

# Advising Guide to **Introductory Biology Courses**



The RIC Biology Department offers *three* courses that satisfy the **General Education** distribution requirement for a **Natural Science (NS)** course. All three have math competency as a prerequisite. Here is what you need to know to help guide students to the most suitable course.

## **Biology 100** – Fundamental Concepts of Biology

Biology 100 is a **non-majors** course that provides a broad overview of the breadth of biology. Topics include cell biology, genetics, life's diversity, evolution, and ecology. The laboratory portion of the course does not include a dissection. This stand-alone course is best suited as a **NS** for those students not continuing study in the sciences.

This course is required for the following programs...

- **Communication BA** – Speech, Language, and Hearing Concentration
- **Elementary Education BA** – Content major in ~~Multidisciplinary Studies~~, English, Math or Social Studies
- **Elementary Education BS** – Teaching concentration in Special Education
- **Environmental Studies BA** and Environmental Studies Minor

## **Biology 108** – Basic Principles of Biology

Biology 108 is a **non-majors** course that introduces students to the principles of biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, molecular biology, and human systems. This course is a prerequisite for BIOL 231 (Anatomy), BIOL 335 (Human Physiology) and BIOL 348 (Microbiology) and is suitable for students planning to enter an allied health profession. A dissection is included as part of the laboratory experience.

This course is part of the requirements for the following programs...

- **Nursing** undergraduate programs
- **Health Science** undergraduate programs
- **Medical Imaging** undergraduate programs
- **Dance Performance BA**
- **Psychology – Behavioral Neuroscience Minor** – option
- **Health Education BS**
- **Physical Education BS**
- **Community and Public Health Promotion BS**
- **Wellness and Exercise Science BS**
- **Health Care Administration BS** - option

## **Biology 111** – Introductory Biology I

Biology 111 is designed for science **majors** and those with a strong interest in science. It is the first in a three-semester sequence (111, 112 and 213) and is designed to give students a solid grounding in the biochemical, cellular, genetic and molecular aspects of biology. Experience with high school or college chemistry (atomic structure, bonding, reactions) is recommended. BIOL 111 and 112 are prerequisites for all upper level courses in Biology (except 231, 335 and 348 which allow BIOL 108 as a prerequisite). Students seeking pre-professional careers in medicine (pre-med, pre-vet, pre-dental, PA school, etc.) should take Biology 111.

This course is part of the requirements for the following programs...

- **Biology BS**
- **Chemistry BS** – Concentrations in Biochemistry and Environmental Chemistry
- **Computer Science BS** – option
- **Elementary Education BA** – Content major in ~~General Science~~
- **Philosophy – Minor in Principles of Knowledge and Reality** – option
- **Secondary Education BA** – Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or General Science major

**Notes:** Some programs have minimum grade requirements in these courses. (Examples: Biology BS requires a C– or better in BIOL 111 to proceed to BIOL 112. Education programs in the FSEHD require grades of C or better in all content courses.)

**Biology 103** – Human Biology is a non-majors course that does not have a laboratory component and does not satisfy the General Education distribution requirement in Natural Science. Biology 103 is offered on an as-needed basis.