

## Biology Courses for First-year Students

Below are suggestions for first-year students interested in biology. For more details, please see your Course of Study, or contact Chris Gillen, Chair of Biology, gillenc@kenyon.edu, or 427-5399.

**BIOLOGY MAJOR:** Biology majors need to complete three one-semester courses during their first two years (**BIOL 112 Evolution and Ecology**, **BIOL 113 Cell to Organism**, and **BIOL 114 Genetics and Development**) as well as the lab course **BIOL 109Y-110Y**. Biology majors also should complete at least one year of chemistry during their first two years. Information on the intro courses is below.

1. **BIOL 112, 113, and 114** may be taken in any order with the following guidelines:
  - First year students typically take **112(fall) / 113(spring)**, **112 / 114**, or **113 / 114**.
  - The prerequisite for **BIOL 114** is **BIOL 112**, **BIOL 113**, sophomore standing, or AP5. Only first-year students with an AP score of 5 should consider taking **BIOL 114** in the Fall.
  - **BIOL 112** is only taught in the Fall. Students interested in Evolution and Ecology should enroll in **BIOL 112** in the Fall and then **BIOL 113** or **BIOL 114** in the Spring.
  - **BIOL 113** and **BIOL 114** are requirements for medical school and health professions.
2. **BIOL 109Y-110Y** is a stand-alone, yearlong, entry-level lab course that can be taken independently of **BIOL 112, 113, or 114**. It is a health professions and medical school requirement.

First year students who wish to major in Biology should consider these schedules for the full first year:

1. Those with a strong background in science and Molecular Biology and Biochemistry majors:
  - Two lecture courses from **BIOL 112, BIOL 113, and BIOL 114**. IMPORTANT: Potential Molecular Biology and Biochemistry majors should take **BIOL 113 and 114**.
  - Introduction to Experimental Biology: **BIOL 109Y-110Y**
  - Introductory Chemistry lecture: **CHEM 121 (or 122) and 124 (or 125)**
  - Introductory Chemistry lab: **CHEM 123, 126**
  - Two to four additional courses
2. A more relaxed schedule, postponing Chemistry until sophomore year.
  - Two lecture courses (**BIOL 112, BIOL 113, and/or BIOL 114**).
  - Intro to Experimental Biology: **BIOL 109Y-110Y**
  - Five to seven additional courses
3. To keep Biology possible as a major, or possibly a minor, select from one of the following:
  - One intro lecture (**BIOL 112, BIOL 113, or BIOL 114**) and **BIOL 109Y-110Y**
  - Two intro lectures (**BIOL 112, BIOL 113, and/or BIOL 114**)
  - One intro lecture (**BIOL 112, 113, or 114**) and a full year of Chemistry lecture plus Chem lab.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT:** AP 4 and 5 receive 0.5 units of credit. Students with AP 5 receive credit for **BIOL 113** and we recommend they begin with **BIOL 114**. Those with AP 3 or 4 should start with **BIOL 112** or **BIOL 113**. Consult Chris Gillen (gillenc@kenyon.edu) for additional placement advice.

**PREMEDICAL REQUIREMENTS:** **BIOL 113** and **BIOL 114** lectures plus **BIOL 109-110** lab satisfies the medical school and health professions requirement for a course in general biology. See the pre-health advising page at <http://www.kenyon.edu/premed.xml> for more details about medical school requirements and suggested first-year course schedules.

**NON-MAJORS:** The following non-major courses are highly recommended for first-year students.

**BIOL 103** Biology of Science Fiction; **BIOL 191** Biological Scaling: Why Size Matters; **ENVS 112** Introduction to Environmental Studies

All three courses count toward the Natural Science distribution requirement but not towards the Biology major. **BIOL 103** and **BIOL 191** count towards the Quantitative Reasoning requirement.