

# Four Year Graduation Planner

**Program: Bachelor of Arts-Biology**

**Total Credits: 120**

**Catalog: Fall 2025 to Summer 2026**

- This guide is intended to show a recommended fulltime four-year pathway to earning a bachelor degree.
- It is only a sample; there may be other pathways that lead to completion of the degree in four years.
- It is NOT intended to take the place of meetings with advisors or intended to take the place of the Degree Audit System (DARs).

**Key to tables below. More details on final page.**

Core: fulfills required course for major	Elective: student selected course credits for major	GELS: General Education Liberal Studies Goal Area
LS: Liberal Studies	Pre/Premajor: Premajor foundation course	RIGR: Racial Issues Graduation Requirement

## First Year

Course	Requirement Met	Semester Offered	Credits	Credit Hour Total
METR 101 Your Academic Journey	GELS elective	Fall, Spring	3	
MATH 115 College Algebra	Premajor, GELS Goal 4	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	
General Education	GELS Goal 5	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	
General Education Writing	GELS Goal 1	Fall, Spring, Summer	3	14
General Education Communication	GELS Goal 1	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	
CHEM 111 General Chemistry I	Premajor	Fall, Spring	4	
General Education Writing	GELS Goal 1	Fall, Spring, Summer	3	
BIOL 111 General Biology I	Premajor	Fall, Spring	4	15
First Year Total				29

## Second Year

Course	Requirement Met	Semester Offered	Credits	Credit Hour Total
STAT 201 Statistics	Premajor	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	

## Continued

Course	Requirement Met	Semester Offered	Credits	Credit Hour Total
CHEM 112 General Chemistry II	Premajor, GELS Goal 3	Fall, Spring	4	
General Education	GELS Goal 6	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	
General Education	GELS Goal 7	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	16
BIOL 112 General Biology II	Premajor, GELS Goal 3	Fall, Spring	4	
BIOL 211 Principles of Genetics	Premajor	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	
General Education	RIGR	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	
General Education	GELS Goal 10	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	16
Second Year Total				32

## Third Year

Course	Requirement Met	Semester Offered	Credits	Credit Hour Total
BIOL 310 Ecology	Core 2	Fall	5	
BIOL 322 Comparative Anatomy and Physiology	Core 3	Fall	5	
General Education	GELS Goal 5	Fall	4	14
PHYS 110 Introduction to Physics	Core	Fall, Spring	4	
BIOL 304 Molecular Biology	Core 1	Fall, Spring	5	
General Education	GELS Goal 8	Fall, Spring, Summer	3	
General Education	GELS LS	Fall, Spring Summer	4	16
Third Year Total				30

## Fourth Year

Course	Requirement Met	Semester Offered	Credits	Credit Hour Total
BIOL 310 Ecology	Elective	Fall	5	
BIOL 225 Basic Microbiology	Elective	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	
General Education	GELS Goal 9	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	13
BIOL 311 Plant Physiology	Elective	Spring	5	

Course	Requirement Met	Semester Offered	Credits	Credit Hour Total
BIOL 416 Invasion Biology	Elective	Spring	3	
General Education	GELS Goal 6	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	
General Education	GELS LS	Fall, Spring, Summer	4	16
Fourth Year Total				29

## Academic and graduation requirements

### Course requirements

#### Credit requirements: 120 total credits

- 40 upper-division credits (courses at community colleges are all lower-division courses, so they do not count toward this requirement)
- 30 credits completed at Metropolitan State University
- 40 general education credits
- 8 upper-division liberal studies credits
- 3 [racial issues graduation requirement \(RIGR\)](#) credits
- All credit requirements for the major
- Elective credits (if you are short of the 120 total credits required for graduation)

#### GELS: General education/liberal studies requirements (48 credits)

- [Minnesota Transfer Curriculum](#): 40 credits. Goal areas 1–10 are met by Minnesota community college A.A. degree. They are *not* met by A.S. or A.A.S degrees or community colleges outside of Minnesota.
- [Liberal studies](#): 8 credits.
  - These credits must be:
    - Upper-division general education courses (300 to 500 level)
    - Designated as a liberal studies (LS) course
  - These credits are not:
    - completed by AA, AAS or AS degrees or the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum

Continued

- met by any community college course (all community college courses are lower division, including courses that meet major requirements)

### **Racial Issues Graduation Requirement (RIGR) and transfer coursework**

All new or readmitted undergraduate students admitted fall 2016 or later must complete an approved learning experience (at least 3 credits) with a significant focus on race and racism to graduate with a bachelor's degree from the university. Upon review, an approved prior learning, independent study, theory seminar or transfer course from other accredited institutions may also be used to meet this graduation requirement.

### **DARS: Your degree audit report**

The Degree Audit report is a degree planning tool for students that includes both transfer and Metropolitan State coursework. You can access your Degree Audit report in [eServices](#) under “Academic Records.” The report includes:

- How your transfer credits have been accepted and applied to General Education and Liberal Studies, including the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum.
- All the requirements needed to complete a specific program.
- Courses that have already been completed, grades received and hours earned, both at Metropolitan State and in transfer.
- Transfer courses that have been made equivalent to Metropolitan State University courses.
- Exceptions to degree and program requirements that have been processed.
- What is still needed to complete a program, with a list of courses that will satisfy each requirement.



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