

Biology Registration Newsletter: Fall Semester 2011
Fall 2011 REGISTRATION PERIOD
Tuesday, April 5th – Friday, April 15th

I. Registration NEWS and UPDATES:

A. All biology majors – information on courses:

1. BIO 498 Biology Seminar is now a full course unit (4 semester hours) and is a writing intensive course designed to meet the TCNJ Liberal Learning requirements. Students have always been required to complete all 200-level core courses before they could enroll in BIO 498. However, an error in PAWS was discovered during the registration period last semester: these courses were listed as corequisites, and PAWS has allowed students to enroll in BIO 498, even when they had not completed the entire core. This error in PAWS has now been corrected; students must complete the core before PAWS will allow them to enroll in BIO 498.
2. All 400-level courses now have BIO 211, 221, and 231 as prerequisites or corequisites (in addition to other courses in some cases). Please be aware of this as you select your courses.
3. In order to enroll in BIO 493/494 Independent Research in Biology, students must obtain the form available in Biology Main Office, fill it out with the faculty mentor, obtain signatures from the mentor and the Biology chairperson, and turn in the form to Records and Registration ***no later than the end of the first week of the fall semester.***
4. Beginning in Summer 2012, BIO 393, 394, 399, 493, and 494 may be used in aggregate to count for **no more than ONE** Biology Option course unit; additional research course credits can be applied as general electives toward the overall graduation requirement. (Students who will have graduated by the end of Spring 2012 will be allowed to count up to two research course units as Biology Option courses.)

B. Important information about registration for Fall 2011:

1. Holding seats for other students.

Registering in a course section in order to hold a seat for another student is considered to be a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy for both the student holding the seat and the student taking the held seat. Such activity can be monitored in PAWS.

2. New PAWS feature—getting permissions for courses before registration starts.

As you put your choice of courses into your PAWS shopping cart, it also will tell you whether you have met the requirements for the course—restrictions, prerequisites, or permission of instructor/department. You can go to the instructor to get permission before your registration window, so that the permission can be entered on line. Then you will be able to directly add the course when your registration window opens.

3. Biology course sections that are closed.

If you are unable to register for any biology course section because it is full, please first speak to the professor teaching the course (see Dr. Lovett if the instructor is STAFF).

4. Biology course sections that are zero-capped on PAWS.

A wait list will be maintained in the biology main office. **Note:** Priority will be given to students on the wait list who could not register for *any* other biology course during their assigned registration window. (It is possible for us to monitor this on PAWS.)

5. Chemistry and physics course sections that are closed.

NO LABORATORY COURSES IN CHEMISTRY OR PHYSICS CAN ACCOMMODATE MORE THAN 24 STUDENTS. Therefore, do not ask to be signed into one of those courses over the cap. However, if you wish to take a chemistry or physics course that is full, you can go to the main office of chemistry or physics and put your name on a waiting list. This information will help the departments decide whether they are able to open additional sections.

C. Information on requirements:

1. **What requirements do you have left to meet in order to graduate?** The best way to determine which requirements you still need to meet is to go to the Academic Requirements page on PAWS. Please note that PAWS assumes that you will pass all courses that you currently are enrolled in, as well as any course in which you have an 'I' or an 'IP' grade. A second way to keep track of which requirements you need to meet is to consult the Biology Program Summary Sheets. These are one page summaries of the graduation requirements for each major. A link to these is available in the left-hand column of the biology home page.
2. **Plan Summary Charts** – these provide a summary of all requirements for each program (i.e., they replace Program Planners) and can be found on the School of Science web page, under “Degree Programs.”
3. **Organismal Biology Option Courses.** Please note that the organismal biology option requirement is *in addition to* the four biology option requirements. Therefore, all BIOA students must take a total of FIVE biology options, at least one of which must be an organismal biology option.
4. **Study Abroad.** Any biology major interested in traveling abroad should contact the Office of Global Engagement **and** speak to your advisor **LONG** before you wish to travel abroad.

D. Special Area Advisement – new advisors:

1. Students interested in the 7-year optometry program (BIOP) should see Dr. Nayak (Room 126).
2. Students interested in secondary education in biology (BIOT) can receive advisement from Dr. Thornton (Room 119).
3. Students interested in becoming a member of the Graduate Studies Club should contact either Dr. Kress (Room 117) or Dr. Butler (Room 128).
4. Students interested in Biology Departmental Honors should contact Dr. Morrison (Room 227).

II. See your advisor: *NOTE: a registration hold has been placed on all biology majors and you must meet with your advisor to have it removed.*

A. Bring the following with you when you meet with your advisor

1. Fall 2011 class choices, and tentative schedules
2. Your plan summary chart, available on the School of Science web page
3. Any questions about your coursework and future plans

B. Advisor assignments – are available through PAWS. There also is an updated list in the Biology Department Office. If you wish to change your advisor, please see Luz Morales in the Biology Office.

III. When to register:

- A. Course Registration is based on **EARNED CREDIT HOURS**. The registration windows are posted on the Records and Registration web page. Transfer students should check PAWS under “Transfer Credit” to verify that official transcripts have been received by the college.

IV. What to register for:

A. Numbering of courses in Biology:

- 100-level courses – those that require no prerequisite
- 200-level courses – core courses
- 300-level courses – those that require BIO 185 Themes as a prerequisite
- 400-level courses – those that require BIO 211, 221, and 231 as prerequisites/corequisites

B. Biology major courses offered Fall 2011 (*-- courses that fulfill the organismal requirement)

BIO 185	Themes in Biology
BIO 211	Biology of the Eukaryotic Cell
BIO 221	Ecology and Field Biology
BIO 231	Genetics
BIO 301	Human Anatomy and Physiology I (<i>not available as a bio option for most students</i>)
BIO 312 *	Microbiology
BIO 350 *	Biology of the Fungi
BIO 370A *	Topics in Biology – Protozoology
BIO 399	Biology Internship
BIO 413	Microscopic Anatomy
BIO 444	Immunology
BIO 465 *	Physiological and Behavioral Ecology
BIO 480	Neurobiology
BIO 493/494	Independent Research in Biology
BIO 498-01	Biological Seminar – Plant Biology and Society
-02	Biological Seminar – Molecular Basis of Human Disease

C. A subset of biology option courses likely (but *not* guaranteed) to be taught in Spring 2012:

(*--courses that fulfill the organismal requirement)

BIO 302	Human Anatomy and Physiology II
BIO 311	Laboratory Techniques in Biotechnology
BIO 342 *	Biology of the Invertebrates
BIO 360	Oceanography
BIO 451	Developmental Biology
BIO 470 *	Avian Biology
BIO 470	Plant Biotechnology

V. Notes on individual courses: This is a brief reference for courses that are either new or have special attributes. Be sure to refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin (<http://www.tcnj.edu/~bulletin>) for descriptions of all courses.

A. BIO 301 Human Anatomy and Physiology I

Note: This course does not serve as a biology option for most BIOA majors.

This is the Human Anatomy and Physiology course recommended for students wishing to pursue Physical or Occupational Therapy, Physicians Assistant programs, and for those who are BIOT, ELBI and ECBI. BIO 301 is not recommended for medical school preparation.

B. BIO 370 Topics in Biology – Protozoology.

Prerequisite: *BIO 185 (Themes)*; completion of BIO 211 (Eukaryotic Cell Biology) is recommended. This will be a unique opportunity to study with Dr. Klein, a visiting professor from the University of Frankfurt (Germany). Dr. Klein specializes in the study of protozoa. The course emphasizes the development of motile and endocytotic activity in various protozoans. The course consists of alternating lectures and recitations. In the lab, students will learn about various kinds of microscopy used to study these organisms. The essential condition for participating in this course is the motivation and the interest in this field of biology. Each student will select a specialized topic and will be expected to write a paper and make a PowerPoint presentation on the chosen topic. This course will count as an organismal biology option course.

C. BIO 399 Biology Internship (1 course unit)

Prerequisites: Sophomore status as of May, a 2.5 cumulative GPA, and approval by Dr. Erickson. Internship involves application of intellectual and laboratory research skills acquired in course work to an investigative laboratory or field research project at a site off campus (pharmaceutical or biotechnology companies, colleges or universities, field stations, NJ Forensic Lab, etc.) Internships may be paid or unpaid. Students who perform research during the summer enroll for credit in the fall semester. An oral presentation is required as well as a paper written in the form of a scientific research publication. Students who have obtained a research position and wish to pursue an internship for credit should email Dr. Erickson (erickson@tcnj.edu) to set up a meeting to discuss the project, to determine whether the project qualifies for credit, and to discuss any further questions. *****NOTE: BIO 399, 493, and 494 may be used in aggregate to count for no more than ONE Biology Option course unit. Anyone graduating by Spring 2012 will be able to count up to 2 research course units as Biology Option courses.**

D. BIO 493 Independent Research in Biology II (0.5 or 1 course unit)

Prerequisite/Corequisite: BIO 211, 221, and 231; 2.5 GPA overall.

This course involves laboratory or field research under the direction of a faculty member at TCNJ and can be taken for up to 1 course unit/semester (a two semester project is recommended). Typically juniors and seniors enroll in Independent Research, though sophomores may inquire with individual faculty about starting on a research project. Interested students should *contact individual faculty members* with whom they are interested in working in order to register for Independent Research.

*****NOTE: BIO 399, 493, and 494 may be used in aggregate to count for no more than ONE Biology Option course unit. Anyone graduating by Spring 2012 will be able to count up to 2 research course units as Biology Option courses.**

VI. HONORS PROGRAM

A. Departmental Honors – If interested, see Dr. Morrison.

B. Honors Independent Research in Biology (BIO494) – Independent Research can simultaneously count toward biology options and the College-wide honors program. See Dr. Lovett with any questions.

VII. ALERTS

- A. OVERLOAD-** You may carry up to 18 credits without special permission. A 3.3 cumulative GPA, sophomore status or above and *permission from your advisor* (i.e., meet with them first!) and from Dr. Lovett are needed to carry 19-20 credits. A student is allowed to take 20 credits once in their 4-year program.
- B. Be aware of course *prerequisites*.** If you have taken a prerequisite at another college and you are denied enrollment in a TCNJ course because PAWS does not recognize this fact, obtain a note from Dr. Lovett and register in person.
- C. HOW TO HANDLE TIME CONFLICTS:** If two desirable courses overlap in their scheduled times, it is sometimes possible for arrangements to be made with the respective instructors so that you can take both courses. Consult with both parties involved. If some arrangement can be made, bring a note from the faculty involved to Dr. Lovett, who will need to approve the time conflict override before you register. You will need to register in person for the courses with the conflict.
- D. Career Services.** All graduating seniors are encouraged to visit Career Service to begin work on a resume and to open a permanent credentials file. Seniors seeking employment will need these materials immediately.
- E. EXIT CUMULATIVE GPA IN SCIENCE:** In order to graduate, you must have an overall GPA of 2.0 or better; a 2.0 cumulative GPA in all sciences (you may include only 2 course units of research related courses in this calculation); and a cumulative GPA of C- (1.67) or better in all core courses (BIO 185 Themes in Biology; BIO 211 Eukaryotic Cell Biology; BIO 221 Ecology and Field Biology; BIO 231 Genetics; and BIO 498 Biological Seminar).

Remember: it is ultimately each student's responsibility to monitor his or her progress toward graduation, so USE THE WEB!!!!!! There are all sorts of excellent resources at YOUR disposal on the web, so be sure to get yourself completely informed before seeing your advisor. Two pages that are of particular value are an advising site which can be found at <http://www.tcnj.edu/~advising>, and the liberal learning site which can be found at <http://www.tcnj.edu/~liberal>.

The last day to register for Fall 2011 is the end of the first week of classes of Fall 2011

The final responsibility for the success of your advisement rests with you!