

**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>1, 4, 5</sup>

Student Name:

Date:

Email Address:

G#:

Transfer Institution(s):

Key:      ✓ - Completed or In Progress      W - Waived      Highlighted - Still Needs to be Completed

**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 210		Evolutionary Biology	3				
BIO 215		Ecology	4				
BIO 375		Genetics	3				
BIO 376		Genetics Laboratory	1				
CMB 405		Cell and Molecular Biology	4				
CMB 406		Cell and Molecular Biology Lab	2				
BIO 495		Perspectives in Biology	3				
BIO 243		<b>Biology Elective – Plant Organismal Biology (choose one)</b> Plant Identification and Natural History	3				
BIO 303		Plant Morphology	4				
BIO 313		Plants and Islands	4				
BIO 323		Aquatic and Wetlands Plants	3				
BIO 333		Systematic Botany	4				
BIO 403		Plant Structure and Function	4				
BIO 413		Freshwater Algae	3				
BIO 423		Plant Biotechnology	3				
BIO 433		Plant Ecology	4				
BIO 222		<b>Biology Elective – Animal Organismal Biology (choose one)</b> 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 362		Fisheries Biology	3				
BIO 402		Aquatic Insects	3				
BIO 412		Mammalogy	4				
BIO 422		Embryology	3				
BIO 432		Comparative Animal Physiology	4				
BMS 208 & 309		Human Anatomy & Laboratory in Human Anatomy	3/1				
BMS 290 & 291		Human Physiology & Laboratory in Human Physiology	3/1				

Course Number	✓	Course Name	Credits	Completed	Scheduled	Grade	Quality Points
		<b>Biology Elective – Biomolecular Processes (choose one)</b>					
BIO 317		Animal Nutrition	3				
BIO 357		Environmental Microbiology	4				
BIO 403		Plant Structure and Function	4				
BIO 416		Advanced Genetics Laboratory	2				
BIO 422		Embryology	3				
BIO 423		Plant Biotechnology	3				
BIO 485		Molecular Ecology	3				
BMS 212 & 213		Introductory Microbiology & Laboratory in Microbiology	3/1				
CMB 351		Bioinformatics: Tools and Techniques for Life Scientists	3				
CMB 411		Genetics of Development and Cancer	3				
CMB 414		Molecular Biology of the Gene	3				
CMB 426		Nucleic Acids Laboratory	3				
		<b><sup>6</sup>Biology Elective – Principles of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology/Applied Ecology and Evolution (choose one)</b>					
BIO 303		Plant Morphology	4				
BIO 313		Plants and Islands	4				
BIO 333		Systematic Botany	4				
BIO 349		The Darwinian Revolution	3				
BIO 352		Animal Behavior	3				
BIO 370		Marine Biology	3				
BIO 433		Plant Ecology	4				
BIO 440		Limnology	4				
BIO 442		Fish Ecology	3				
BIO 450		Stream Ecology	4				
BIO 452		Human Evolution	3				
BIO 460		Terrestrial Ecosystem Ecology	4				
BIO 473		Ecology and Evolution of Plant-Animal Interactions	3				
BIO 308		Wildlife Ecology	4				
BIO 357		Environmental Microbiology	4				
BIO 362		Fisheries Biology	3				
BIO 386		Ecological Restoration & Management	3				
BIO 402		Aquatic Insects					
BIO 408		Wildlife Management	4				
BIO 470		Conservation Biology	3				
BIO 486		Advanced Restoration Ecology	3				
CHM 115		Principles of Chemistry I	4				
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	5				
CHM 232 <sup>2</sup>		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	4				
PHY 200 <sup>3</sup>		Physics for the Life Sciences <b>OR</b>	4				
PHY 220		General Physics I <b>OR</b>	5				
PHY 230		Principles of Physics I	5				

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

**Special Considerations:**

<sup>1</sup> BIO 104, 105, 107, 109, 205, 309, 310, 311, 329 and 349 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 complete a minimum of 41 credits of Biology coursework**

<sup>6</sup> BIO 407 - Biology and Society: Study Abroad, BIO 417 - International Field Biology, OR BIO 418 - Regional Field Biology possible with Biology Department permission

**Notes:**  

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**Substitutions, Equivalencies, and Waivers Approved By:**

**Date:**

**Prepared By:**

**Date:**

**Academic Departmental Approval (Pending Completion of Highlighted Requirements):**

**Date:**

**Clarification on Second Degree Requirements:**

This planned program includes the content area courses required to be eligible to apply for the Graduate Teacher Certification Program or obtain a Teaching Endorsement. It does not reflect the requirements necessary to obtain a second bachelor's degree from Grand Valley State University. A second bachelor's degree is **not necessary** to gain admission to the GTC program or obtain additional certification endorsements.

If you are interested in pursuing an additional undergraduate bachelor's degree, it will require more courses beyond those needed for the content areas. Please contact the CLAS Academic Advising Center if you are interested in this information.

## 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 Information and Services 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 at 616-331-8585 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:

**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 one year prior to application with a 3.0 GPA or higher for the final 60 semester credits.
2. A 3.0 GPA in the teachable subject major/minor.
3. A completed Masters of Education graduate application submitted to the GVSU Admissions Office by January 15.
4. A separate GTC application packet is also needed and is available at GTC Information Sessions.
5. Evidence of 25 hours of paid or volunteer work with children within the age group you wish to teach (due November 15 unless given permission for extension).
6. Passing scores on the Michigan Professional Readiness Exam and Subject Major tests.
7. Completion of Curricular Integration of Ed. Technology, EDT 619 - for elementary candidates only.
8. Resume (due November 15).
9. A personal essay (due November 15).
10. A personal interview with the program advisor.
11. Signed statement regarding criminal activity.
12. Elementary candidates must complete PED 265 Teaching Health in Elementary Schools and PED 266 Move-Learn! PE and Dance for Elementary Education.

Note: Students seeking a major in World Languages must pass the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) prior to their student teaching semester.

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.