

NEUROSCIENCE, BS (DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES)

Neuroscience is a multidisciplinary science dedicated to understanding how nervous systems are built and function at different scales, from molecules and cells to circuits and systems. Neuroscientists are involved in work to improve the human condition with new discoveries that could prevent or treat neurodevelopmental defects and disorders, psychiatric disorders, and neurodegenerative diseases.

A neuroscience major is an excellent starting point for a career in human or animal medicine, psychology, medical research, pharmaceuticals, public health or science writing. Entry level jobs for students with a bachelor's degree include positions as assistants in hospitals and private healthcare clinics; as technicians in academic, governmental, or commercial research laboratories; in pharmaceutical sales and marketing; and in government agencies and nonprofits in roles related to grant writing, regulatory management, or technical assistance. Many of these occupational areas are projected to grow faster than average in the next decade. The average annual salary for a neuroscientist with a BS degree is \$66,975 (as of 2021). The major is also excellent preparation for students pursuing doctoral degrees in medicine, medical research, or professional counseling.

The courses for the major come primarily from the Department of Biological Sciences and the Department of Psychology. Students will learn about the structure and function of nervous systems, from the cellular level to the systems level; the connections between the brain and behavior; experimental design and research methods; and data analysis, interpretation, and use. Within the major students can take coursework in neuroscience subdisciplines such as cognitive, cellular and molecular, or computational neuroscience.

Requirements Course of Study – Bachelor of Science Degree

Complete 120 credits including 90 credits in the College of Letters & Science and with 36 of the 90 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered above 300) courses and 30 of those 36 credits in designated Advanced Natural Science courses (<https://uwm.edu/letters-science/advising/degree-requirements/advanced-natural-science-approved-courses-list/>). The College requires that students must complete in residence at UWM at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major. Students are also required to complete University-wide General Education Requirements and the specific L&S requirements listed below.

To complete a major, students must satisfy all the requirements of the major as stated in this catalog. Students who declare their majors within five years of entering the UW System as a degree candidate may satisfy the requirements outlined in any catalog issued since the time they entered. Credits used to satisfy the major also may be used to satisfy other degree requirements.

University General Education Requirements (GER)

Code	Title	Credits
Oral and Written Communication		
<i>Part A</i>		
Achieve a grade of C or better in the following course:		
ENGLISH 102	College Writing and Research (or equivalent)	
<i>Part B</i>		
Course designated as OWC-B; may be completed through a major-specific course requirement		
Quantitative Literacy		
<i>Part A</i>		
Earn at least 3 credits with a grade of C or higher in one of the following courses or an equivalent course, or achieve a placement code of at least 30 on the mathematics placement test (or other appropriate test, as determined by the Mathematical Sciences Department)		
MATH 102	Mathematical Literacy for College Students II	
MATH 103	Contemporary Applications of Mathematics	
MATH 105	Introduction to College Algebra	
MATH 108	Algebraic Literacy II	
MATH 111	Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning ¹	
or PHILOS 111	Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning	
MATH 116	College Algebra	
Or equivalent course		
<i>Part B</i>		
Course designated as QL-B; may be completed through a major-specific course requirement		
Arts		
Select 3 credits		3
Humanities		
Select 6 credits		6
Social Sciences		
Select 6 credits		6
Natural Sciences		
Select 6 credits (At least two courses including one lab)		6
UWM Foreign Language Requirement		
Complete Foreign Language Requirement through:		
Two years (high school) of a single foreign language		
Two semesters (college) of a single foreign language		
Or equivalent		
UWM Cultural Diversity Requirement		
One course from the Arts, Humanities, or Social Sciences must also satisfy UWM's Cultural Diversity requirement		

¹ Math 111 and Philosophy 111 are jointly offered and count as repeats of one another. Students cannot receive credit for both courses.

College of Letters & Science Requirements

I. English Composition Requirement

Students must satisfy the English Composition Requirement with one of the following options:

- 1) Completing ENGLISH 102 with a grade of C or higher; or
- 2) placing beyond English 102 on the English Placement Test (EPT) (or other assessment as determined by the English Department); or
- 3) transferring a course of at least 2.5 equivalent credits from another institution that is equivalent to English 102, or a UWM higher-level expository writing course, with a grade of C or higher.

Note: This requirement is the same as the University General Education Requirement for Oral and Written Communication Part A. The College of Letters & Science does not have a specific requirement for a writing course beyond English 102, but students must complete the university-wide requirement for Oral and Written Communication Part B listed above.

II. Mathematics and Formal Reasoning

To satisfy the Mathematics and Formal Reasoning Requirement, Bachelors of Sciences degree students must satisfy the following two requirements:

1. Complete one of the following courses or an equivalent course:

Code	Title	Credits
MATH 211	Survey in Calculus and Analytic Geometry I	4
MATH 213	Calculus with Life Sciences Applications	4
MATH 221	Honors Calculus I	5
MATH 231	Calculus and Analytic Geometry I	4

2. Complete one course (at least 3 credits) at the 200 level or above chosen from courses in Mathematics, PHILOS 211, or Letters and Science statistics courses:

Code	Title	Credits
Complete one of the following:		
3 or more credits in any 200-level or above Math course		
AFRIC 220	Introduction to Statistics in African and African Diaspora Studies	
ANTHRO 568	Introduction to Anthropological Statistics	
ATM SCI 500	Statistical Methods in Atmospheric Sciences	
BIO SCI 465	Biostatistics	
ECON 210	Economic Statistics	
GEOG 247	Quantitative Analysis in Geography	
HIST 595	The Quantitative Analysis of Historical Data	
MTHSTAT 215	Elementary Statistical Analysis	
PHILOS 211	Elementary Logic	
POL SCI 390	Political Data Analysis	
POL SCI 392	Survey Research	
PSYCH 210	Psychological Statistics	

SOCIOL 261	Introduction to Statistical Thinking in Sociology
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Note: This requirement is NOT the same as the University General Education Requirement for Quantitative Literacy Part B. To complete the BS, students must take one of the L&S approved courses. **Not all of the courses listed here will satisfy the QL-B requirement.**

III. Foreign Language Requirement

Two courses (minimum of 6 credits) in a language (including American Sign Language) other than English at the 100 level or above are required.

Placement testing may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement. Language courses (including American Sign Language) other than English taken in high school may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement. One year of high school language equates to one semester of college work.

Completion of the L&S Language Requirement also satisfies the university-wide Foreign Language GER, but not vice versa.

IV. International Requirement

See Approved Courses for the L&S International Requirement (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-international-requirement/>) for course options.

Code	Title	Credits
Completed in one of the following ways:		9
Complete 3 courses (min. 9 cr) in a single foreign language (not including literature-in-translation or American Sign Language) at the 3rd semester level and above		
Complete 3 non-language courses (min. 9 credits) with an international content chosen from at least 2 curricular areas.		
Complete 9 credits in combination of the two options above.		

V. Breadth Requirement

Along with completing the University General Education Requirements of 3 credits in the Arts (A); 6 credits in the Humanities (HU), Social Sciences (SS), and Natural Sciences (NS/NS+); and a course with the Cultural Diversity (CD/+) designation, L&S students must complete the Breadth requirement.

Code	Title	Credits
Arts		
Select 3 credits		3
Humanities		
Complete 12 credits of L&S courses with Humanities Breadth designation; no more than 6 credits from a single subject area. *		12
Social Sciences		
Complete 12 credits of L&S Courses with Social Science Breadth designation; no more than 6 credits from a single curricular area. *		12
Natural Sciences		
Complete 12 credits of L&S Courses with Natural Sciences Breadth designation, including laboratory or field courses from three different curricular areas. *		12
Cultural Diversity		
Complete 3 credits in a course with Cultural Diversity (CD) designation. **		3

* Students should check their course selections carefully with the list of approved L&S Breadth Courses (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/breadth-requirement-course-list/>). Students are advised to select at least 6 credits worth of courses in each of the Humanities, Social Science, and Natural Sciences areas that can satisfy both the campus-wide General Education Requirements and the L&S Breadth requirement.

** Students are advised to select a course that satisfies the Cultural Diversity requirement as well as a Humanities or Social Science breadth/GER requirement.

VI. The Major

The College requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the major attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all major credits attempted, including any transfer work. Individual departments or programs may require higher GPAs for graduation. Some departmental majors require courses from other departments. Contact your major department for information on whether those credits will count as part of the major GPA. The College requires that students must complete in residence at UWM at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major.

Research Requirement

Within their majors, students must complete a research experience approved by the L&S faculty. A list of courses satisfying the research requirement in each major can be found here (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-research-requirement/>).

VII. The Minor

The College requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the minor attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all minor credits attempted, including any transfer work. Individual departments or programs may require higher GPAs for graduation.

Degree Requirements

The program requires at least 120 credits, which include University-wide General Education Requirements (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#bachelorsdegreegeneraleducation>), 24 credits of mandatory preparatory courses, 23-24 credits of required core courses, 11 credits of elective courses within the major, a research experience course at the end of the coursework, and additional elective courses to fulfill the overall credit requirement.

An overall GPA of 2.000 on all coursework attempted at UWM is required for this degree. In addition, students must achieve a 2.000 GPA on all coursework attempted, including transfer work. A minimum 2.000 GPA must be earned on all 300-level and above courses taken to satisfy the advanced requirements. Students satisfy the residency requirement for the degree at UWM by completing at least 15 credits in the upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in the major.

Code	Title	Credits
Preparatory courses		
<i>Chemistry</i>		
CHEM 102	General Chemistry	5
CHEM 104	General Chemistry and Qualitative Analysis	5
CHEM 343	Organic Chemistry	3
CHEM 345	Organic Chemistry	3
<i>Physics</i>		

PHYSICS 120	General Physics I (Non-Calculus Treatment)	4
or PHYSICS 209	Physics I (Calculus Treatment)	
PHYSICS 122	General Physics II (Non-Calculus Treatment)	4
or PHYSICS 210	Physics II (Calculus Treatment)	

Total Credits 24

Code	Title	Credits
Required courses		

<i>Biological Sciences</i>		
BIO SCI 150	Foundations of Biological Sciences I	4
BIO SCI 152	Foundations of Biological Sciences II	4
BIO SCI 315	Cell Biology	3
BIO SCI 455	Cellular, Molecular and Developmental Neurobiology	3

<i>Psychology</i>		
PSYCH 101	Introduction to Psychology	3
PSYCH 254	Physiological Psychology	3

One of these courses in statistics: 3-4

BIO SCI 465	Biostatistics	
MTHSTAT 215	Elementary Statistical Analysis	
PSYCH 210	Psychological Statistics	

Total Credits 23-24

Code	Title	Credits
Required research experience (select one of the options below)		

BIO SCI 672	Undergraduate Seminar in Cell and Molecular Biology	1
BIO SCI 697	Independent Study in Cell and Molecular Biology	1-3
BIO SCI 699	Independent Study	1-3
PSYCH 654	Advanced Physiological Psychology	4
PSYCH 656	Psychophysiology	4

Code	Title	Credits
Elective courses (select courses to complete 11 credits from the options below)		

BIO SCI 203	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
BIO SCI 290	Independent Study and Research:	1-3
BIO SCI 316	Laboratory in Genetics and Cell Biology	2
BIO SCI 325	Genetics	4
BIO SCI 356	Developmental Biology	3
BIO SCI 370	Mammalian Physiology	3
BIO SCI 469	Genomic Data Analysis	2
BIO SCI 490	Molecular Genetics	3
BIO SCI 539	Laboratory Techniques in Molecular Biology	4
BIO SCI 542	Biological Electron Microscopy	3
BIO SCI 543	Scanning Electron Microscopy Laboratory	2
BIO SCI 544	Transmission Electron Microscopy Laboratory	3
BIO SCI 564	Endocrinology	3

BIO SCI 565	Gene Regulation in Stem Cells and Regeneration	3
BIO SCI 566	Cell Biology of Human Disease	3
BIO SCI 572	Functional Genomics	3
BIO SCI 672	Undergraduate Seminar in Cell and Molecular Biology	1
BIO SCI 697	Independent Study in Cell and Molecular Biology	1-3
BMS 610	Pharmacology	3
PSYCH 214	Introduction to Conditioning and Learning	3
PSYCH 290	Undergraduate Research: Lower Division	1-3
PSYCH 325	Research Methods in Psychology	4
PSYCH 433	Neuropsychology	3
PSYCH 454	Psychopharmacology and Addiction	3
PSYCH 503	Perception	3
PSYCH 506	Perceptual Learning	4
PSYCH 510	Advanced Psychological Statistics	3
PSYCH 514	Conditioning and Learning	4
PSYCH 551	Learning and Motivation Theories	3
PSYCH 610	Experimental Design	3
PSYCH 611	Current Topics:	3
PSYCH 623	Perceptual Processes	4
PSYCH 627	Cognitive Neuroscience	3
PSYCH 645	Hormones and Behavior	3
PSYCH 654	Advanced Physiological Psychology ¹	4
PSYCH 656	Psychophysiology ¹	4
PSYCH 657	Neurobiology of Learning and Memory	3
PSYCH 682	The Aging Brain	3
PSYCH 690	Undergraduate Research: Upper Division	1-3

¹ If not taken to satisfy research experience requirement

Letters & Science Advising

The College of Letters and Science provides general academic advising for all students with a major in the College, particularly as it relates to campus' general education requirements and the College's degree requirements. We also provide specialized advising for pre-professional students (pre-med, pre-dental, pre-pharmacy, etc.) regardless if their major is in Letters and Science or not. Prospective students, including high school students and students seeking to transfer to a program in Letters and Science may also receive advising from our admissions counselors.

Upon admission, students are assigned an advisor in the College advising office. Academic advising is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by appointment. Appointments outside of these times may be available and phone appointments are available for online students. The advising office (<https://uwm.edu/letters-science/advising/contact-advising/>) is located on the first floor of Holton Hall. Current students should call (414) 229-4654 to schedule an appointment or use the Navigate website (<https://uwmilwaukee.campus.eab.com>) to make an appointment with your assigned advisor; online scheduling is only available if you already have a Letters & Science advisor assigned

to you. Prospective students should call (414) 229-7711 or email let-sci@uwm.edu.

When students declare a major, they will receive an additional faculty advisor located within the major department who will assist with requirements for that major. Students should read the "Declaration of Major" information on the website of the major that they are interested in. In some cases, the student will need to choose a faculty advisor as part of the declaration process.

All students are cautioned to consult their Letters & Science academic advisor AND their major advisor prior to each registration period to ensure they understand all requirements. Do not rely on pre-printed sample plans, as they are intended to be samples only and may not be right for your particular situation.

Honors in the College of Letters and Science

Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

Honors College Degree and Honors College Degree with Distinction

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/opportunities-resources/honors-college/>) section of this site.

Commencement Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

Final Honors

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.

Contact Information

Current Students contact the Department directly, biosci@uwm.edu
Prospective Students contact a Letters & Science Admissions Counselor at
(414) 229-7711 or let-sci@uwm.edu

<https://uwm.edu/biology/undergraduate/>