
GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM (See Undergraduate Bulletin for full description of GEC)

GEC 01. Written and Oral Communications (2 courses)  Credit Hours
01. ENG 101 - Composition One  3
02. ENG 102 - Composition Two  3

GEC 02. Basic Science Requirement (2 courses & 2 labs)  3/1
BSC 110/L* - Principles of Biological Sciences I & Lab
BSC 111/L* - Principles of Biological Sciences II & Lab
*This particular course is required for this major.

GEC 03. Humanities (3 courses)
01. REQUIRED: ENG 203 - World Literature  3
02. SELECT 2 courses from the following list. It is REQUIRED that one of the selected courses be a History course.
   HIS 101 - World Civilizations: Beginning to 1500 C.E.  3
   HIS 102 - World Civilizations: 1500 C.E. to the Present  3
   PHI 151 - Introduction to Philosophy  3
   PHI 171 - Ethics and Good Living  3
   REL 131 - Comparative Religions  3

GEC 04. Aesthetic Values. SELECT 1 course form the following list.
   ART 130 - Art Appreciation  3
   DAN 130 - Dance Appreciation  3
   MUS 165 - The Enjoyment of Music  3
   THE 100 - Theatrical Expressions  3

GEC 05. Social and Behavioral Sciences. SELECT 2 courses from the following list.
   ANT 101 - The Human Experience  3
   COH 100 - Concepts of Wellness  3
   ECO 101 - Basic Economics  3
   GHY 101 - World Regional Geography  3
   PS 101 - American Government  3
   PSY 110 - General Psychology  3
   SOC 101 - Understanding Society  3

GEC 06. Mathematics Requirement. Select 1 of the following calculus courses.**
   MAT 114 - Calculus for Arts and Sciences OR  3
   MAT 167 - Calculus I with Analytical Geometry  3

**Calculus is required for this major. MAT 114 is recommended for biology majors. MAT 167 is generally taken by student desiring a minor in mathematics or by students with a second major in mathematics. Students may enroll in MAT 114 if their ACT mathematics subtest score is 24 or higher. Students enrolling in MAT 167 must have an ACT mathematics subtest score of 26 or higher. Students entering USM with an ACT mathematics subtest score of 20 to 23 must complete MAT 101 (College Algebra) with a C or better before taking MAT 114. Students entering USM with an ACT mathematics subtest score of less than or equal to 19 must take MAT 099 (Intermediate Algebra) during their first semester and earn at least a C prior to enrolling in MAT 101 (which must also be completed satisfactorily prior to enrolling in MAT 114). MAT 103 (Trigonometry) is recommended for students lacking a good background in mathematics.

GEC 06B. Computer Competency Requirement. SELECT 1 course from the following list.
   CSS 211 - Statistical Methods  3
   CSS 240 - FORTRAN Programming  3
   CSS 330 - Introduction to Programming  3
   CSS 333 - Problem-Solving Using C, I  3
   PSY 360 - Introduction to Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences  3

GEC 07. Writing-Intensive Requirement. SELECT 1 course.
   ENG 333 - Technical Writing (WI) OR any upper-level approved writing-intensive (WI) class  3
GEC 08. Oral Communication Requirement. SELECT 1 course.
   CMS 111 - Oral Communication 3
   CMS 305 - Interpersonal Communication 3
   CMS 320 - Business and Professional Speaking 3
   CMS 330 - Small Group Communication 3

GEC 09. Capstone Requirement (Major Area)
   BSC 497* - Senior Practicum 1
   *This course is required for this major.

PROGRAM CURRICULUM

DEG 01. Major Area of Study Requirements
   TOTAL BSC HOURS MUST EQUAL A MINIMUM OF 41 HOURS, including BSC 110/L, BSC 111/L, and BSC 497. Students
   must also complete a minimum of three laboratory-based BSC courses at the 300-400 levels. General Microbiology & Lab
   (DEG. 01.07) may be used as one of the three upper level lab courses if taken at the 300 level.
   01. BSC 197 - First Year Foundations 1
   02. BSC 201/L - General Zoology & Lab 3/1
   03. BSC 226/L - General Botany & Lab 3/1
   04. BSC 305 - Evolution 3
   05. BSC 340 - Introductory Ecology 3
   06. BSC 370 - Genetics 4
   07. BSC 380/L - General Microbiology & Lab 3/1

   08. Physiology Electives. SELECT 1 course.
      BSC 360 - Cell Biology 3  BSC 452 - Environmental Physiology 3
      BSC 431 - Plant Physiology & Lab 3/1  BSC 453 - Invertebrate Physiology 3
      BSC 450 - Comparative Animal Physiology 3  BSC 487/L - Microbial Physiology & Lab 3/1
      BSC 451 - Human Physiology 3

   09. Ecology Electives. SELECT at least 1 course.
      BSC 382 - Microbial Ecology 3  BSC 472 - Population Genetics 3
      BSC 435/L - Plant Ecology & Lab 3/1  BSC 483 - Viral Ecology 3
      BSC 440/L - Ecology & Lab 3/1  BSC 489/L - Environ. Microbiology & Lab 3/1
      BSC442/L - Behavioral Ecology & Lab 3/1

   10. Organism Electives. SELECT at least 2 courses and their corresponding labs.
      BSC 407/L - Biology of Vertebrates & Lab 3/1  BSC 421/L - Marine Invertebrate Zoology & Lab 3/3
      BSC 408/L - Invertebrate Zoology I & Lab 3/1  BSC 426/L - Introduction to Mycology & Lab 3/1
      BSC 409/L - Invertebrate Zoology II & Lab 3/1  BSC 429/L - Comp. Morphology of Plants & Lab 3/1
      BSC 411/L - Entomology & Lab 3/1  BSC 430/L - Aquatic & Marsh Plants & Lab 2/2
      BSC 413/L - Arachnid Biology & Lab 3/1  BSC 433/L - Plant Systematics & Lab 2/2
      BSC 414/L - Ichthyology & Lab 2/2  BSC 434/L - Dendrology & Lab 2/2
      BSC 415/L - Biology of Fishes & Lab 2/2  BSC 455/L - Animal Behavior & Lab 3/1
      BSC 417/L - Herpetology & Lab 3/1  BSC 458/L - Marine Ichthyology & Lab 3/3
      BSC 418/L - Avian Biology & Lab 3/1  BSC 459/L - Marine Mammalogy & Lab 3/2
      BSC 419/L - Mammalogy & Lab 3/1

   11. Community and Ecosystem Elective. SELECT 1 course and the corresponding lab (if offered).
      BSC 406 - Biogeography 3  BSC 443/L - Freshwater Biology & Lab 3/1
      BSC 436/L - Conservation Biology & Lab 3/1  BSC 444/L - Limnology & Lab 3/1
      BSC 441/L - Pop. and Community Ecology & Lab 3/1  BSC 445/L - Marine Biology & Lab 3/1

DEG 02. Additional Requirements (6 courses & 6 labs)
   01. CHE 106/L - General Chemistry I & Lab 3/1
   02. CHE 107/L - General Chemistry II & Lab 3/1
   03. CHE 255/L - Organic Chemistry I & Lab 3/1
   04. CHE 256/L - Organic Chemistry II & Lab OR CHE 420/L - Principles of Biochemistry & Lab 3/1
   05. PHY 111/L - General Physics I & Lab 3/1
   06. PHY 112/L - General Physics II & Lab 3/1

DEG 03. Minor Area of Study (Optional)

DEG 04. Electives – Choose as needed (see hours to degree below).

Hours to Degree at The University of Southern Mississippi (USM): 124 credit hours are needed to graduate with a B.S. in Biological
Sciences. At least 50% of the hours applied to the degree at USM must be earned in a senior college and a minimum of 45 of these
hours must be in courses numbered 300 or above. Students must earn at least 25% of the credit hours needed for their degree from
USM. Students must earn at least 21 of the last 30 hours of course work from USM. Students must also earn at least 12 hours at the
300-400 course level in their major field of study from USM. The capstone course required for a student’s degree must also be
completed at USM.