

BOTANY, BA

REQUIREMENTS

UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison are required to fulfill a minimum set of common university general education requirements to ensure that every graduate acquires the essential core of an undergraduate education. This core establishes a foundation for living a productive life, being a citizen of the world, appreciating aesthetic values, and engaging in lifelong learning in a continually changing world. Various schools and colleges will have requirements in addition to the requirements listed below. Consult your advisor for assistance, as needed. For additional information, see the university Undergraduate General Education Requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatestudytext>) section of the Guide.

General Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breadth–Humanities/Literature/Arts: 6 credits • Breadth–Natural Science: 4 to 6 credits, consisting of one 4- or 5-credit course with a laboratory component; or two courses providing a total of 6 credits • Breadth–Social Studies: 3 credits • Communication Part A & Part B * • Ethnic Studies * • Quantitative Reasoning Part A & Part B *
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* The mortarboard symbol appears before the title of any course that fulfills one of the Communication Part A or Part B, Ethnic Studies, or Quantitative Reasoning Part A or Part B requirements.

COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

Students pursuing a bachelor of arts degree in the College of Letters & Science must complete all of the requirements below. The College of Letters & Science allows this major to be paired with either a bachelor of arts or a bachelor of science curriculum.

BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Mathematics Complete the University General Education Requirements for Quantitative Reasoning A (QR-A) and Quantitative Reasoning B (QR-B) coursework.

Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the fourth unit of a language other than English; OR • Complete the third unit of a language and the second unit of an additional language other than English.
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L&S Breadth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 credits of Humanities, which must include 6 credits of literature; and • 12 credits of Social Science; and • 12 credits of Natural Science, which must include one 3+ credit Biological Science course and one 3+ credit Physical Science course.
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Liberal Arts and Science Coursework	Complete at least 108 credits.
Depth of Intermediate/Advanced work	Complete at least 60 credits at the intermediate or advanced level.
Major	Declare and complete at least one major.
Total Credits	Complete at least 120 credits.
UW–Madison Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 credits in residence, overall; and • 30 credits in residence after the 86th credit.
Quality of Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,000 in all coursework at UW–Madison • 2,000 in Intermediate/Advanced level coursework at UW–Madison

NON–L&S STUDENTS PURSUING AN L&S MAJOR

Non–L&S students who have permission from their school/college to pursue an additional major within L&S only need to fulfill the major requirements. They do not need to complete the L&S Degree Requirements above.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR MATH, CHEMISTRY, AND PHYSICS

Code	Title	Credits
Statistics/Mathematics (One course from the following):¹		3
STAT 301	Introduction to Statistical Methods	
STAT 324	Introduction to Statistics for Science and Engineering	
STAT 371	Introductory Applied Statistics for the Life Sciences	
General Chemistry (One of the following):		5-9
CHEM 103 & CHEM 104	General Chemistry I and General Chemistry II	
CHEM 115 & CHEM 116	Chemical Principles I and Chemical Principles II	
CHEM 109	Advanced General Chemistry	
Organic Chemistry²		3
CHEM 341 or CHEM 343	Elementary Organic Chemistry or Organic Chemistry I	
Physics (One course from the following):³		3-5
PHYSICS 115	Energy and Climate (preferred)	
PHYSICS 103	General Physics	
PHYSICS 104	General Physics	
PHYSICS 201	General Physics	
PHYSICS 202	General Physics	

PHYSICS 207	General Physics
PHYSICS 208	General Physics
PHYSICS 247	A Modern Introduction to Physics
PHYSICS 248	A Modern Introduction to Physics
PHYSICS 249	A Modern Introduction to Physics

Total Credits **14-20**

BIOLOGY AND BOTANY REQUIREMENTS

30 credits from:

Code	Title	Credits
Introductory Biology (Complete one option):		5-10

Option A, Recommended

BOTANY/ BIOLOGY 130	General Botany ⁴
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Option B: Introductory Biology

BOTANY/ BIOLOGY/ ZOOLOGY 151	Introductory Biology
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BOTANY/ BIOLOGY/ ZOOLOGY 152	Introductory Biology
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Option C: BIOCORE

BIOCORE 381	Evolution, Ecology, and Genetics
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BIOCORE 382	Evolution, Ecology, and Genetics Laboratory
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BIOCORE 383	Cellular Biology
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BIOCORE 384	Cellular Biology Laboratory
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BIOCORE 485	Principles of Physiology
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Code	Title	Credits
Botany Distribution - Five courses, to include at least one course in these areas:		15

Cell, Molecular, Physiology (1 course required):

BOTANY 300	Plant Anatomy
or BOTANY 500 Plant Physiology	

Ecology (1 course required):

BOTANY 455	The Vegetation of Wisconsin
or BOTANY/ F&W ECOL/ ZOOLOGY 460	

Genetics, Evolution (1 course required): ⁵

BOTANY/ ANTHRO/ ZOOLOGY 410	Evolutionary Biology
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GENETICS 466	Principles of Genetics ²
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PLANTSCI 338	Plant Breeding and Biotechnology
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GENETICS 467	General Genetics 1
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GENETICS 468	General Genetics 2
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Diversity (1 course required)

BOTANY 305	Plant Morphology and Evolution
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BOTANY 330	Algae
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BOTANY/ PL PATH 332	Fungi
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BOTANY 400	Plant Systematics
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BOTANY 401	Vascular Flora of Wisconsin
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Optionally, 1 of the 5 required courses may come from this list, or students may take a second course from any area listed above:

BOTANY/ GEOG 338	Environmental Biogeography
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BOTANY/ F&W ECOL 402	Dendrology: Woody Plant Identification and Ecology
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BOTANY 403	Field Collections and Identification
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BOTANY 422	Plant Geography
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BOTANY/ ZOOLOGY 450	Midwestern Ecological Issues: A Case Study Approach
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BOTANY/ ENTOM/ ZOOLOGY 473	Plant-Insect Interactions
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BOTANY/ AMER IND/ ANTHRO 474	Ethnobotany
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BOTANY/ ENTOM/ PL PATH 505	Plant-Microbe Interactions: Molecular and Ecological Aspects
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BOTANY/ ENVIR ST/ F&W ECOL/ ZOOLOGY 516	Conservation Biology
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BOTANY/ PL PATH 563	Phylogenetic Analysis of Molecular Data
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BOTANY/ BIOCHEM 621	Plant Biochemistry
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AGROECOL 370	Grassland Ecology
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BIOCHEM 501	Introduction to Biochemistry
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BIOCORE 486	Principles of Physiology Laboratory
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BIOCORE 587	Biological Interactions
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MICROBIO 303	Biology of Microorganisms
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ZOOLOGY 570	Cell Biology
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Code	Title	Credits
Independent Research Experience—choose one: ⁶		3-6

BOTANY 691 & BOTANY 692	Senior Thesis and Senior Thesis	4
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BOTANY 681 & BOTANY 682	Senior Honors Thesis and Senior Honors Thesis	6
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BOTANY 699	Directed Study	3-4
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RESIDENCE AND QUALITY OF WORK

- 2.000 GPA in all BOTANY and major courses
- 2.000 GPA on 15 upper-level major credits, taken in residence ⁷
- 15 credits in BOTANY, taken on the UW-Madison campus

HONORS IN THE MAJOR

Students may declare Honors in the Botany Major in consultation with the Botany undergraduate advisor.

HONORS IN THE MAJOR IN BOTANY: REQUIREMENTS

To earn Honors in the Major in Botany, students must satisfy the requirements for the major (above) and the following additional requirements:

- 3.300 University GPA
- 3.400 GPA in all BOTANY and major courses
- Complete 12 Honors credits from coursework listed in the "Botany Distribution" requirements⁸ or from Intermediate/Advanced Honors coursework in Biocore
- Conduct Senior Honors Thesis research in BOTANY 681 & BOTANY 682 for a total of 6 credits

Quality of Work

Undergraduate students must maintain the minimum grade point average specified by the school, college, or academic program to remain in good academic standing. Students whose academic performance drops below these minimum thresholds will be placed on academic probation.

FOOTNOTES

- ¹ STAT 371, MATH 211, or MATH 221 are strongly recommended for students preparing for graduate school, as these usually are required for entry into post-undergraduate programs.
- ² CHEM 341 is the best option for organic chemistry if only one course is to be taken. However, for students who are preparing for graduate school, the three-course organic chemistry sequence (CHEM 343, CHEM 344, & CHEM 345) is strongly recommended instead of CHEM 341, as some graduate programs may require a sequence of organic chemistry courses.
- ³ PHYSICS 115 is the best choice if one course is to be taken. It is recommended that two semesters of PHYSICS be taken (PHYSICS 103-PHYSICS 104 or PHYSICS 201-PHYSICS 202 or PHYSICS 207-PHYSICS 208).
- ⁴ In addition to BOTANY/BIOLOGY 130, ZOOLOGY/BIOLOGY 101 and/or ZOOLOGY/BIOLOGY 102 will count towards 30 credits of Botany major.
- ⁵ Completion of the BIOCORE sequence also satisfies the Genetics, Evolution area (BIOCORE 381 & BIOCORE 382 & BIOCORE 383 & BIOCORE 384 & BIOCORE 485).
- ⁶ Students nearing completion of the major should seek out research opportunities with their advisor or faculty supervisor, and register for their project at the end of the junior year.
- ⁷ BOTANY 300-BOTANY 699 are considered upper-level in the major.
- ⁸ Excluding BOTANY 681 and BOTANY 682.

UNIVERSITY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Total Degree To receive a bachelor's degree from UW-Madison, students must earn a minimum of 120 degree credits. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 degree credits. Students should consult with their college or department advisor for information on specific credit requirements.

Residency Degree candidates are required to earn a minimum of 30 credits in residence at UW-Madison. "In residence" means on the UW-Madison campus with an undergraduate degree classification. "In residence" credit also includes UW-Madison courses offered in distance or online formats and credits earned in UW-Madison Study Abroad/Study Away programs.