

Diploma of Biological Sciences – 2025 *(this credential replaced the Northern Science Diploma beginning in the 2024/25 Academic year)*

Instructions for Use

This planning guide is to assist you in selecting courses each term. Read carefully, as some courses are only offered in one term/year, and some are offered in multiple terms/years.

***The recommended sequencing plan and note section in this guide will be beneficial in helping you select courses.**

Refer to your program page on the main website under programs/courses for a more thorough description of each course.

A glossary (description) of common words and phrases used in this guide, can be found on the last page.

Graduation Requirements and Yukon First Nations Core Competency

Students must complete the required courses, as well as the required number of electives.

In addition to passing all the required courses, the student must:

- complete 50% of the course work at Yukon University
- maintain a 2.00 cumulative GPA (C average) upon graduation and
- complete the Yukon First Nations Core Competency (below)

Yukon First Nations Core Competency

Yukon University recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations.

For details, visit [Yukon First Nations Core Competency](#).

The Biological Sciences Diploma has incorporated this with a three-credit course that meets the Core Competency <https://www.yukonu.ca/yukon-first-nations-core-competency>

First Year Courses ¹			
Course Requirements	Credit	Term	Done
BIOL 101 & 101 L	3	Fall	
BIOL 102 & 102L	3	Winter	
CHEM 110 & 110L	3	Fall	
ENGL 100	3	Any	
CHEM 111 & 111L	3	Winter	
ENGL 101	3	Winter	
MATH 100	3	Fall	
MATH 101/200 (or Science elective) ²	3	Winter	
Course that meets Yukon First Nations Core Competency ³	3	Any	
PHYS 101 & 101L	3	Fall	
Total Credits	30		

Second Year Courses			
Course Requirements	Credit	Term	Done
BIOL 201 & 201L	3	Fall	
CHEM 210 & 210L	3	Fall	
BIOL 203 & 203L or 2 nd year Science elective ²	3	Fall	
BIOL 202 & 202L	3	Winter	
CHEM 211 & 211L or 2 nd year Science elective ²	3	Winter	
BCHM 200 & 200L or 2 nd year Science elective ²	3	Winter	
2 nd year Science elective ²	3	Any	
Science elective (any level, e.g., PHYS 102)	3	Any	
Liberal Arts Elective ⁴	3	Any	
Any Elective ⁴ 200 level	3	Any	
Total Credits	30		

Notes

1. Courses can be taken in any order so long as necessary prerequisites are met for each course. For example, BIOL 101 and 102 are required before taking BIOL 201 or 202.
2. If a student wishes to transfer to a degree program, University Transferrable (UT) courses are recommended. UT electives for first year include GEOG 101, 102, PHYS 102, GEOL 105, 106, and for second year: BIOL 203, 210, 220, 225, 230 BCHM 200, CHEM 211, CPSC 128, GEOG 250, MATH 200, NSCI 201, 202, COMM 204, SOIL 210. Please see a course advisor for more information about transferability.
3. Please see list of courses that meet the Yukon First Nations Core Competency <https://www.yukonu.ca/yukon-first-nations-core-competency>
4. Any 100 or 200-level course, typically chosen from courses offered by the School of Science or Liberal Arts. Courses from Indigenous Governance or Business and Leadership may also be acceptable. Contact a program advisor for more information.

Recommended Sequencing Plan

Shown below is a sample sequence of courses for your diploma. If you follow this plan, you should be able to graduate in two years, provided you complete five course per term. This is just one example of how you could complete the diploma requirements; *other sequences will work as well.*

Year 1 Fall	Year 2 Fall
BIOL 101 & 101L	BIOL 201 & 201L
CHEM 110 & 110L	BIOL 203 & 203L
ENGL 100	CHEM 210 & 210L
PHYS 101 & 101L or elective	Second year science elective ² e.g. BIOL 220 & 220L
MATH 100	Any Elective
Year 1 Winter	Year 2 Winter
BIOL 102 & 102L	BIOL 202 & 202L
CHEM 111 & 111L	CHEM 211 & 211L
ENGL 101 or COMM 204	BCHM 200 & 200L
MATH 101/Math 200 or Science Elective ²	Science Elective (1 st or 2 nd year level) e.g. PHYS 102
HIST 140	Liberal Arts elective (or other elective)

Student Responsibility

You are responsible for the completeness and accuracy of your registration and for determining the requirements of your program. Always read course descriptions before you register to determine if you have the necessary prerequisites and pay attention to notes on mutually exclusive and cross-listed courses (pairs of courses in which credit will be awarded for only one).

Program Advising

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Common Words and Phrases

- A **Credit** is the unit of weight for university courses and range from 1 to 15 credits.
- **Grade Point Average (GPA)** is a representation of academic achievement produced by dividing the total number of grade points earned over a period, usually a semester, divided by the number of courses or credits taken. See page 18 of the Academic Regulations for a fuller explanation.
- **Highly Recommended Course** is a course that would be beneficial to your learning and should be take either before or during your studies.
- **Prerequisite** is a course that you must complete with a satisfactory grade before enrolling in a subsequent course.
- A **Semester** is a portion of an academic year, during which an educational institution holds classes. Many people use the word 'term' interchangeably. We have three semesters per year. (Fall, Winter & Spring/Summer – see below)
*Note: not all programs use three (3) terms as part of their study schedule – most programs at YukonU use only the Fall & Winter term.
- **Recommended Sequencing Plan** shows a program's courses arranged according to year and semester (Fall, Winter, Spring) and are recommended to be taken in this order to complete a certificate, diploma or degree.
- **Fields of Study**
 - **Humanities** is the study of unique products of human culture and expression and include history, literature, language, philosophy, the visual arts, theatre, dance, and music.
 - **Social Science**, sometimes called the behavioural sciences, is the branch of academic study that looks at human activity in societies and seeks to understand the causes and consequences of social phenomena. Many social sciences have a social justice agenda in that they also seek to find and offer solutions to social problems. Social science disciplines include anthropology, criminology, economics, political science, sociology, psychology, and women and gender studies.
 - **Science** deal with the study of natural phenomena through observation, experimentation and use of scientific methods and include study in fields such as astronomy, biology, chemistry, mathematics, environmental sciences, and physics.
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- **Semester Starts and Ends**
 - Fall = Either Late August or early September through December
 - Winter = Early January through April (Sometimes into early May)
 - Spring/Summer = May through August

Note: Your program area determines terms/semester exact dates.

Program Planning Guide Revisions

Date Created	Date Revised	Section Revised
March 2020	Aug 2022	All, dates updated, email address updated.
	May 2023	All, updated to reflect program name change, required course changes, and admission requirement change
	May 2024	No changes