

**Grand Valley State University**  
**CLAS Academic Advising Center**  
 C-1-140 Mackinac Hall  
 616-331-8585

**Graduate Teacher Certification Planned Program**  
**Biology Major – Secondary Education<sup>4</sup>**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ SID: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Transfer Institution(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Biology Major – Required Courses**

Course Number	✓	Course Name	Credits	Completed	Scheduled	Grade	Quality Points
BIO 120		General Biology I	4				
BIO 121		General Biology II	4				
BIO 215		General Ecology	4				
BIO 375		Genetics	3				
BIO 376		Genetics Laboratory	1				
BIO 405		Cell and Molecular Biology	4				
BIO 406		Cell and Molecular Biology Lab	2				
BIO 495		Evolutionary Biology	3				
		<b>Biology Electives – Plant (choose one)<sup>1</sup></b>					
BIO 303		Plants and Fungi	4				
BIO 323		Aquatic Plants	3				
BIO 333		Systematic Botany	3				
BIO 403		Plant Structure and Function	4				
BIO 413		Freshwater Algae	3				
BIO 423		Plant Biotechnology	3				
BIO 573		Plants of the Great Lakes Area (with permission)	3				
		<b>Biology Electives – Animal (choose one)<sup>2</sup></b>					
BIO 222		Natural History of Vertebrates	3				
BIO 232		Natural History of Invertebrates	3				
BIO 272		Insect Biology and Diversity	3				
BIO 302		Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy	4				
BIO 342		Ornithology	3				
BIO 352		Animal Behavior	3				
BIO 362		Fisheries Biology	4				
BIO 412		Mammalogy	4				
BIO 422		Embryology	3				
BIO 432		Comparative Animal Physiology	4				
BIO 572		Field Zoology (with permission)	3				
BMS 208 & 309		Human Anatomy & Laboratory in Human Anatomy	3/1				
BMS 290 & 291		Human Physiology & Laboratory in Human Physiology	3/1				
CHM 115		Principles of Chemistry I	5				
CHM 116		Principles of Chemistry II	5				
CHM 231 <sup>2</sup>		Introduction to Organic Chemistry <b>OR</b>	4				
CHM 241		Organic Chemistry for Life Sciences I	4				

Course Number	✓	Course Name	Credits	Completed	Scheduled	Grade	Quality Points
CHM 232		Biological Chemistry <b>OR</b>	4				
CHM 242		Organic Chemistry for Life Sciences II	4				
STA 215		Introductory Applied Statistics <b>OR</b>	3				
MTH 125		Survey of Calculus <b>OR</b>	3				
MTH 201		Calculus I	5				
PHY 200		Physics for the Life Sciences <b>OR</b>	4				
PHY 220		General Physics I <b>OR</b>	5				
PHY 230		Principles of Physics I <sup>3</sup>	5				

**Total Credits Needed: 52 - 56**

**Cumulative GPA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Considerations:**

<sup>1</sup> BIO 103, 105, 107, 109, 205, 310, 311 and 355 are excluded from the major.

<sup>2</sup> If CHM 231 is chosen, CHM 232 must be taken. If CHM 241 is chosen, CHM 242 must be taken

<sup>3</sup> Secondary Education students are encouraged to take both PHY 220 & 221 or PHY 230 & 231.

<sup>4</sup> Students with a bachelor's degree and a biology major from another institution must earn at least 5 credits in Biology from GVSU.

<sup>5</sup> Students must earn at least 38 credits in biology to complete the major requirements. Some biomedical and health sciences courses may counted towards major elective – please see an advisor for approval.

**Notes:**

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**Departmental Approval:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

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**1 copy student; 1 copy CLAS Advising Center File; 1 copy College of Education; 1 copy Major Program Advisor**

## Next Steps:

1. **If you have not already done so, you must attend a Graduate Teacher Certification workshop sponsored by the College of Education. You can schedule a time to attend by calling their Student Assistance Center at 616-331-6650.**
2. **Be prepared to provide any additional course materials, such as a syllabus or course description, especially for out of state classes and courses completed more than 10 years ago. This will help the academic departments when finalizing course evaluations and planned programs.**
3. **Contact the CLAS Academic Advising center to schedule an appointment if you need help registering.**
4. **Prior to admission to the program, you should schedule an appointment with the Graduate Teacher Certification Coordinator in the College of Education. You can schedule that appointment by calling 616-331-6650.**

The following details give information regarding the Graduate Teacher Certification Program and are taken directly from the Grand Valley State University catalog:

**Graduate Teacher Certification.** Candidates who already possess an approved baccalaureate degree may consider certification at either the undergraduate or graduate level. Because of the need for careful assessment in choosing the appropriate program, students should first contact the Student Information and Services Center to request background materials and register to attend one of the regularly scheduled information meetings. Candidates considering the graduate program must be able to undertake full-time study for approximately one calendar year. Minimum admission requirements for the graduate certification program include:

1. Completion of the baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution at least three years prior to application with a GPA of 3.0 or higher for the final 60 semester credits.
2. Possession of completion of a teachable major with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Secondary candidates must also possess or complete a teachable minor before final certification.
3. Successful completion of Michigan Basic Skills Test.
4. Successful completion of Michigan Subject Area Test in teachable major.
5. Documentation of 25 hours age-appropriate experience with children or youth.
6. Current TB test report.
7. Signed statement regarding criminal activity.
8. Completion of EDG 619 Curricular Integration of Ed Technology.
9. Admission to graduate studies
10. Completion of application materials for graduate teacher certification program.

Candidates will be eligible for Michigan Provisional Certification after they successfully complete coursework, maintain a 3.0 GPA, and complete certain additional state requirements. These requirements include the Michigan Elementary Test for elementary candidates, or the completion of a teachable minor and the Michigan Subject Area Test in the minor for secondary candidates.