



TWO DEGREES, ONE PATH

TRANSFER PATHWAY GUIDE 2024-2025

Associate in Science to
Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences (General Biology Track)

Overview

Completion of the following curriculum will satisfy the requirements for the Associate in Science (AS) at a Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) institution and leads to the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Biological Sciences (General Biology Track) at Northern Kentucky University (NKU).

Applying to the KCTCS2NKU Program

Students can apply to participate in the pathway program by completing the online application on the NKU transfer webpage. Students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours at a KCTCS institution, enrolled in an associate degree program, plan to transfer to NKU, and maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA at their KCTCS institution.

Degree Requirements for KCTCS

1) Completion of minimum 60 credit hours, 2) minimum cumulative GPA 2.0, 3) minimum of 15 credit hours earned at the institution awarding the degree, 4) cultural competence course, 5) demonstration of digital literacy, and 6) college success requirement.

Admission Requirements to NKU

Students completing an associate degree with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher will be accepted into NKU.

Degree Requirements for NKU

To earn a bachelor's degree at NKU, students must complete a minimum of 120 credit hours with at least 45 credit hours numbered 300 and above. In addition, at least 25% of the credit hours required for the degree and the last 30 credit hours must be completed at NKU. Students must have an overall GPA of 2.0 and meet all prerequisites for courses and requirements for the major.

Students pursuing a degree in the biological sciences may do so by choosing one of six different tracks. These tracks allow the individual student to place an emphasis on areas of biology that he or she finds of interest. However, the faculty of the department feel very strongly that each student completing a degree in biology must have a solid foundation in the discipline. Therefore, there is a core of courses required of all biological science majors. A grade of C- or better must be earned in all biology courses that count toward completion of major requirements. The department has also identified a common core of support courses that must be completed with a C- or better by all biological science majors. Details concerning the biology core, support core, and the General Biology track follow. A biological sciences major does not require a secondary area of study (e.g. minor or focus).

Students wishing to be certified to teach biology at the secondary level should complete the B.A. General Biology Track in conjunction with a B.A. Secondary Education. Students should review the section of the catalog describing the B.A. Secondary Education track within the Department of Teacher Education.

Prior to graduation, all students majoring in biology are required to pass a comprehensive exam. This examination is designed to verify that the graduating student has at least a basic knowledge of the broad area of the biological sciences. Students will complete this requirement by registering for "BIO 491 Comprehensive Examination (0 credits)" during the senior year. Those who fail the exam will not be allowed to graduate until the exam is passed.

General Transfer Information

Students must complete the online application to NKU. There is no application fee for students who are transferring from a KCTCS institution.

KCTCS Scholars Award: Students who are KY residents transferring directly from a KCTCS institution with at least 36 hours from that institution and minimum GPA of 3.0, were never enrolled as a degree-seeking student at NKU, and will be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours both fall and spring semester are eligible for a limited number of \$2,500 annual scholarships (\$1,250 per fall and spring). Students must gain admission to NKU by June 15 for fall and November 1 for spring to be eligible for a possible scholarship. Online accelerated programs are not eligible for the KCTCS Scholars Award.

KCTCS AS TO NKU BS IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES CHECKLIST

Kentucky Community and Technical College System Institution

Category 1: KCTCS General Education Core Requirements

KCTCS Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
ENG 101	Writing I (WC)	3	ENG 101	
ENG 102	Writing II (WC)	3	ENG 102	
TBS XXX	Oral Communication (OC)	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities Course (AH) – Heritage	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities Course (AH) – Humanities	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Social & Behavioral Sciences Course (SB)	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Social & Behavioral Sciences Course (SB)	3	TBD XXX	
BIO 114/115 or BIO 150/151 or BIO 148U/155U	Biology I with Lab (SL) or Principles of Biology I with Lab (SL) or Introductory Biology I with Lab	4-5	BIO 150/150L	
CHE 170/175	General College Chemistry I with Lab (SL)	5	CHE 120/120L	
MAT 150	College Algebra (QR)	3	(MAT 102 or MAT 103) + MAT 100T	
STA 220	Statistics (QR)	3	STA 205	
	Subtotal General Education Core Courses	36-37		

TBS XXX means to be selected by KCTCS student.

TBD XXX means to be determined by NKU based on course selected.

A grade of A or B in MAT 150 equates to MAT 103 + MAT 100T. Grade of C or D in MAT 150 equates to MAT 102 + MAT 100T.

MAT 151 or STA 151 or MAT 161 in addition to STA 251 can be substituted for STA 220.

For Social and Behavioral Sciences courses, two disciplines must be represented and different from those in the Arts and Humanities category.

Category 2: KCTCS AS Requirements

KCTCS Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
BIO 116/117 or BIO 152/153	Biology II with Lab (SL)	4-5	BIO 151/151L	
CHE 180/185	General College Chemistry II with Lab (SL)	5	CHE 121/121L	
	Subtotal AS Requirement Courses	9-10		

Category 3: KCTCS Electives

KCTCS Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
	Digital Literacy	0-3		
	First-Year College Success Course/Experience	0-3		
MAT 155 or MAT 160 or MAT 171	Trigonometry or Precalculus or Precalculus	3-5	MAT 100G MAT 119 MAT 103 + MAT 119	
MAT 170 or MAT 175	Brief Calculus with Applications or Calculus I	3-5	MAT 112 or MAT 129	
PHY 201/202	College Physics I with Lab	5	PHY 211	
TBS XXX	Elective (students can take PHY 203/204 and/or EST 150 to fulfill NKU requirement)	0-6	TBD XXX	
	Subtotal Elective Courses	13-15		
	Total Associate Degree Hours	60		

A course carrying the Cultural Competence status must also be completed as part of the AA and AS requirements. Approved Cultural Competence courses are listed in the catalog under Academic Services - Cultural Competence Requirement.

Northern Kentucky University

Category 4: NKU Major Requirements for the BS in Biological Sciences (General Biology Track)

NKU Course	Course	Credits	KCTCS Course	Taken at KCTCS
BIO 150/150L	Introduction to Biology I and Laboratory	4	BIO 114/115	x
BIO 151/151L	Introduction to Biology II and Laboratory	4	BIO 116/117	x
BIO 155	Orientation to Biology	1		
BIO 291W	Advanced Writing in Biology	3	Taken at NKU	x
BIO 304/304L	General Ecology and Laboratory	4	EST 150	
BIO 349/349L	Genetics and Laboratory	4		
BIO 458	Evolution of Organisms	3		
BIO 491	Comprehensive Examination	0		
CHE 120/120L	General Chemistry I and Laboratory	4	CHE 170/175	x
CHE 121/121L	General Chemistry II and Laboratory	4	CHE 180/185	x
PHY 211/213 or PHY 220/222	General Physics with Laboratory I and II or University Physics with Laboratory I and II	8-10	PHY 201/202 and PHY 203/204 or PHY 231/241 and PHY 232/242	x (still need PHY 213 if didn't take PHY 203/204)

NKU Course	Course	Credits	KCTCS Course	Taken at KCTCS
STA 205	Statistical Methods	3	STA 220	x
TBS XXX	Foreign language at the 102 or higher level. Can be met by a two-course sequence, CLEP or AP exam equivalency.	0-6		
TBS XXX	Select one course from the cellular/molecular/genetics group (see NKU catalog for choices)	3-4		
TBS XXX	Select one course from the ecology/evolution/organismal group (see NKU catalog for choices)	3-4		
TBS XXX	Select 3 courses from the CMG, EEO, or general elective groups. Students may take electives from across these different groups. At least one of the 5 total electives must be a course with an associated lab component.	9-12		
CHE 310/310L	Organic Chemistry I with Lab	4	CHE 270/275	
CHE 311/311L	Organic Chemistry II with Lab	4	CHE 280/285	
MAT 112 or MAT 128 or MAT 129	Applied Calculus or Calculus A or Calculus I	3-4	MAT 170 or MAT 175	x
	Subtotal Major Credit Hours at NKU	40-50		
	Subtotal Major Credit Hours at KCTCS	29-30		
	Total Major Credit Hours	69-80		

Category 6: Additional Requirements at NKU

NKU Course	Course	Credits	KCTCS Course	Taken at KCTCS
	Subtotal Elective (including 300/400 Level) Credit Hours	10-20		
	Total Baccalaureate Degree Credit Hours	120		

Note: Students majoring in BS Biological Sciences may choose from the following tracks: General Biology Track, Cellular/Molecular/Genetics Track, Ecology/Evolution/Organismal Track, Forensic Science Track, or Pharmaceutical Sciences Track. Category 5 above outlines the courses for the General Biology Track. Students interested in another track should see the course catalog and work with an NKU advisor. Additionally, students interested in Pre-Med, Pre-Physician Assistant, or Pre-Dental coursework should see the Biological Sciences (Cellular/Molecular/Genetics Track) pathway.

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