



Recommended courses for first year biology majors entering Chapman in fall

Welcome to Chapman and welcome to biological sciences! We are excited to have you here in the fall. In preparation for fall course registration, please review the [helpful checklist provided by the Academic Advising Center](#). In addition, here are the recommended courses for a first-year biology major in the fall:

- **Biology (with lab):** we recommend enrolling in **Biology 204 and lab (4 units)**, which is the first semester of general biology. If you earned a 4 or 5 on AP or IB Biology, you are placed out of Biology 204, and we recommend enrolling in **Biology 208 and lab (4 units)**, a course on molecular genetics.
- **Chemistry (with lab):** we recommend enrolling in **Chemistry 140 and lab (4 units combined)**, which is the first semester of general chemistry. If you took AP or IB Chemistry and earned a 4 or 5, **we still recommend taking Chemistry 140/L:** the chemistry program has found that most AP/IB Chemistry courses do not adequately prepare students for subsequent chemistry classes, and many graduate and professional programs (e.g., medical school) will not accept AP Chemistry.
- **Math:** most incoming biology majors will need to enroll in a math course. Please refer to the [guide for determining which math course](#) to take. Note that if you did not take the SAT or ACT, you will need to [take a short math placement test](#) prior to your registration. Depending on your SAT, ACT, or math placement test score, you will enroll in either **Math 101/L (4 units combined)** or **Math 110 (3 units)**. If you took 1) AP Calculus AB and scored a 4 or 5, or 2) AP Calculus BC and scored a 3, you can place out of Math 110 and enroll instead in **Math 111 (3 units)**. If you took AP Calculus BC and earned a 4 or 5, you can pass out of both Math 110 and Math 111. You will not need to take a math course in your first year; we recommend consulting with [Dr. Carolyn Sherff](#), the biology program advisor, to discuss your options.
- **First Year Foundations:** you are required to enroll in a First Year Foundations Course (FFC). There are multiple FFC sections; however, you are required to enroll in **FFC 100B: Grand Challenges in Science and Engineering (3 units)**.

These four courses will total up to 14 or 15 units, and we do not recommend adding any additional courses. While you may have taken a language placement exam, we recommend starting your language sequence after your first semester at Chapman if you are already enrolled in these four classes.

If you signed up for block scheduling, you should be enrolled in some or all of these classes already – please check your course schedule on my.chapman.edu. You do not need to add courses that are already listed on your schedule; thus, depending on which block schedule you chose, it is possible that you do not need to add any courses. If you did not sign up for block scheduling, you will need to register in each of these four courses.

There will be several advising sessions in fall to discuss [requirements for the major](#) and what classes to take in spring (there will not be any block scheduling then). We also ask that you enroll in Biology 101 in the spring, where we will build your four-year plan, develop your professional skills, and explore different careers. In short, there will be lots of support for you as you begin your journey at Chapman!

Questions? Please do not hesitate to email Dr. Sherff (sherff@chapman.edu)!