

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES TRANSFER STUDENT INFORMATION – 2009

Welcome to the Biological Sciences at UC Santa Cruz. Our majors emphasize a strong foundation in the basic sciences and mathematics as well as offering a broad spectrum of courses that reflect the exciting new developments and directions in the field of biology. The intellectual rigor of these programs ensures that our students are well prepared for further studies in graduate and professional schools as well as for employment in scientific fields.

The Biological Sciences are composed of two different academic departments. The Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology Department sponsors the **Biology, Health Science, Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology**, and the **Neuroscience and Behavior** degrees. The Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department sponsors the **Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Marine Biology**, and **Plant Sciences** degrees.

There are three interdisciplinary degrees offered. The **Biochemistry and Molecular Biology** degree which is sponsored by the Chemistry Department, and the **Bioinformatics** and **Bioengineering** degrees sponsored by the School of Engineering. A combined major, **Environmental Studies/Biology**, is also available sponsored by the Environmental Studies Department. Students should seek advising for these majors from the sponsoring department.

HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR INCOMING STUDENTS:

I. Transferring credit towards your Biological Science major:

It is especially important for transfer students to consult with the Biology Advising Office for academic planning, as it may be essential to take specific courses during your first quarter to insure timely progress toward your degree.

Students transferring credit from California Junior Colleges:

Please fax copies of all college transcripts that include coursework in Chemistry, Math, Biology, and Physics to the Biology Advising Office as soon as possible (**this copy is in addition to the official transcripts you sent to the Admissions Office**). Please include your name, 7-digit UCSC ID number, the name of the school you are transferring from, and your intended biology major on the fax cover sheet.

The Biology Advisors will articulate your science/math courses using <http://www.assist.org>, then enter prerequisite credit into your academic record at UCSC, and make recommendations via email regarding which classes to enroll in for Fall quarter. At that time you will also be offered an individual appointment with a Biology Advisor to discuss which Biological Science major is most appropriate for you, create an academic plan for your major, discuss how to declare your major, and learn about other opportunities in the Biological Sciences.

For further information about transferring credit, please see our web site:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/advising/transfercrredit/communitycollege.html>

Students coming from another UC or out of state college or

university:

Please read the process in the section on: “Students transferring credit from a California Junior College”. You too will need to fax all college transcripts which include coursework in Chemistry, Math, Biology, and Physics to the Biology Advising Office. In addition to your transcripts, you **must** submit **course descriptions and syllabi** for each of these courses.

Without a syllabus containing the course’s content week by week, the course can not be articulated for credit towards your Biological Science major.

Please see the web page for further information:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/advising/transfercrredit/articulation.html>

If you do not have college or AP credit in math, you will need to take the Math placement exam, since enrollment in Math courses **requires** a placement score. Please check the Mathematics Department web site for details on the exam:<http://www.math.ucsc.edu/undergraduate/prereqs.html>

A placement exam is not required for enrollment into introductory Biology, Chemistry or Physics. There is an optional self assessment exam available to assist you in deciding where to begin chemistry.

<http://www.chemistry.ucsc.edu/ChemistrySelf-assessment.html> A self assessment exam is not available for Biology or Physics.

III. Get familiar with the Biological Sciences and the UCSC Websites:

Here are some helpful resources as you begin the Biological Sciences at UCSC!

Biological Sciences Websites:

Degree Checklists- All Biology majors, requirements, and sample schedules:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/program/index.html>

Faculty- What they teach, their area of research, how to contact them:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/faclist.html>

Course List- Biology courses and the instructors for the coming year:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/courses/index.html>

Advising Index- Almost any question about your Biology major can be answered here:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/advising/index.html>

How to declare you Biological Sciences major:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/advising/declaration/declare.html>

Contact Information:

Biological Sciences Undergraduate Advising Office
387 Thimann Labs, UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Fax: 831-459-1568

email: bioadvise@biology.ucsc.edu

Phone: 831-459-4143