

Astrobiology Minor (Non-Teaching)

The Astrobiology Minor is designed to educate students in this interdisciplinary field covering the varied scientific disciplines that contribute to our general understanding of life, the origin of life, the past history of life on Earth, possible futures for life on Earth, and the possible existence of life on other planetary environments. The principal goal of the minor is to develop students' literacy in astrobiology so they can critically evaluate claims related to this field that they encounter well after their college education has ended.

This minor is housed in the Department of Microbiology & Cell Biology (as of 2021). The BIOM 365 Astrobiology rubric replaces previous iterations of this course.

Required Courses (17-19 credits)

ASTR 110IN	Introduction to Astronomy: Mysteries of the Sky	3-4
or ASTR 371	Solar System Astronomy	
or ASTR 373	Extragalactic Astronomy	
BIOB 160	Principles of Living Systems	4
or BIOB 260	Cellular and Molecular Biology	
or BIOM 360	General Microbiology	
BIOM 365	Astrobiology	3
ERTH 101IN	Earth System Sciences	4
GEO 211	Earth History and Evolution	3

Elective Courses

Choose 9 credits from the following		9
ASTR 371	Solar System Astronomy	
ASTR 373	Extragalactic Astronomy	
BCH 380 & BCH 381	Biochemistry and Biochemistry Lab	
or BCH 441	Biochemistry of Macromolecules	
BIOM 410	Microbial Genetics	
or BIOH 320	Biomedical Genetics	
or BIOB 375	General Genetics	
BIOM 415	Microbial Diversity, Ecology, and Evolution	
BIOM 430	Applied and Environmental Microbiology	
BIOM 450	Microbial Physiology	
BIOB 420	Evolution	
BIOE 370	General Ecology	
ERTH 505	Geomicrobiology	
HSTR 207CS	Sci and Tech in World History	
or HSTR 417	Early Modern Science	
or HSTR 419	Modern Science	
or PHL 345	Philosophy of Science	
HSTR 282CS	Darwinian Revolution	
PHL 242CS	Scnc/Psuedo Scnc & Subjectivty	
RLST 402	Natural/Unnatural/Supernatural	

Total Credits

26-27