suggested ordering of courses. Students may re-order as needed.

** Indicates not automatically waived with transferrable associates degree, C or better required for transfer. Courses in green are waived by the completion of an Associate degree (Not eligible for Applied Associate degrees). Associate in Science recommended for ease of transfer.*

YEAR 1 - FRESHMAN (30 CREDITS)

FALL SEMESTER (14 credits)

General Education and Major Coursework:

ENGL 110C*

CHEM 121N & 122N (4 credits)*

MATH 162M*

BIOL 121N & 122N*

VCCS Equivalency:

ENG 111

CHEM 111

MTH 161 or 163

BIO 101

SPRING SEMESTER (16 credits)

General Education and Major Coursework:

ENGL 211C or 231C*

CHEM 123N & 124N (4 credits)*

MATH 205, 200 or 211*

BIOL 123N & 124N*

Professional Education Coursework:

STEM 103 (2 credits)

VCCS Equivalency:

ENG 115 or 131

CHEM 112

MTH, 173, 261, 263, 270 or 271

BIO 102

YEAR 2 - SOPHOMORE (30 CREDITS)

FALL SEMESTER (15 credits)

General Education and Major Coursework:

BIOL 291

BIOL 292

STAT 130M*

Professional Education Coursework:

STEM 201

VCCS Equivalency:

MTH 146, 155, 157, 240,
241, 242 or 245

SPRING SEMESTER (15 credits)

General Education and Major Coursework:

BIOL 292

BIOL 293

Information Literacy and Research: CS 121G
or CS 126G or OEAS 130G

Professional Education Coursework:

STEM 202

VCCS Equivalency:

[Transfer Equivalency Guide](#)

YEAR 3 - JUNIOR (31 CREDITS)

FALL SEMESTER (14 credits)

General Education and Major Coursework:

CHEM 211*

BIOL 240 or 250 (4 credits)*

BIOL 308

Literature

VCCS Equivalency:

CHM 241

BIO 141

[Transfer Equivalency Guide](#)

SPRING SEMESTER (17 credits)

General Education and Major Coursework:

OEAS 110N or OEAS 111N or PHYS 111N
(4 credits)*

300/400 level Biology Elective** (4 credits)

Impact of Technology

Philosophy and Ethics

Interpreting the Past

VCCS Equivalency:

GOL 110, GOL 105, PHYS 111,
PHYS 121 or PHYS 201

[Transfer Equivalency Guide](#)

[Transfer Equivalency Guide](#)

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YEAR 4 - SENIOR (29-30 CREDITS)

FALL SEMESTER (17-18 credits)

Major Coursework:

BIOL 468W (C or better required)

BIOL 307 or 336 (5 credits)

300/400 level Biology Elective** (4 credits)

Human Creativity

Professional Education Coursework:

STEM 401

VCCS Equivalency:

[Transfer Equivalency Guide](#)

SPRING SEMESTER (12 credits)

Professional Education Coursework:

STEM 485 (9 credits)

STEM 402

VCCS Equivalency:

This 4-year plan does not include 6 credits in Language and Culture, but this requirement may be waived; see ODU catalog.

****Students must choose 16 elective hours at the 300/400 level or above from the courses offered by the Department of Biological Sciences. Three of the courses must have a laboratory or field component (see individual course descriptions). Students may use four credits at the 200 level to satisfy the elective requirement. Elective courses must include one approved course each in botany, zoology, microbiology, and human anatomy and physiology. Consult with advisor.**

Please refer to the catalog for Teacher Preparation requirements.

Professional Education Coursework satisfies the Upper Division General Education Coursework.

Requirements for graduation include completion of ENGL 110C, ENGL 211C or 231C, and the writing intensive (W) course in the major with a grade of C or better, completion of the Biology and Senior Assessments, a minimum cumulative 2.75 GPA, in the major area, and in the professional education core, with no grade less than a C in the major and C- in the professional education core; successful completion of the Teacher Candidate Internship and a minimum of 125 credit hours, which must include both a minimum of 32 credit hours overall and 12 credit hours in upper-level courses in the major program from Old Dominion University. Note that a C (2.0) must be earned in all biology courses used to satisfy departmental requirements.

This four-year plan is a suggested curriculum to complete this degree program in four years. It is just one of several plans that will work and is presented only as broad guidance to students. Each student is strongly encouraged to develop a customized plan in consultation with their academic advisor. Additional information can also be found in Degree Works.