

BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT MAJORS DECLARATION

NAME: _____ CLASS: 20__ ID# _____

CURRENT ADVISER: _____ CMR # _____

INTENDED MAJOR ADVISER: _____

Which major do you wish to enroll in?

- _____ Biology with _____ Health career track, ___ No sub-discipline interest yet
_____ Conservation Biology & Environmental science track
- _____ Neuroscience - cell/molecular track
- _____ Neuroscience - behavioral track
- _____ Biochemistry
- _____ Environmental Studies/Biology combined
- _____ Biology/Physics

List the biology courses that you have completed and the grade you received.

| COURSE (number) | GRADE |
|-----------------|-------|
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Other support courses taken:

- General Chemistry (___ 103, ___ 104) or (___ 105) - required for the biology major.
- Organic Chemistry (___ 221, ___ 222) - required for biochem & neuroscience (221 only).
- Physics (___ 103, ___ 104) or (___ 151, ___ 152) - required for biochem
- Math (___ 113) - required for the biology major.
- Math (___ 134, ___ 135, ___ 136) - 135 is required for the biochem major.

Biology GPA _____ Overall GPA _____

How many extracurricular activities are you involved in? _____

On average, how many hours each week do you study outside of class and lab?

The goal of the department faculty is to assist you in creating a “portfolio” of science learning based upon a vertical learning structure where you build an ever-increasing base of knowledge with each course taken. That is, you should not forget the knowledge after we have quizzed and tested you on it. We will assess your accumulated portfolio during your senior year. In order to gain entry to one of the majors offered by the department, we seek to determine if you are a student of serious purpose. This doesn’t mean that you have to earn all 4.0s and want to go to graduate or health profession schools; a 2.0 student can still be serious in terms of their desire to learn our offerings. **There will always be a place in our department for those who wish to learn purely out of interest and enjoyment.** Please do the following:

1. On a separate page, word process an essay that describes your own **self-assessment** of your college-level learning in the courses you have indicated above as completed. In doing so, explain the priority that your academic work has in your current mindset and describe your opinion of your academic work ethic. What have you enjoyed most and what have you enjoyed least.
2. By now, you should have selected an adviser who teaches in the major of your interest. In consultation with that adviser, **prepare a plan of the remaining courses that you wish to take** to complete the major. This should include courses from abroad programs if you are attempting to study in one of the abroad programs. There are planning forms on the biology department website or you can get one from any faculty adviser. Append that academic plan to this declaration.
3. If you have decided what you wish to do career-wise (even if you are not absolutely certain) after you graduate, describe how your academic accomplishments to date and your academic plan for completion of your intended major support your career goal(s). Basically, **tell us why you wish to major** as indicated.

Finally, the faculty have worked very hard and long to offer a relaxed, modern, informal learning environment. We prefer to work with students who are interested, engaged and who have the same insatiable appetite for learning as we do. We enjoy getting to know you and we seek to have fun doing so in this environment. Thanks for your part in this endeavor.