

Minor in Biology

Purpose:

To offer a program of biology courses that complements other programs while enhancing the student's understanding of the conceptual basis of modern biology. A biology minor will offer students additional options and will round out campus offerings in a number of different programs. The minor is more flexible than the Associate of Science with a major in Biology and will allow a student to concentrate his/her biology courses in an area that better complements his/her interests (for example: health-related courses or field courses).

Objectives:

1. To enhance the student's understanding of the major areas of biology beyond those usually associated with specific professional preparation.
2. To give the student further practice in use of laboratory methodology and critical thinking.
3. To acquaint the student with additional areas where biology is likely to affect his/her everyday life.

Prerequisites:

The Minor in Biology is open to all students in all academic programs accommodating a minor. There are no prerequisites for the minor itself, although successful completion of L107 Biological Concepts is required before enrolling in other biology courses. Individual courses may also have prerequisites.

Requirements: 18 credit hours of course work including L107, Biological Concepts. All courses for the minor must be completed with a grade of C or better. At least 8 credit hours of the minor must be completed on the IU East campus.

Core Courses:

BIOL L107 Biological Concepts (5 cr.)

Two of the following:

BIOL B301 Introduction to Plant Kingdom(4 cr.)

BIOL Z301 Introduction to Animal Kingdom (4 cr.)

BIOL L325 Ecological Principles (4 cr.)

BIOL L314 Genetics (4 cr.)

BIOL L315 Cell Biology (4 cr.)

Plus additional biological sciences courses from the 200 level or above to total 18 credit hours.

Administration: Students will submit a declaration of minor form and select an advisor from the full-time biology faculty to assist them in planning and executing the minor. This advisor will see that the student has an advising file in the department records and place the minor declaration form in the student's file.

Assessment:

In consultation with a biology advisor, students will plan an assessment program that demonstrates their grasp of important biological concepts, appropriate quantitative skills and scientific writing skills. This assessment program could include a portfolio, an independent research project, or an internship. The assessment program must be approved by the Biology Capstone Committee.

Students choosing portfolio assessment will submit samples of work from 3 or more courses. These samples should include a variety of types of work that demonstrates their grasp of important biological concepts, appropriate quantitative skills and scientific writing skills. Students minoring in biology should maintain a file of appropriate materials such as lab reports, lab practical exams, lecture exams, comprehensive papers, and independent project reports. The portfolio will be evaluated by the Biology Capstone Committee.