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Resources

Behavioral Biology Website
Our website provides detailed and up-to-date information on the program. Please check regularly on such topics as: course information, major checklists, contact information, research, events, resources, jobs/internships, grants/funding opportunities. http://krieger.jhu.edu/behavioralbiology

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Program Administration:

Behavioral Biology Program Committee

The Behavioral Biology Program is administered by a Director and Committee who are responsible for coordinating course offerings, overseeing the program’s interdepartmental course work, and approving changes to the curriculum.

Dr. Cindy Moss, Director, Chair
Professor, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
Krieger School of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Linda Gorman, DUS
Teaching Professor, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
Krieger School of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Peter Holland,
Professor, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
Krieger School of Arts & Sciences

Additional Faculty Advisors
Dr. Kisi Bohn
Lecturer, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
Krieger School of Arts & Sciences

Administrative Staff, (Dunning Hall 434)
Hope Fisher
Academic Program Administrator
410-516-6196
Hope.Stein@jhu.edu

Academic Program Coordinator
410-516-6436

Laurie Troyer
Administrative Secretary
410-516-8878
Laurie.Troyer@jhu.edu
**Faculty Advisors**

Faculty Advisors, at the end of your freshman year, are responsible for helping students with career plans, fellowship opportunities, medical or graduate school programs, and broader applications of a degree in behavioral biology.

Dr. Kisi Bohn  
410-516-8876  
kbohn1@jhu.edu  
416 Dunning

Dr. Linda Gorman  
410-516-3868  
lgorm1@jhu.edu  
434 Dunning

Dr. Peter Holland  
410-516-6396  
pch@jhu.edu  
222 Ames

Dr. Cindy Moss  
410-516-6383  
cmoss7@jhu.edu  
200B Ames
Behavioral Biology Degree Requirements

Core Courses (12 credits)
- Foundations of Brain, Behavior and Cognition (200.141)
- Human Origins (290.101)
- Animal Behavior (200.208)
- Neuroscience Lab (080.250)

Behavioral Biology Upper Level Courses
(See the behavioral biology website for a complete list of approved courses. Note that lab courses do not count toward this requirement)
- Three courses (9 credits) designated “biobehavioral”
  (BIOBEH on degree audit)
- Two courses (6 credits) designated “social science”
  (SOCSCI on degree audit)
- Senior seminar (290.490; 1 credit). Must be taken fall or spring of your senior year. Students who plan to graduate in December may enroll in spring of their junior years.

Behavioral Biology Research/Internship Courses
(See the behavioral biology website for a complete list)
- Although Research or Internship courses are not currently required for graduation, we strongly advise them. Johns Hopkins is a renowned research university, and participating in research will strengthen your experience and understanding of your major.

Introductory Statistics
- Statistical Analysis I and II (550.111 and 550.112) OR
- Probability and Statistics 550.211
- More advanced, for example calculus-based, statistics courses may also be used to satisfy this requirement. These options are most useful for students with additional majors that require such courses. See your faculty advisor or the DUS.

Basic Mathematics and Science Courses
- Calculus I and II (110.106 and 110.107 OR 110.108 and 110.109)
- Introductory Chemistry I and II (030.101 and 030.102)
- Introductory Chemistry Lab I and II (030.105 and 030.106)
- General Biology I and II (020.151 and 020.152)
- General Biology Lab I and II (020.153 and 020.154)
- General Physics I and II (171.101 and 171.102 OR 171.103 and 171.104)
- General Physics Lab I and II (173.111 and 173.112)
Sample B.A. Program

This is only one of many possible course sequences that students may elect to follow; it assumes that students do not have any AP/IB/TR courses to apply toward their degrees. For the Behavioral Biology electives, please refer to Degree Requirements (page 6).

Freshman Year: Fall
110.106 Calculus I (4) (Q)
030.101 Intro. Chemistry I (3) (N)
030.105 Intro. Chemistry Lab I (1)
200.141 Foundations of Brain, Behavior & Cognition (3) (N,S)
Elective in H and/or S (3)

Freshman Year: Spring
110.107 Calculus II (4) (Q)
030.102 Intro. Chemistry II (3)(N)
030.106 Intro Chemistry Lab II (1)
200.146 Animal Behavior (3)(N,S)
Elective in H and/or S (3)

Sophomore Year: Fall
020.151 General Biology I (4) (N)
020.153 General Biology Lab I (1)
290.101 Human Origins (3) (N)
English Writing Class (3) (H,W)
550.111 Statistical Analysis I (4) (Q,E)

Sophomore Year: Spring
020.152 General Biology II (4) (N)
020.154 General Biology Lab II (1)
English Writing Class (3) (H,W)
550.112 Statistical Analysis II (4) (Q,E)
Upper level elective

Junior Year: Fall
080.250 Neuroscience Lab* (3) (N)
290.505 Research (3)( optional)
171.103 Physics I (4) (E,Q)
173.111 Physics Lab I (1)
Upper level elective (3)
Elective in H and/or S (3)

Junior Year: Spring
290.506 Research (3) (optional)
171.104 Physics II (4) (E,Q)
171.112 Physics Lab II (1)
Upper level elective (3)
Elective in H and/or S (3)

Senior Year: Fall
Upper level elective (3)
290.490 Senior Seminar (1)
Elective in Any Area (3)
Elective in H, S, Q, and/or E (3)

Senior Year: Spring
Elective in H, S, Q, and/or E (3)
Elective in Any Area (3)
Elective in Any Area (3)

*Neuroscience Lab can be taken anytime after 200.141.

Information about courses and requirements are also located on the Behavioral Biology website: http://krieger.jhu.edu/behavioralbiology/courses.

A degree audit checklist for Behavioral Biology can be found on the Academic Advising Office web site, http://www.jhu.edu/advising/checklists.html.
Core Course Descriptions

200.141 Foundations of Brain, Behavior & Cognition (required)
L. Gorman
A survey of neuropsychology relating the organization of behavior to the integrative action of the nervous system. Cross-listed with Behavioral Biology and Neuroscience (3 credits)

200. 208Animal Behavior (required)
This introductory course examines the basic principles of animal behavior. Topics include orientation, migration, communication, reproduction, parent-offspring relations, ontogeny of behavior, and social organization. The evolution and adaptive significance of behavior will be emphasized. (3 credits)

080.250 Neuroscience Lab (required)
L. Gorman/J. Trageser
This course will give students the “hands-on” experience of the interdisciplinary nature of neuroscience. Being able to visualize neuroanatomical structures in relation to behavioral functions and learning electrophysiological techniques to understand neuronal communication in the context of behavior are just some of the goals of this laboratory course (3 credits)

290.101 Human Origins (required)
P. Holland
This course examines the origins of human structure, function and behavior from an evolutionary perspective. It includes study of the evolution, behavior and behavioral ecology of nonhuman primates, hominid evolution (including the paleontological and archaeological records), and the origins of human cognition, social behavior and culture. (3 credits)

Please note, lower-level courses are prerequisites for upper-level courses. You should attempt to complete your lower-level prerequisites early in your education, but be aware that some upper-level courses are not taught every year. Major requirements CANNOT be taken on a pass/fail basis.
Bio-Behavioral and Social Sciences Upper Levels

For a list of these courses that are offered each semester please see our website: http://krieger.jhu.edu/behavioralbiology/courses/index.html.

Bio-Behavioral Science (9 credits)

Social Sciences (6 credits)

Laboratory courses do not count as upper-level science courses.

Behavioral Biology Research Courses: while these courses are not required for completion of the degree, students are encouraged to consider taking them to strengthen their experience and understanding of their major.

Capstone: Senior Seminar Course

290.490 Behavioral Biology Senior Seminar (required)

P. Holland

This seminar is intended as a capstone course for senior behavioral biology majors. We will consider Great Ideas in all areas of behavioral biology through readings of both classic and cutting-edge articles in the original literature. After consultation with the instructor, students will select many of the discussion topics. Enrollment is limited to 12. Registration limited to senior behavioral biology majors. (1 credit)

Field Experience: Intersession

360.236 Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands (optional)

This course is in an introductory field tropical biology course held in Ecuador and on the Galapagos Islands. The course will concentrate on the flora and fauna of the Amazon rain forest, Ecuador, and the Galapagos Islands. Special attention will be given to the consideration of the behavioral adaptations exhibited by various animal taxa. Final grade will be based on a field notebook that the student keeps and a final paper due in late January. There are no prerequisites other than a valid passport and approval of instructors. Spanish-speaking students are especially encouraged to apply. Students are selected on a competitive basis by instructors. Application required. (3 credits)
For new sophomores, the distribution requirements are:

- 9 credits of Humanities (H)
- 9 credits of Social Science (S)
- 9 credits of Natural Science, Quantitive or Engineering (N, Q, E)

Other Notes
Students interested in careers in organismal biology and ecology are encouraged to take courses such as The Extinction of the Dinosaurs (270.120), Geobiology (270.311), Population and Community Ecology (270.308), and Ecology (570.205). These courses can count under the “Distribution Requirements” category on the checklist.

Please carefully read all the other information about university requirements in the relevant university publications. If you have any questions, please contact either your faculty advisor or the program administrator. Organic Chemistry II and Organic Chemistry Lab are only optional but required by medical schools.

Writing Requirement
Some upper-level electives that have the “W” designation can be double-counted; however, it is highly recommended that students complete a minimum of two classes in English Writing/Literature if considering applying to medical school.

Foreign Language
Students who take the first semester of an elementary language must complete the second semester course as well or lose the credit from the first term.
Awards and Scholarships

David S. Olton Award
The David S. Olton Award will be given annually, in the fall, to support undergraduate research in the area of the biology of behavior, broadly defined. Undergraduate students from Johns Hopkins in any major but especially those in psychology, behavioral biology, and neuroscience are encouraged to apply. This award is designed to help students complete a project of their own that they might not otherwise be able to carry out due to financial limitations. It can cover a wide range of costs, including stipend support (either during the academic year or the summer) or equipment and/or supplies essential to the project. An email announcement is sent to all students in mid-fall to provide information on applicable deadlines and requirements. More information can be found here, http://krieger.jhu.edu/behavioralbiology/undergraduate/index.html#awards

Curt Richter Award
The Curt P. Richter Award in Behavioral Biology Research is given in recognition of outstanding achievement in the David S. Olton Behavioral Biology Program. It is awarded to a selected graduating senior to recognize his/her dedication to excellence in academics and research. Dr. Richter was a JHU doctoral graduate and a former faculty member. He was a leader in the field of brain and behavior research.

Field Studies Fellowship (Study Abroad during Intersession)
The goal of the Field Studies Fellowship is to offset the cost of travel assessed to students for Johns Hopkins University undergraduate courses related to Behavioral Biology. If you are interested in applying for a Field Studies Scholarship visit the course website at http://web.jhu.edu/study_abroad/study/Scholarships.html or contact Lori Cittí (lcitti1@jhu.edu) in the Study Abroad office for details.
Mentored Research: Research, Internship or Field Experience

While the research component of the program is not required, students are urged to take advantage of the many opportunities to participate in research projects carried out here at Homewood or at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions. Supervised research is initiated by an agreement between the student and the faculty member with whom s/he wishes to work. That agreement specifies what the student will do in terms of research, how much time will be spent doing it, when the student is expected to be present, what the student will give the research supervisor (e.g., a certain amount of time, a paper, the results of an experiment, etc.) and what the student will receive (e.g., supervision, readings, guidance in pursuing the project, etc.).

When attempting to identify potential research supervisors, it is recommended that students consult departmental web pages and other on-line information for research being conducted at the Homewood campus and the School of Medicine (http://krieger.jhu.edu/behavioralbiology/opportunities/OR http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/som/index.html). The research interests of faculty members in each department are usually listed, along with selected bibliographies of published works. Students are encouraged to read a brief selection of the articles that have been published by the potential supervisors, to ensure that the nature of the research being conducted is understood, and can be intelligently discussed by the student. It is best to contact faculty via e-mail to discuss possible research opportunities, with students being certain to introduce themselves as undergraduate behavioral biology majors, and explaining their interest in working for credit in the faculty member’s laboratory. Students are urged to make these arrangements well before the end of the semester prior to which they wish to begin work.

If the research supervisor is not a full-time member in the School of Arts & Sciences, students must work with the DUS to serve as the student’s faculty sponsor. When registering for independent study or research, students must submit an Undergraduate Research Registration Form that has been signed by the Program Committee member. Forms may be obtained from the Registrar or the program office in 434 Dunning Hall, and must accompany the student’s registration or add/drop from.
The number of credits earned for supervised research ranges from one to three, and is determined at the end of the semester. Each 40 hours of work is worth one credit. Because the semester is about 13 weeks long, each credit requires about three hours per week on average. If the student works regularly during the semester, then three hours a week will yield one credit, six hours will yield two credits, and nine hours will yield three credits.

Students may, of course, work more some days and weeks than others. In all cases, students should keep a record of the number of hours they put in during the semester. Because the number of credits is determined at the end of the semester, students should not indicate any particular number of credits when registering for research. The School of Arts & Sciences stipulates that students may earn no more than three credits of research, independent study, or internship per semester, and no more than six credits per academic year (fall/intersession/spring/summer).

All students who enroll for Supervised Research, Internship or Field Experience must (at a minimum) write a three-to-five-page report that describes the substance of the research that was carried out during the semester. This report should be approved and signed by the research supervisor. This document must be submitted to the faculty sponsor at the end of the semester.
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