

TRANSFER GUIDE

Catalog years: 2025-2027

Virginia Commonwealth University Bachelor of Science in Biology

Associate Transfer Degree Plan in Biology

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Complete at VCCS				Complete at VCU		
BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT		SATISFIED BY		BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT		
Course	Credits	CC Course	Notes	Course	Credits	Notes
UNIV 101	1-2	SDV 100 or 101		BIOL 200	3	
UNIV 111-112	3	ENG 111 College Comp I	UNIV 111 is waived and students receive 3 credits for UNIV 112.	BIOL 300	3	Take at VCU unless BIO 206 is taken at CC
UNIV 200	3	ENG 112 College Comp II		BIOL 310	3	Take at VCU unless BIO 256 is taken at CC
General Education	3	Any UCGS Art or Humanities (Block II)	These two courses must come from two different disciplines.	BIOL 317	3	
General Education	3	Any UCGS Art, Humanities, or Literature (Block II)		BIOL 318	3	
General Education	3	Any UCGS Social & Behavioral Science (Block III)		Biology transformative learning requirement	0-3	Select at least one from all biology (BIOL and BIOZ) courses that are approved as REAL level 3 or 4 transformative learning experiences
BIOL/Z 151	4	BIO 101 General Biology I	A score of 5 in the AP Biology exam is required to receive credit for VCU BIOL/Z 151 + BIOL/Z 152.	BIOL/Z	17-20	Upper-level BIOL/Z courses applicable to major to add to a total of 40 biology credits. This must include a minimum of 3 upper-level biology lab experiences.
STAT 210	3	MTH 245 Statistics I		CHEM/Z 301	5	Take at VCU unless CHM 241+245 are taken at CC.
General Education	3	Any UCGS History (Block VI)		CHEM/Z 302	5	Take at VCU unless CHM 242+246 are taken at CC.
BIOL/Z 152	4	BIO 102 General Biology II	A score of 4 in the AP Biology exam is required to receive credit for VCU BIOL/Z 152.	PHYS 201	4	Take at VCU unless PHY 201 is taken at CC.

CHEM/Z 101	4	CHM 111 General Chemistry I	A score of 3 or 4 in the AP Chemistry exam is required to receive credit for VCU CHEM/Z 101.	PHYS 202	4	Take at VCU unless PHY 202 is taken at CC.
CHEM/Z 102	4	CHM 112 General Chemistry II	A score of 5 in the AP Chemistry exam is required to receive credit for VCU CHEM/Z 101 + CHEM/Z 102.	MATH 200 or STAT 314	4	This could be taken at CC (MTH 263 = MATH 200).
BIOL 300 + BIOZ 391 or BIOL/Z 310	4	BIO 206 Cell Biology or BIO 256 Genetics	Select one.	Electives	0-6	Additional electives, if needed to meet 60 credits at VCU.
CHEM/Z 301 Or PHYS 201	4-6	CHM 241 Organic Chem I + CHM 245 Lab Or PHY 201	Some pre-professional health programs may require completion of organic chemistry at a four-year university.			
CHEM/Z 302 Or PHYS 202	4-5	CHM 242 Organic Chem II + CHM 246 Lab Or PHY 202	Some pre-professional health programs may require completion of organic chemistry at a four-year university.			
MATH 151	5-6	MTH 161-162 Precalculus I-II or MTH 167 Precalc with Trig				
Electives	3-6	Additional transfer electives, if needed to meet 60 credits	Consider completing MTH 263 (see note for MATH 200 or STAT 314).			
CREDITS PRE-TRANSFER: 60				CREDITS POST-TRANSFER: 60		

TRANSFER GUIDANCE

This degree program is covered by VCU's Guaranteed Admission Agreement.

By meeting the following criteria, you are guaranteed admission to the BS in Biology program at VCU:

- Earn the transfer associate degree.
- Earn a minimum GPA of 2.5 for your associate degree. VCU will recognize the cumulative GPA as recorded on the VCCS transcript and not recalculate based on multiple course attempts.
- Complete a minimum of 30 credits at VCCS institution
- Earn grades of "C" or higher in all community college courses.

IMPORTANT LINKS & DATES:

- **University Transfer Center:** <https://transfer.vcu.edu/>.
- **Register Intent to Transfer:** <https://ugradadmissions.vcu.edu/register/letterofinterest>.

- **Admission Application:** By March 15 for fall admission and November 1 for spring at <https://www.vcu.edu/admissions/apply/>.
- **Financial Aid:** <https://semss.vcu.edu/our-services/financial-resources-and-guidance/>.
- **FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid:** March 1 for fall semester at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>.

WHAT SHOULD I CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING COURSES?

- Complete your English courses and start your math sequence in your first year.
- Create a schedule for all required courses, pay attention to prerequisites and when courses are offered. For help, see Transfer Steps and Resource Center at www.TransferVirginia.org.
- Connect with an advisor at your community college and the VCU Transfer Center within your first semester through your account at www.TransferVirginia.org.

IS THIS DEGREE RIGHT FOR ME?

There are a wide variety of Biology electives for students to choose from that span from cells to ecosystems. Biology is an engaging curriculum requiring students to participate in a minimum of 3 upper level lab courses, which students will attend in-person. Students have an opportunity to

conduct hands-on research with their Biology faculty. This degree is chemistry-intensive since students will complete two semesters of general chemistry and two semesters of organic chemistry.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON MY DEGREE OF WORK I HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED?

- **Associate Transfer Degree Completion:** The completion of a transfer associate degree results in all lower-division general education requirements being met when you transfer to VCU.
- **Dual Enrollment – Completion of Associate Degree in HS:** The completion of an associate degree concurrent with high school results in 60 credits of coursework applied towards your degree and VCU's general education courses will be satisfied. High school students must apply to VCU as freshman applicants for orientation and engagement purposes.
- **Credit for Prior Learning:** VCU accepts AP, IB, Cambridge, CLEP, DANTES, and military credits.
- **Catalog Year:** VCU will honor the degree requirements of the VCU Undergraduate Bulletin in effect at the time of the student's first post-high school enrollment into an appropriate associate degree at the two-year institution. Students must stay enrolled at their community college and take no more than four years to complete their associate degree. Students must also enroll at VCU within one year of completing their associate degree.

IS THIS COLLEGE RIGHT FOR ME?

- Located in downtown Richmond, within two hours of the beach, the mountains and Washington DC, VCU provides top-ranked academic programs, research opportunities and an urban setting so students can live and learn in the real world.
- VCU is a large, public research institution dedicated to the success and well-being of students and the Richmond community.
- Diversity, inclusion and equity are deeply ingrained core values at VCU. If you are looking to connect with a broad range of people, come join us!

Learn more about our college at www.TransferVirginia.org.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- Completing your associate transfer degree satisfies all lower division general education requirements and increases the likelihood you will complete your bachelor's degree?
- Exceeding 3 years or 90 credits at your community college could exhaust your financial aid there and reduce your future financial aid at VCU?

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS DEGREE?

Explore possible careers, salaries, and job outlook at www.TransferVirginia.org

PROGRAM SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS

This degree will provide you with the skills to go on to careers at important government agencies that protect our environment or at companies that create our medicines. This degree can also provide the foundation you need to get into professional schools such as medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine as well as graduate school.

WHAT ARE MY CHANCES FOR GETTING ACCEPTED?

If you apply through general application instead of through the Guaranteed Admission Agreement, you will be considered for admission with all other transfer applicants.

Learn more about applying at www.TransferVirginia.org.

DO MORE WITH YOUR DEGREE!

Students may specialize in many areas, such as molecular and cellular biology, genetics, aquatic and terrestrial ecology, systematics, physiology, neurobiology, and developmental biology. Students also may develop an interdisciplinary focus to their degree program, in areas such as bioinformatics, cancer biology, forensic science and environmental science. The Department of Biology offers an accelerated B.S. and M.S. program that allows qualified students to earn both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in mathematical sciences in five years.

OTHER THAN CLASSES, ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?

All students must complete at least one VCU "REAL" experiential learning activity in order to graduate from VCU. Examples of REAL activities include: internships, research, and service learning. This requirement may be satisfied by completing a 300-level (or higher) REAL course or through an approved REAL co-curricular experience.

Learn more at <https://real.vcu.edu/>.