



## ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN BIOLOGY DEGREE

(DTA/MRP Transfer Degree)

Advisors: [Heather Cushman](#), 253-566-5368 and [Ken Cushman](#) 253-566-5301

Students may complete the first two years of a Bachelor's Degree in Biology at Tacoma Community College. The program of studies listed below leads to the Associate in Biology degree. Upon completion of this degree, students may be able to transfer to most four-year colleges and universities as juniors.

This degree is most suitable for students who are interested in transferring to a four-year college or university to major in biology, wildlife science, botany, zoology, or similar programs in the natural sciences. Students interested in pre-medicine, pre-veterinary science, molecular biology, genetics, or microbiology might also consider following the plan that leads to an Associate of Science-Biology Specialization degree. An advisor can help determine which degree is most appropriate.

Although members of the biology department make every effort to consult with various colleges and universities regarding requirements, students are encouraged to consult catalogs, websites and advisors at their chosen four-year institution during their freshman year, especially when deciding which biology degree plan to follow and which electives to take.

Students should work closely with advisors when selecting their elective, social science, and humanities courses because different bachelor's degrees in the natural sciences may have specific requirements in those distribution areas. For example, many BS degrees in Biology require a year of organic chemistry (CHEM& 261, 262, and 263). Some students defer taking organic chemistry until the junior year. Others find they are better prepared for upper division coursework if they complete organic chemistry as an elective before transferring.

**Preparation:** While in high school, students should pursue all the available courses in mathematics, chemistry, biology and physics.

**Program Planning:** Students should meet with an advisor as soon as they are admitted to Tacoma Community College. Many courses have prerequisites, are offered only once or twice a year, and are sequential. Careful selection of classes is necessary to complete the program without delay.

### EXAMPLE SCHEDULE

#### First Year

##### Fall

CHEM& 161  
Humanities  
ENGL& 101

##### Winter

CHEM& 162  
MATH& 151  
BIOL&160

##### Spring

CHEM& 163  
Social Science  
Biol& 221

#### Second Year

##### Fall

BIOL& 222  
Humanities (Multicultural)  
Elective

##### Winter

BIOL& 223  
Social Science  
ENGL&102

##### Spring

Humanities  
Social Science  
Elective

- Some students may need to take additional prerequisite courses.
- The Humanities (15 units) and Social Science (15 units) courses must be selected from the Humanities and Social Science **Approved Distribution Course List**.
- Students must take courses in 2 different Humanities disciplines and 2 different Social Sciences disciplines. No more than 10 credits may come from any one discipline.
- No more than 5 Humanities credits may come from a 100-level world language
- No more than 5 Humanities credits may come from a skills/performance classes.
- At least one course applied to the degree must be from the list of approved Multicultural courses on the **Approved Distribution Course List**.
- Elective credits should be planned in consultation with a biology advisor. Electives allow students to include additional courses to prepare for the biology major based on transfer college selection. Examples include a full year sequence of organic chemistry for majors (CHEM 261, 262, and 263); a physics sequence (e.g., PHYS 114/115), math beyond the Math& 151 level, or statistics (Math& 146).
- Maximum of 3 elective credits of Physical Education activity credits are allowed.

[University of Washington, College of Arts & Sciences, Biology Program](#)

318 Hitchcock Hall (206) 543-9210

[Washington State University: College of Sciences, School of Biological Sciences](#)

Abelson Hall, Room 312 (509) 335-3553

[Western Washington University, College of Arts and Sciences, Biology Department](#)

Biology Building 3I 315 (360) 650-3627

[Washington State University Vancouver Science Programs, Biology](#)

Engineering/Life Sciences VEL5 230 (360) 546-9620

[University of Puget Sound - Biology](#)

Thompson Hall 223A (253) 879-3121

[Pacific Lutheran University, Biology](#)

Rieke Science Center Room 159 (253) 535-7561

[Central Washington University - Department of Biological Sciences](#)

Science Building Room 338 (509) 963-2731

[The Evergreen State College - Biology](#)

Library 1200 (360) 867-6170

[Seattle Pacific University - Biology](#)

Science Building (SCI) (206) 281-2351

[Seattle University College of Science and Engineering - Biology](#)

Bannan 150 (206) 296-5490

[St Martin's University - Biology](#)

Old Main 256 (360) 438-4311

[Eastern Washington University - Biology](#)

238 Science Building (509) 369-2339