Exploring Biology (Option 4)

main class instructor: Cara Theisen

Integrated Science 100
Exploring Biology

interdisciplinary Courses
(SOHE) 201
Belonging, Purpose and the Ecology of Human Happiness: EcoYou

Chemistry 103
General Chemistry I

Thinking about majoring in a bioscience field? Explore exciting bioscience topics and opportunities at UW–Madison in this FIG. In Integrated Science 100: “Exploring Biology” you will:

• learn skills and ways of thinking that will prepare you for success in future biology classes;
• gain new perspectives on broad topics and current research in biology;
• explore opportunities and careers that can come with a bioscience major;
• pick up great tips and advice on how to get the most out of being a bioscience major; and
• meet new friends and mentors who share your interest in biology.

This unique class is taught by a team of dynamic instructors with diverse backgrounds in the biological sciences to introduce you to a wide range of topics. Peer leaders—upperclassmen at UW–Madison—will also share the student perspective of navigating classes, co-curricular opportunities and the Wisconsin Experience. You will get connected to bioscience events, opportunities, and people at UW–Madison.

This class brings five Exploring Biology FIGs together into one combined class. You will be grouped with other students in your FIG and paired with an instructor and peer leader that you will work closely with throughout the semester as you engage in interactive and collaborative activities. (Note that this is not an introduction to biology class.)

Interdisciplinary Courses (SoHE) 201: “Belonging, Purpose, and the Ecology of Human Happiness: EcoYou” — This class explores the art and science of purposeful living by integrating academic knowledge with issues real and relevant to students’ lives including: identity and belonging; happiness, purpose and meaning; self-awareness and self-presentation; romantic, peer and family relationships; material culture, consumer behavior and financial well-being; and connections to community, culture, and society. From the microbes that inhabit our guts to political revolutions sparked by a tweet, human lives are embedded in an ecology of complex, interdependent systems. Using the lens of human ecology, you will address “big questions” like: How am I connected to others and to larger systems? What brings happiness and works for the “greater good” in human lives? An overarching goal of the class is to help you understand yourself as embedded in the web of ever-evolving interconnected networks, an “EcoYou.” Human ecology is a systems approach to studying and understanding relationships between humans and their everyday environments; it is a civic and socially conscious orientation that is committed to understanding and improving the quality of human lives. Human ecology is inherently interdisciplinary drawing on research, theories and methods from diverse fields such as sociology, psychology, anthropology, economics, public health, biology, and art and design.

Chemistry 103: “General Chemistry I” — Stoichiometry and the mole concept, the behavior of gases, liquids and solids, thermochemistry, electronic structure of atoms and chemical bonding, descriptive chemistry of selected elements and compounds, intermolecular forces.
Enrolled in a FIG and you change your mind?

FIG classes are designed to be taken together. When you enroll in a FIG, you are signed up for these classes as a whole group, not as separate classes.

Dropping one FIG class means ending your enrollment in all of the classes in the FIG.

So, here's what you should know if you want to drop the FIG:

• You can drop all the classes on your own at enroll.wisc.edu. Any non-FIG class will not be affected.

• After classes begin, if you need to drop a single class within the FIG, please contact Kari Fernholz (see below) to review your situation. If necessary, she will provide the required authorization to drop the class.

• Wednesday, September 11, 2019 is the last day to drop a class without it appearing on your college transcript.

• Friday, September 13, 2019 is the last day to add a class without first getting department permission.