

# Sample Education Plan Associate in Science (AS) Area of Focus: Biological Sciences



Please note that the AS degree is not awarded in a specific major or focus area.

This is a SAMPLE plan to help guide you toward courses relevant to your interests while you are deciding on a transfer institution. Suggested courses are based on requirements of several four-year institutions and recommendations by the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) Biology Panel. Please note that requirements vary among four-year colleges and universities. It is important to check early with your transfer school and academic advisor to ensure you are taking appropriate courses and meeting all requirements. You will find transfer guides for specific universities on MCC's website: [www.mchenry.edu/transfer](http://www.mchenry.edu/transfer).

## AS Degree Requirements: Area of Focus—Biological Sciences

Students are encouraged to complete an AS degree prior to transfer. A minimum of 60 credits is required for transfer as a junior into a biological sciences program.

Please refer to MCC's AS degree planning sheet in the current academic catalog for specific degree requirements and course options.

### Suggested Courses

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT	CREDITS	OTHER COURSE REQUIREMENTS	CREDITS
<b>Communications</b>		<b>Diversity &amp; Multicultural Studies</b>	
^ENG 151 Composition I	3	One 3-credit hour course is required. Courses that fulfill this requirement may be used to fulfill credits in Humanities/Fine Arts, Social/Behavioral Sciences, or Electives. See current catalog for complete list of Diversity & Multicultural Studies course options and how they apply toward degree requirements.	
^ENG 152 Composition II	3		
SPE 151 Introduction to Speech	3		
<b>Humanities and Fine Arts</b>		<b>Electives (minimum 16–19 credits)</b>	
IAI Fine Arts	3	<b>Recommended Courses (select with your advisor)</b>	
IAI Humanities	3	Math, chemistry, and physics course selections depend on your transfer school requirements.	
<b>Social and Behavioral Sciences</b>		^CHM 166 General Chemistry II	5
PSY 151 Introduction to Psychology	3	^CHM 265 & 266 Organic Chemistry I & II	10
IAI Social & Behavioral Science	3	<b>or</b>	
<b>Physical and Life Sciences</b>		^PHY 280 & 281 or PHY 291 & 292 General or Principles of Physics	8
^CHM 165 General Chemistry I	5	^MAT 245 Calculus w/Analytic Geo.	5
^BIO 157 Fundamentals of Biology	4	Foreign Language	0–16
BIO 158 Evolution & Biodiversity	4		
<b>Mathematics</b>		<b>Total Credits Required for AS Degree</b>	<b>60</b>
^MAT 165 College Algebra & Trigonometry	5	Many 4-year schools will accept a maximum of 60–66 transfer credits.	
^MAT 175 Calculus w/Analytic Geometry I	5		

^Course has prerequisite(s)—Please reference the current academic catalog for prerequisites.

### NOTE:

- **Mathematics, organic chemistry, and physics course selection will depend on your transfer school. Requirements vary among four-year schools.**
- Entire course sequence should be taken at the same school (e.g. CHM 265 & CHM 266). Content may vary between institutions; completing sequence at a single institution is the best way to assure that neither credit nor content is lost in transfer.
- The AS degree does not include the entire IAI General Education Core Curriculum (GECC) package. Meet with an MCC academic advisor to learn more about the IAI GECC.

For more information:  
[advising@mchenry.edu](mailto:advising@mchenry.edu) or (815) 479-7565  
[www.mchenry.edu/advising](http://www.mchenry.edu/advising)



### Transfer Notes

Bachelor degree biological science programs are diverse with some emphasizing cell and molecular biology and others emphasizing organismal, ecological, and evolutionary biology. Admission and specific course requirements for biological science programs vary among four-year institutions. Admission may be selective. Some four-year schools require foreign language. It is recommended foreign language be completed prior to transfer.

Students, whose goal is to become a biology teacher, will major in biology and pursue teacher licensure in biology. Teachers in public schools are required to be licensed. Licensure requirements vary by state. Almost all states require that applicants to teacher education programs be tested for competency in basic skills and undergo a criminal background check.

### Transfer Schools

Following is a sample of Illinois public and private four-year institutions that offer programs in the biological sciences. Admission and course requirements vary. It is important to choose your transfer school early to ensure you take appropriate MCC courses.

- Augustana College
- Aurora University
- Benedictine University
- Bradley University
- Chicago State University
- Concordia University
- DePaul University
- Dominican University
- Eastern Illinois University
- Elmhurst College
- Governors State University
- Illinois Institute of Technology
- Illinois State University
- Illinois Wesleyan College
- Judson University
- Knox College
- Lake Forest College
- Lewis University
- Loyola University
- Millikin University
- Monmouth College
- North Central College
- North Park University
- Northeastern Illinois University
- Northern Illinois University
- Northwestern University
- Olivet Nazarene University
- Rockford University
- Roosevelt University
- Southern Illinois University—Carbondale
- Southern Illinois University—Edwardsville
- Trinity International University
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of Illinois Springfield
- University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign
- Western Illinois University
- Wheaton College

### Transfer Resources

[www.itransfer.org](http://www.itransfer.org)—iTransfer is a portal for transfer assistance in the state of Illinois. Find information about the Illinois Articulation Initiative and MyCreditsTransfer (Transferology—a nationwide transfer tool).

[www.mchenry.edu/transfer](http://www.mchenry.edu/transfer)—Find transfer guides, course equivalencies, partnership agreements, and other transfer resources.