

# BIOCHEMISTRY (BIOC)

## Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, College of Biological Science

A B.Sc. in Biochemistry offers a multidisciplinary curriculum that gives students broad exposure to the life sciences with specific attention paid to the physical and chemical nature of biomolecular systems. The lab-intensive experience in this program prepares students to pursue post-graduate research opportunities in many different life science related fields. Graduates are also positioned to be successful in obtaining entrance to a number of professional programs, as well as employment in industry and government.

## Major Requirements (Honours)

**This is a major within the degree:** Bachelor of Science  
([calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/degree-programs/bachelor-science-bsc/](https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/degree-programs/bachelor-science-bsc/)).

Students may enter this major in Semester 1 or any semester thereafter. A student wishing to declare the major may wish to consult the Faculty Advisor. The major will require the completion of at least 20.00 credits as indicated below:

Students lacking Grade 12 or 4U Biology, Chemistry or Physics should follow the revised schedule of study for this major found at [https://www.uoguelph.ca/bsc/revised\\_SS/](https://www.uoguelph.ca/bsc/revised_SS/).

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Semester 1</b>		
BIOL*1090	Introduction to Molecular and Cellular Biology	0.50
CHEM*1040	General Chemistry I	0.50
MATH*1080	Elements of Calculus I	0.50
PHYS*1080	Physics for Life Sciences	0.50
0.50 Liberal Education electives		0.50
<b>Semester 2</b>		
BIOL*1070	Discovering Biodiversity	0.50
BIOL*1080	Biological Concepts of Health	0.50
CHEM*1050	General Chemistry II	0.50
MATH*1090	Elements of Calculus II	0.50
PHYS*1070	Physics for Life Sciences II	0.50
<b>Semester 3</b>		
BIOC*2580	Introduction to Biochemistry	0.50
MBG*2040	Foundations in Molecular Biology and Genetics	0.50
MICR*2420	Introduction to Microbiology	0.50
STAT*2040	Statistics I	0.50
0.50 Liberal Education electives		0.50
<b>Semester 4</b>		
BIOC*3560	Structure and Function in Biochemistry	0.50
CHEM*2480	Analytical Chemistry I	0.50
CHEM*2700	Organic Chemistry I	0.50
MCB*2050	Molecular Biology of the Cell	0.50
MICR*2430	Methods in Microbial Culture and Physiology	0.50
<b>Semester 5</b>		

BIOC*3570	Analytical Biochemistry	0.75
CHEM*2880	Physical Chemistry	0.50
CHEM*3750	Organic Chemistry II	0.50
Electives or restricted electives to a maximum of 2.75 total credits		1.00
<b>Semester 6</b>		
MBG*3350	Laboratory Methods in Molecular Biology	0.75
Electives or restricted electives to a maximum of 2.75 total credits		2.00
<b>Semester 7</b>		
2.50 electives or restricted electives		2.50
<b>Semester 8</b>		
BIOC*4540	Enzymology	0.75
Electives or restricted electives to a maximum of 2.75 total credits		2.00

## Restricted Electives

Code	Title	Credits
1. Students must take as part of their program: 4.00 credits from the following: <sup>1</sup>		
BIOC*4050	Protein and Nucleic Acid Structure	0.50
BIOC*4520	Metabolic Processes	0.50
BIOC*4580	Membrane Biochemistry	0.50
BIOL*3300	Applied Bioinformatics	0.50
BIOM*3200	Biomedical Physiology	1.00
MBG*3040	Molecular Biology of the Gene	0.50
MCB*3010	Dynamics of Cell Function and Signaling	0.50
MCB*4010	Advanced Cell Biology	0.50
MCB*4020	Communication in Molecular and Cellular Biology	0.50
MCB*4500	Research Project in Molecular and Cellular Biology I	1.00
MCB*4510	Research Project in Molecular and Cellular Biology	1.00
MCB*4600	Topics in Molecular and Cellular Biology	0.50
MICR*3230	Immunology	0.50
MICR*3240	Microbial Physiology and Genetics	0.50
MICR*3330	World of Viruses	0.50
MICR*4330	Molecular Virology	0.50
MICR*4530	Immunology II	0.50
PBIO*3110	Crop Physiology	0.50
PBIO*4750	Genetic Engineering of Plants	0.50
STAT*2050	Statistics II	0.50
TOX*4590	Biochemical Toxicology	0.50
2. Students must take as part of their program: 0.50 credits from the following:		
PHYS*2030	Biophysics of Excitable Cells	0.50
PHYS*2240	Thermal Physics	0.50
PHYS*2330	Electricity and Magnetism I	0.50
PHYS*2600	General Astronomy	0.50
PHYS*3080	Energy	0.50

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At least 1.00 of these credits from BIOC\*4050 Protein and Nucleic Acid Structure, BIOC\*4520 Metabolic Processes, BIOC\*4580 Membrane Biochemistry

## Credit Summary

(20.00 Total Credits)

Code	Title	Credits
	First year science credits	4.50
	Required science courses semesters 3 - 8	7.75
	Restricted electives (# 1 and # 2 in restricted elective list)	4.50
	Liberal Education electives	1.00
	Free electives – any approved electives for B.Sc. students	2.25
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>20</b>

Of the total credits required, students are required to complete 16.00 credits in science of which a minimum of 2.00 credits must be at the 4000 level and an additional 4.00 credits must be at the 3000 or 4000 level.

## Co-op Requirements (Honours)

**This is a major within the degree:** Bachelor of Science  
([calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/degree-programs/bachelor-science-bsc/](http://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/degree-programs/bachelor-science-bsc/)).

The Co-op program in Biochemistry is a four and a half year program, including four work terms. Students must complete a Fall (Sequence B only), Winter and Summer work term, and must follow the academic work schedule as outlined below (also found on the Co-operative Education website: <https://www.recruitguelph.ca/cecs/>).

### Academic and Co-op Work Term Schedule – Sequence A

Year	Fall	Winter	Summer
1	Academic Semester 1	Academic Semester 2 COOP*1100	Off
2	Academic Semester 3	COOP*1000 Work Term I	Academic Semester 4
3	Academic Semester 5	COOP*2000 Work Term II	COOP*3000 Work Term III
4	Academic Semester 6	Academic Semester 7	COOP*4000 Work Term IV
5	Academic Semester 8	N/A	N/A

### Academic and Co-op Work Term Schedule – Sequence B

Year	Fall	Winter	Summer
1	Academic Semester 1	Academic Semester 2 COOP*1100	Off
2	Academic Semester 3	COOP*1000 Work Term I	Academic Semester 4
3	COOP*2000 Work Term II	Academic Semester 5	COOP*3000 Work Term III
4	Academic Semester 6	Academic Semester 7	COOP*4000 Work Term IV

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Academic  
Semester 8

N/A

N/A

Please refer to the Co-operative Education program policy with respect to work term performance grading, work term report grading and program completion requirements.

For additional program information students should consult with their Co-op Co-ordinator and Co-op Faculty Advisor, listed on the Co-operative Education web site.

## Credit Summary

(22.00 Total Credits)

Code	Title	Credits
	First year science credits	4.50
	Required science courses semesters 3 - 8	7.75
	Restricted elective (# 1 and #2 in restricted elective list)	4.50
	Liberal Education electives	1.00
	Free electives – any approved electives for B.Sc. students	2.25
	Co-op Work Terms	2.00
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>22</b>

Of the total credits required, students are required to complete 16.00 credits in science of which a minimum of 2.00 credits must be at the 4000 level and an additional 4.00 credits must be at the 3000 or 4000 level.

## Recommended Program Sequence

### Sequence A

Students lacking Grade 12 or 4U Biology, Chemistry or Physics should follow the revised schedule of study for this major found at [https://www.uoguelph.ca/bsc/revised\\_SS/](https://www.uoguelph.ca/bsc/revised_SS/).

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Semester 1 - Fall</b>		
BIOL*1090	Introduction to Molecular and Cellular Biology	0.50
CHEM*1040	General Chemistry I	0.50
MATH*1080	Elements of Calculus I	0.50
PHYS*1080	Physics for Life Sciences	0.50
0.50 Liberal Education electives		0.50
<b>Semester 2 - Winter</b>		
BIOL*1070	Discovering Biodiversity	0.50
BIOL*1080	Biological Concepts of Health	0.50
CHEM*1050	General Chemistry II	0.50
COOP*1100	Introduction to Co-operative Education	0.00
MATH*1090	Elements of Calculus II	0.50
PHYS*1070	Physics for Life Sciences II	0.50
<b>Summer Semester</b>		
No academic semester or work term		
<b>Semester 3 - Fall</b>		
BIOC*2580	Introduction to Biochemistry	0.50
CHEM*2480	Analytical Chemistry I	0.50
CHEM*2880	Physical Chemistry	0.50
MBG*2040	Foundations in Molecular Biology and Genetics	0.50

0.50 Liberal Education electives 0.50

**Winter Semester**

COOP\*1000 Co-op Work Term I 0.50

**Semester 4 - Summer**

BIOC\*3560 Structure and Function in Biochemistry 0.50

CHEM\*2700 Organic Chemistry I 0.50

MICR\*2420 Introduction to Microbiology 0.50

STAT\*2040 Statistics I 0.50

Electives or Restricted Electives to a maximum of 2.75 total credits 0.75

**Semester 5 - Fall**

CHEM\*3750 Organic Chemistry II 0.50

BIOC\*3570 Analytical Biochemistry 0.75

MCB\*2050 Molecular Biology of the Cell 0.50

MICR\*2430 Methods in Microbial Culture and Physiology 0.50

0.50 electives or restricted electives 0.50

**Winter Semester**

COOP\*2000 Co-op Work Term II 0.50

**Summer Semester**

COOP\*3000 Co-op Work Term III 0.50

**Semester 6 - Fall**

MBG\*3350 Laboratory Methods in Molecular Biology 0.75

Electives or Restricted Electives to a maximum of 2.75 total credits 2.00

**Semester 7 - Winter**

BIOC\*4540 Enzymology 0.75

Electives or Restricted Electives to a maximum of 2.75 total credits 2.00

**Summer Semester**

COOP\*4000 Co-op Work Term IV 0.50

**Semester 8 - Fall**

2.50 electives or restricted electives 2.50

**Restricted Electives**

Code	Title	Credits
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 1. Students must take as part of their program: 4.00 credits from the following: <sup>2</sup>

BIOC*4050	Protein and Nucleic Acid Structure	0.50
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BIOC*4520	Metabolic Processes	0.50
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BIOC*4580	Membrane Biochemistry	0.50
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BIOL*3300	Applied Bioinformatics	0.50
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BIOM*3200	Biomedical Physiology	1.00
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MBG*3040	Molecular Biology of the Gene	0.50
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MCB*3010	Dynamics of Cell Function and Signaling	0.50
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MCB*4010	Advanced Cell Biology	0.50
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MCB*4020	Communication in Molecular and Cellular Biology	0.50
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MCB*4500	Research Project in Molecular and Cellular Biology I	1.00
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MCB*4510	Research Project in Molecular and Cellular Biology	1.00
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MCB*4600	Topics in Molecular and Cellular Biology	0.50
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MICR*3230	Immunology	0.50
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MICR*3240	Microbial Physiology and Genetics	0.50
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MICR*3330	World of Viruses	0.50
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MICR*4330	Molecular Virology	0.50
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MICR*4530	Immunology II	0.50
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PBIO*3110	Crop Physiology	0.50
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PBIO*4750	Genetic Engineering of Plants	0.50
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STAT*2050	Statistics II	0.50
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TOX*4590	Biochemical Toxicology	0.50
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2. Students must take as part of their program: 0.50 credits from the following:

PHYS*2030	Biophysics of Excitable Cells	0.50
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PHYS*2240	Thermal Physics	0.50
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PHYS*2330	Electricity and Magnetism I	0.50
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PHYS*2600	General Astronomy	0.50
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PHYS*3080	Energy	0.50
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At least 1.00 of these credits from BIOC\*4050 Protein and Nucleic Acid Structure, BIOC\*4520 Metabolic Processes, BIOC\*4580 Membrane Biochemistry.

**Sequence B**

 Students lacking Grade 12 or 4U Biology, Chemistry or Physics should follow the revised schedule of study for this major found at [https://www.uoguelph.ca/bsc/revised\\_SS/](https://www.uoguelph.ca/bsc/revised_SS/).

Code	Title	Credits
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**Semester 1 - Fall**

BIOL*1090	Introduction to Molecular and Cellular Biology	0.50
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CHEM*1040	General Chemistry I	0.50
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MATH*1080	Elements of Calculus I	0.50
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PHYS*1080	Physics for Life Sciences	0.50
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0.50 Liberal Education electives		0.50
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**Semester 2 - Winter**

BIOL*1070	Discovering Biodiversity	0.50
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BIOL*1080	Biological Concepts of Health	0.50
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CHEM*1050	General Chemistry II	0.50
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COOP*1100	Introduction to Co-operative Education	0.00
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MATH*1090	Elements of Calculus II	0.50
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PHYS*1070	Physics for Life Sciences II	0.50
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**Summer Semester**

No academic semester or work term

**Semester 3 - Fall**

BIOC*2580	Introduction to Biochemistry	0.50
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CHEM*2480	Analytical Chemistry I	0.50
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CHEM*2880	Physical Chemistry	0.50
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MBG*2040	Foundations in Molecular Biology and Genetics	0.50
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0.50 Liberal Education electives		0.50
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**Winter Semester**

COOP*1000	Co-op Work Term I	0.50
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**Semester 4 - Summer**

CHEM*2700	Organic Chemistry I	0.50
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BIOC*3560	Structure and Function in Biochemistry	0.50
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MICR*2420	Introduction to Microbiology	0.50
STAT*2040	Statistics I	0.50
Electives or Restricted Electives to a maximum of 2.75 total credits		0.75
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
COOP*2000	Co-op Work Term II	0.50
<b>Semester 5 - Winter</b>		
MCB*2050	Molecular Biology of the Cell	0.50
MICR*2430	Methods in Microbial Culture and Physiology	0.50
1.50 electives or restricted electives		1.50
<b>Summer Semester</b>		
COOP*3000	Co-op Work Term III	0.50
<b>Semester 6 - Fall</b>		
CHEM*3750	Organic Chemistry II	0.50
BIOC*3570	Analytical Biochemistry	0.75
2.00 electives or restricted electives		2.00
<b>Semester 7 - Winter</b>		
BIOC*4540	Enzymology	0.75
MBG*3350	Laboratory Methods in Molecular Biology	0.75
1.00 electives or restricted electives		1.00
<b>Summer Semester</b>		
COOP*4000	Co-op Work Term IV	0.50
<b>Semester 8 - Fall</b>		
2.50 electives or restricted electives		2.50

**Restricted Electives**

Code	Title	Credits
1. Students must take as part of their program: 4.00 credits from the following: <sup>3</sup>		
BIOC*4050	Protein and Nucleic Acid Structure	0.50
BIOC*4520	Metabolic Processes	0.50
BIOC*4580	Membrane Biochemistry	0.50
BIOL*3300	Applied Bioinformatics	0.50
BIOM*3200	Biomedical Physiology	1.00
MBG*3040	Molecular Biology of the Gene	0.50
MCB*3010	Dynamics of Cell Function and Signaling	0.50
MCB*4010	Advanced Cell Biology	0.50
MCB*4500	Research Project in Molecular and Cellular Biology I	1.00
MCB*4510	Research Project in Molecular and Cellular Biology	1.00
MCB*4600	Topics in Molecular and Cellular Biology	0.50
MICR*3230	Immunology	0.50
MICR*3240	Microbial Physiology and Genetics	0.50
MICR*3330	World of Viruses	0.50
MICR*4330	Molecular Virology	0.50
MICR*4530	Immunology II	0.50
PBIO*3110	Crop Physiology	0.50
PBIO*4750	Genetic Engineering of Plants	0.50
STAT*2050	Statistics II	0.50
TOX*4590	Biochemical Toxicology	0.50

2. Students must take as part of their program: 0.50 credits from the following:

PHYS*2030	Biophysics of Excitable Cells	0.50
PHYS*2240	Thermal Physics	0.50
PHYS*2330	Electricity and Magnetism I	0.50
PHYS*2600	General Astronomy	0.50
PHYS*3080	Energy	0.50

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At least 1.00 of these credits from BIOC\*4050 Protein and Nucleic Acid Structure, BIOC\*4520 Metabolic Processes, BIOC\*4580 Membrane Biochemistry.

**Minor Requirements (Honours)**

**This minor cannot be combined with a major in Biochemistry.**

A minor in Biochemistry consists of at least 5.00 course credits.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
BIOC*3560	Structure and Function in Biochemistry	0.50
BIOC*3570	Analytical Biochemistry	0.75
BIOC*4540	Enzymology	0.75
CHEM*2480	Analytical Chemistry I	0.50
CHEM*2700	Organic Chemistry I	0.50
MBG*2040	Foundations in Molecular Biology and Genetics	0.50
or MICR*2420	Introduction to Microbiology	
<b>Other Courses</b>		
Select 1.50 credits from the following: <sup>2</sup>		
BIOC*4050	Protein and Nucleic Acid Structure	0.50
BIOC*4520	Metabolic Processes	0.50
BIOC*4580	Membrane Biochemistry	0.50
MBG*3350	Laboratory Methods in Molecular Biology	0.75
MICR*3230	Immunology	0.50
MICR*3330	World of Viruses	0.50
TOX*4590	Biochemical Toxicology	0.50

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At least 1.00 of these credits from BIOC\*4050 Protein and Nucleic Acid Structure, BIOC\*4520 Metabolic Processes, BIOC\*4580 Membrane Biochemistry