

Biology/Environmental Biology Concentration • Bachelor of Science

Why Choose Environmental Biology?

The environment belongs to everyone. Unfortunately, not everyone is taking care of the environment.

Ferris is a world leader in career-oriented education and is committed to undergraduate education. Ferris also has an exceptionally strong commitment to academic advising. In the Environmental Biology concentration, your academic advisor specializes in just environmental biology. The Applied Biology program at Ferris allows you to customize your academic program to meet both your academic abilities and career goals.

Sciences at Ferris are a University strength in part because of long-term nationally recognized science programs in pharmacy and optometry. You will be taught basic science courses by the same science faculty. The low student-faculty ratio at Ferris means that most basic science labs are taught by the science professors themselves.

Get a Great Job

Environmental policies and concerns are major issues facing everyone in the world in the twenty-first century. Career opportunities exist in environmental law, government, industry and academia.

Admission Requirements

First year student admission is open to high school graduates (or equivalent) who demonstrate academic preparedness, maturity and seriousness of purpose with educational backgrounds appropriate to their chosen program of study. High school courses and grade point average, ACT composite score, and ACT reading and mathematics subscores will be considered in the admission and placement process. Transfer students must have at least 12 credits at the time of application with a minimum 2.0 overall GPA including an English and mathematics course, or they must provide their high school records and ACT scores for admission review.

Graduation Requirements

The Environmental Biology program leads to a Bachelor of Science degree. Graduation requires a minimum 2.0 GPA overall and a minimum of 121 credits including completion of all general education requirements as outlined on the General Education website. No grade lower than a 'C-' is acceptable in courses that apply to the major, supporting sciences, and application area of the program. At least 50% of the semester credits applying toward the Biology major must be completed at FSU with a minimum of 30 FSU credits overall.

Required Courses

Credit Hours

General Education:

This degree requires completion of the General Education requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree. Details of these requirements are delineated on the General Education website. Courses listed below as program/major required courses with the indicators: C, S, Z, R, G, may also be used to satisfy some of these general education requirements.

Required Courses or Program:

Biology classes

BIOL 121	General Biology 1	4
BIOL 122	General Biology 2	4
BIOL 218	Microbial Ecology	3
BIOL 342	Vertebrate Natural History	3
BIOL 351	Field Botany	3
BIOL 353	Plant Physiology	4
BIOL 375	Principles of Genetics	3
BIOL 460	Current Topics in BIOL	2
BIOL 492	Biology Internship	1-3
	Biology elective 300 or higher (consult advisor)	3

Choose one Invertebrate course:

BIOL 341	Nat History of Invertebrates	3
BIOL 344	Entomology	3

Ecology Core: Choose 2 of the following 3 Ecological classes

BIOL 346	Ecological Assessment	3
BIOL 347	Environmental Conservation	3
BIOL 442	Ecology	3

Supporting Sciences

MATH 130	Adv Algebra-Analytical Trig	4
CHEM 121	General Chemistry 1	5
CHEM 122	General Chemistry 2	5

Choose 1 of the following organic chemistry options

CHEM 214	Fund of Organic Chemistry	4
	or	
CHEM 321	Organic Chemistry 1	5
	and	
CHEM 322	Organic Chemistry 2	5

Choose 1 of the following Biochemistry options

CHEM 324	Fund of Biochemistry	3
	or	
CHEM 364	Biochemistry	4

Choose 1 of the following Geology classes

GEOL 121	Physical Geology	4
	or	
GEOL 131	Geology and Land Use Mgmt	3

Choose 1 of the following Physics options

PHYS 130	Concepts in Physics	4
	or	
PHYS 211	Introductory Physics 1	4
	and	
PHYS 212	Introductory Physics 2	4



More Information

Department of Biology
Ferris State University
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Big Rapids, MI 49307-2225
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Biology Application Area	
MATH 251 Stats for the Life Sciences	3
Additional required courses	
Choose 1 of the following 2 GIS class options	
GISC 225 Principles of GIS	3
or	
GEOG 311 Social Aspects of GIS	3
Additional Program requirements	
Computer competence (consult advisor)	
COMM 121 Fundamentals-Public Speaking	3
Electives to a credit total of: 121 (consult advisor)	6 - 18