



TWO DEGREES, ONE PATH

TRANSFER PATHWAY GUIDE 2025-2026

Associate in Science to
Bachelor of Arts in Biological Sciences (General Biology Track)

Overview

Completion of the following curriculum will satisfy the requirements for the Associate in Science (AS) degree at Gateway Community and Technical College (GCTC) and leads to the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Biological Sciences at Northern Kentucky University (NKU).

Applying to the Gateway2NKU Program

Students can apply to participate in the pathway program by completing the online application on the NKU transfer webpage. Students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours at Gateway CTC, enrolled in an associate degree program, plan to transfer to NKU, and maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA at Gateway CTC.

Degree Requirements for GCTC

1. Completion of minimum 60 credit hours
2. Minimum cumulative GPA 2.0
3. Minimum of 15 credit hours earned at the institution awarding the degree
4. Demonstration of digital literacy
5. College success requirement

Admission Requirements to NKU

Students completing an associate degree with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher will be accepted into NKU.

Degree Requirements for NKU

To earn a bachelor's degree at NKU, students must:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 credit hours
2. Complete at least 25% of the credits required at NKU
3. Complete the last 30 credit hours at NKU
4. Complete at least 45 credit hours numbered 300 or above
5. Minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA across all major coursework
6. Meet all requirements for the major
7. Completion of minor, focus, or second major (if required by major)

Students pursuing a degree in the biological sciences may do so by choosing one of seven different tracks. These tracks allow the individual student to place an emphasis on areas of biology that they find of interest. However, the faculty of the department feel very strongly that each student completing a degree in biology must have a solid foundation in the discipline. Therefore, there is a core of courses required of all majors. A grade of C- or better must be earned in all biology courses that count toward completion of major requirements. The department has also identified a common core of support courses that must be completed with a C- or better by all biological science majors.

Students wishing to be certified to teach biology at the secondary level should complete the B.A. General Biology Track in conjunction with a B.A. Secondary Education. Students should review the section of the catalog describing the B.A. Secondary Education track within the Department of Teacher Education.

Prior to graduation, all students majoring in biology are required to pass a comprehensive exam. This examination is designed to verify that the graduating student has at least a basic knowledge of the broad area of the biological sciences. Students will complete this requirement by registering for "BIO 491 Comprehensive Examination (0 credits)" during the senior year. Those who fail the exam will not be allowed to graduate until the exam is passed.

General Transfer Information

Students must complete the online application to NKU. There is no application fee for students who are transferring from GCTC.

KCTCS Scholars Award: Students who are KY residents transferring directly from a KCTCS institution with at least 36 hours from that institution and minimum GPA of 3.0, were never enrolled as a degree-seeking student at NKU, and will be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours both fall and spring semester are eligible for a limited number of annual scholarships (fall and spring only). Students must gain admission to NKU by June 15 for fall and November 1 for spring to be eligible for a possible scholarship. Online accelerated programs are not eligible for the KCTCS Scholars Award.

Tuition and scholarship information specific to transfer students can be viewed on the Adult & Transfer Center's website.

GCTC AS TO NKU BA IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES CHECKLIST

Gateway Community and Technical College

Category 1: GCTC General Education Core Requirements

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
ENG 101	Writing I (WC)	3	ENG 101	
Taken at NKU	Advanced Writing in Biology (WC)	3	BIO 291W	
TBS XXX	Oral Communication (OC)	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities Course (AH) – Heritage	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities Course (AH) – Humanities	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Social & Behavioral Sciences Course (SB)	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Social & Behavioral Sciences Course (SB)	3	TBD XXX	
BIO 114/115	Biology I / Lab (NS)	4	BIO 150/150L	
CHE 170/175*	General College Chemistry I / Lab (SL)	5	CHE 120/120L	
MAT 150**	College Algebra (QR)	3	(MAT 102 or MAT 103) + MAT 100T	
STA 220	Statistics (QR)	3	STA 205	
	Subtotal General Education Core Courses	36		

TBS XXX means to be selected by GCTC student.

TBD XXX means to be determined by NKU based on course selected.

*Lab must be taken in person

For Social and Behavioral Sciences courses, two disciplines must be represented and different from those in the Arts and Humanities category.

**MAT 150 is a prerequisite for PHY 201 and PHY 203. A grade of A or B in MAT 150 equates to MAT 103 + MAT 100T at NKU. A grade of C or D in MAT 150 equates to MAT 102 + MAT 100T.

Category 2: GCTC AS Requirements

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
BIO 116/117	Biology II / Biology Laboratory II (SL)	4	BIO 151/151L	
CHE 180/185*	General College Chemistry II / Lab	5	CHE 121/121L	
	Subtotal AS Requirement Courses	9		

*Lab must be taken in person

Category 3: GCTC Electives

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
FYE 105 or FYE 110	Achieving Academic Success or First Year Experience and Applications	3	UNV 100T	
*CIT 105 or OST 105	Introduction to Computers or Intro to Information Systems	0-3	INF 101	
PHY 201/202	General College Physics I and Laboratory	5	PHY 211	
PHY 203/204	General College Physics II and Laboratory	5	PHY 213	
	Subtotal Elective Courses	16		
	Total Associate Degree Hours	61		

*If completing digital literacy using other means (like FYE 110), additional credit hours will be required in order to fulfill elective requirements.

Northern Kentucky University

Category 4: NKU Major Requirements for the BA in Biological Sciences

NKU Course	Course	Credits	GCTC Course	Taken at GCTC
BIO 150/150L	Introduction to Biology I and Laboratory	4	BIO 114/115	x
BIO 151/151L	Introduction to Biology II and Laboratory	4	BIO 116/117	x
BIO 155	Orientation to Biology	1		
BIO 291W	Advanced Writing in Biology	3	Taken at NKU	x
BIO 304/304L	General Ecology and Laboratory	4		
BIO 349/349L	Genetics and Laboratory	4		
BIO 458	Evolution of Organisms	3		
BIO 491	Comprehensive Examination	0		
CHE 120/120L	General Chemistry I and Laboratory	4	CHE 170/175	x
CHE 121/121L	General Chemistry II and Laboratory	4	CHE 180/185	x
PHY 211/213 or PHY 220/222	General Physics with Laboratory I and II or University Physics with Laboratory I and II	8	PHY 201/202 and PHY 203/204	x
STA 205	Statistical Methods	3	STA 220	x
TBS XXX	Foreign language at the 102 or higher level. Can be met by a two-course sequence, CLEP or AP exam equivalency.	0-6	SPA 101 & SPA 102 or FRE 101 & FRE 102, or GER 101 & GER 102 or RAE 101 and RAE 102 or JPN 101 and JPN 102 or ASL 103 and ASL 104	

NKU Course	Course	Credits	GCTC Course	Taken at GCTC
TBS XXX	One course from the cellular/molecular/genetics group	3-4		
TBS XXX	One course from the ecology/evolution/organismal group	3-4		
TBS XXX	Select four additional courses from the CMG, EEO, or general elective groups. Students may take electives from across these different groups. At least one of the 6 total elective courses must have a lab component.	12-16		
CHE 310/310L	Organic Chemistry I	4	CHE 270/275	
	Subtotal Major Credit Hours at NKU	34-46		
	Subtotal Major Credit Hours at GCTC	30		
	Total Major Credit Hours	64-76		
	Subtotal of Additional Credit Hours Taken at GCTC	31		

Foreign language requirement (0-6 credits): All biological science majors are required to complete the 102 level or higher of a foreign language. Students may satisfy this requirement by completing the appropriate two-course sequence in a foreign language or via CLEP or AP exam equivalency.

BIO Electives: one must be an animal course and one must be a plant course.

Category 5: Additional Requirements at NKU

NKU Course	Course	Credits	KCTCS Course	Taken at KCTCS
	Subtotal Minor or Elective Credit Hours Taken at NKU *At least 12 credit hours must be 300-level or higher	25		
	Total Baccalaureate Degree Credit Hours	120		

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