



Graduate Program Plans

Department of Biological Sciences

Western Illinois University



THESIS

NON-THESIS

I. Thesis Plan

A. Graduate Core: 9 s.h.

BIOL 501 Biometrics (3)
BIOL 502 Molecular Applications in Organismal Biology (3)
BIOL 503 Biosystematics and Evolution (3)

B. Electives: 13 s.h.

Any 400G- or 500-level BIOL, BOT, MICR, ZOOL or approved non-departmental or transfer courses. The maximum number of semester hours allowed from the following is: BIOL 570 Seminar (2), approved non-departmental graduate courses (6), and approved transfer courses (9)

At least half of total program hours must be 500- or 600-level courses.

C. Thesis Related Courses: 10 s.h.

BIOL 576 Survey of Literature (1)
BIOL 600 Thesis Research (A minimum of 6 s.h. are required. Additional hours may be required depending on the research project)
BIOL 601 Thesis (3) (only in your last semester, register only once)

TOTAL PROGRAM: 32 s.h.

D. File thesis proposal and complete coursework.
E. Complete independent research and thesis.
F. Attend all departmental seminars in your campus.
G. Present seminar on thesis.
H. Pass an oral examination on thesis, specialization in biology, and general areas of biology (cell/molecular, organismal, population/community).

II. Project Plan

A. Graduate Core: 9 s.h.

BIOL 501 Biometrics (3)
BIOL 502 Molecular Applications in Organismal Biology (3)
BIOL 503 Biosystematics and Evolution (3)

B. Electives: 18 s.h.

Any 400G- or 500-level BIOL, BOT, MICR, ZOOL or approved non-departmental or transfer courses. The maximum number of semester hours allowed from the following: BIOL 570 Seminar (2), approved non-departmental graduate courses (6), and approved transfer courses (9); BIOL 600, Thesis Research, and BIOL 601, Thesis, cannot be used.

At least half of total program hours must be 500- or 600-level courses.

C. Adv. Project Related Courses: 5 s.h.

BIOL 576 Survey of Literature (1)
BIOL 577 Research Problems (3)
BIOL 599 Non-Thesis Exit (1) (in your last semester, register only once)

TOTAL PROGRAM: 32 s.h.

D. File non-thesis project proposal and complete course work.
E. Complete advanced biological project.
F. Attend all departmental seminars in your campus.
G. Present a seminar on an advanced biological project.
H. Pass an oral examination on advanced biological project, specialization in biology, and general areas of biology (cell/molecular, organismal, population/community).

III. Coursework Plan

Graduate Core: 9 s.h.

BIOL 501 Biometrics (3)
BIOL 502 Molecular Applications in Organismal Biology (3)
BIOL 503 Biosystematics and Evolution (3)

B. Electives: 26 s.h.

Any 400G- or 500-level BIOL, BOT, MICR, ZOOL or approved non-departmental or transfer courses. The maximum number of semester hours allowed from the following: BIOL 570 Seminar (2), approved non-departmental graduate courses (6), and approved transfer courses (9); BIOL 600, Thesis Research, and BIOL 601, Thesis, cannot be used.

At least half of total program hours must be 500- or 600-level courses.

C. Coursework Related Course: 1 s.h.

BIOL 599 Non-Thesis Exit (1) (in your last semester, register only once)

TOTAL PROGRAM: 36 s.h.

D. Complete course work.
E. Attend all departmental seminars in your campus.
F. Pass an oral examination on specialization in biology and general areas of biology (cell/molecular, organismal, population/community).