BA IN BIOLOGY + MAT IN ADOLESCENCE ED: BIOLOGY

Program Overview
Program Coordinator  Jeff Reinking, (845) 257-3771, reinkinj@newpaltz.edu
Program ID  101C
Credits  148-150
Program Length  5 years if attending full-time, MAT program must be completed in 5 years
Modality  In-person
Full-time/Part-time  Full-time
Transfer Credits  0
Capstone  Practicum
Certification/Licensure  NYSED Initial/Professional Adolescent Education: Biology

Program Description
We have developed this program in response to popular demand from students and parents who have called for a pathway to fulfilling jobs in education and science, and to school districts who report an increasing number of full-time job openings in STEM disciplines. Graduation from the Five-Year Master Plan empowers students with options to choose the career they find most fulfilling, whether that means becoming a science teacher, working as a biologist, or pursuing a Ph.D.

How does it work?
ENROLL in the Five-Year Master Plan and begin taking foundational science courses as a first-year student.

MAINTAIN a 3.0 GPA as you take embedded education courses and pursue your Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Biology.

QUALIFY for early admission to the graduate program during your junior year.

EARN your BA degree in four years, while taking education courses to prepare for your accelerated graduate program.

COMPLETE the MAT program, including all student teaching requirements in just one year.

Admission Requirements
To participate in the BA/MAT program in Biology, interested undergraduates should:

1. Submit a Declaration of Major/Change of Major form indicating the BA/MAT program in Biology (major 508C) to the office of Records and Registration (Wooster Hall, rm. 115).
2. Meet with Professor Latanya Brandon to begin selecting courses. Maintain a GPA of 3.0 to fulfill admission requirements for the graduate program.

Early Admission to Graduate Program
During their junior year, students finalize their early admission to the Master of Arts in Teaching program:

• Apply using the link above.
• Create an account (if new to applying) or log in and follow the steps.
• Select the fall term when you would like to begin your graduate coursework.

NOTE: This program only admits for the fall term.
• Select BA Biology/MAT Adolescence Ed: Biology Program (major 101C) as the intended curriculum.

Upload Checklist Items
To expedite a faculty review of an application, students may upload the following items:

• Admission Essay
• Student copies of transcripts* from every college/university attended
• Contact information for three references who can attest to the applicant’s ability for graduate study.

* Full admission REQUIRES the submission of official transcripts and test scores.

Check Your Application Status
• Check your application status through the applicant portal.

Sample undergraduate and graduate plans of study below:

BA in Biology (major 508C)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
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<tr>
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<td>ENG170</td>
<td>Writing and Rhetoric</td>
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<td>Languages</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIO202</td>
<td>General Biology II</td>
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<tr>
<td>GE: The Arts</td>
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<td>EDS372</td>
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<td>CHE212</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDS340</td>
<td>Sociological and Philosophical Foundations of Education</td>
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</table>

Sample undergraduate and graduate plans of study below:
GE: World Civilizations 3
GE: Western Civilizations 3

Credits 16

Year 3
Fall
EDS383 Introduction to Literacy for Diverse Learners 3
Environmental Biology Course 4
Architecture of Life Course 3-4
Cognate 1 4
Elective 3

Credits 17-18

Spring
SPE385 Differentiating Instruction in the Secondary School 3
Upper Division Biology Elective 3
Evol & Divr of Life Course 3-4
Cognate 2 4
Elective 3

Credits 16-17

Year 4
Fall
SED354 Foundations of Secondary Education Seminar 1
Upper Division Biology Elective 4
GR - Biology Elective 3
Work with Advisor to select one of the courses below: 3
UG Elective 3
GR Course from Year 5 (Optional) 3
UG Elective 3

Credits 14

Spring
SED53 Field Work #1 1
SED453 Curriculum and Assessment in the Secondary School 3
Upper Division Biology Elective 4
SED541 Constructing Scientific Conceptual Knowledge 3
SED542 Meaningful Problem Solving in Science 3

Credits 14

Total Credits 120-122

1 Students may take SED541, SED542 or an approved discipline-specific education course.

MAT in Adolescence Ed: Biology (major 101C)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<td>SED525</td>
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<td>SED606</td>
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<tr>
<td>SED553</td>
<td>Field Experience III</td>
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Total Credits 28

1 If students complete 9 graduate credits during year four, then they will need to complete 28 credits in year 5.
2 If students complete 12 graduate credits during year four, then they will need to complete 25 credits in year 5.

Academic Standing Requirements for Bachelor’s/Master’s Students
A cumulative GPA of less than 3.0 in graduate-level courses taken in the undergraduate portion of a 4+1 program precludes the student’s good standing. Students with GPA of 2.75 to 2.99 strongly advised to reconsider continuing into GR program. Students below 2.75 may not continue and will be de-matriculated from GR program.

Graduate Program Requirements
- Review graduate “plan of study” during the first semester after matriculation into the MAT portion of the program.
- Maintain a graduate cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better with no more than two grades below B-.
- Successful completion of practicum during the final semester of study. Students are responsible for their own transportation to the field and student teaching placements and must be prepared to commute up to 45 miles, one way, to these placements.

Required Workshops for Certification
Attending workshops designed to assist teachers in:
- preventing violence in the schools (S.A.V.E)
- recognizing symptoms of child abuse and neglect,
- providing a safe and supportive learning environment through the training for Dignity for All Students Act (DASA), and
- by completing the Health & Safety training.

New York State Certification Testing requirements
- Obtaining fingerprint clearance. Information packets are available in the Secondary Education department (OM 323). Applicants for certification are asked to provide information about past convictions, misconduct, etc., on the application for a certificate, and the New York State Education Department is authorized to investigate complaints regarding an applicant’s past convictions or any acts which raise a reasonable question as to the individual’s moral character.
- Students must receive satisfactory scores on the New York State Teacher Certification Examinations. More information on these tests may be obtained at [http://www.nystce.nesinc.com](http://www.nystce.nesinc.com).

Upon graduation, students will receive the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree. Students will have completed all academic requirements for both initial and professional certification and will be recommended for both certifications. Students will receive their professional certificate after they have completed three years of satisfactory secondary teaching experience in their discipline and notification of such to the State Education Department.
For information on obtaining a teaching credential in New York State, please visit the New York State Education Department website at http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/.