



Sample Transfer Plan

Area of Focus: *Biological Sciences*

Associate in Science (AS) transfer degree

This Sample Transfer Plan is for students intending to major in Biology after transfer, but who have not selected a transfer institution. Students who have a specific transfer school in mind should work with BHC and transfer school advisors to ensure the transfer school's requirements are met.

Biology, the science of living matter, is a broadly-based discipline that encompasses a variety of subjects ranging from medicine to ecology. It involves the study of the structure of evolutionary development and functions of plants, animals, and microorganisms. Advances in the understanding of living systems impact almost every aspect of modern life from food to biofuel to medicine. Biological applications are integral to modern society and further advances will be necessary to address the challenges that the future presents. Graduates of baccalaureate programs in Biology may find careers as agriculture and food scientists, microbiologists, biological technicians, natural science managers, conservation and environmental scientists, zoologists and wild life managers, or science educators. The study of Biology also provides a solid foundation for advanced study in pre-professional programs such as medicine, dentistry, physical therapy, or veterinary studies.

The Associate in Science is suitable for students who need to complete additional math and science courses before transferring. The AS degree accommodates sequenced coursework in these subjects, for example: General Biology I and II, or General Chemistry I and II. **Transfer schools differ in their acceptance of AS degrees, including the possible need for additional general education courses after transfer. If the transfer school does not accept the AS, courses can be earned through the Associate in Arts degree instead.**

General Education Recommendations:		minimum 37 credits
This section partially completes the Illinois Articulation Initiative General Education Core Curriculum (IAI GECC) , a package of courses meeting general education requirements at more than 100 participating Illinois colleges and universities. Completion of the IAI GECC requires one more Social & Behavioral Science course, and one more Humanities or Fine Arts course than the AS requires.		
Communication (9 credits) – all courses required ENG 101 Composition I (3) – <i>grade 'C' or better required</i> ENG 102 Composition II (3) – <i>grade 'C' or better required</i> SPEC 101 Principles of Speech Communication (3)		Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 credits) <i>Must include courses from two disciplines</i> Choose two IAI: S courses (3 each)
Humanities (3 credits) Humanities – choose one IAI: H or HF course (3) <i>suggested: PHIL 103 Ethics or PHIL 101 Introduction to Philosophy</i> Fine Arts (3 credits) Choose one IAI: F or HF course (3)		Mathematics (6 credits) - 3 credits must be IAI <u>GECC</u> approved Choose one IAI: M course (3 min.) MATH 124 Calculus I with Analytic Geometry (4) Choose one additional Mathematics course MATH 108 Statistics for General Education (3) or MATH 228 Probability and Statistics (3) or MATH 225 Calculus II with Analytic Geometry (4)
Physical & Life Sciences (10 credits min., including one IAI <u>GECC</u> lab course) - 7 credits must be IAI <u>GECC</u> approved Physical Science – CHEM 101 General Chemistry I (4) Life Sciences – BIOL 105 General Biology I (5) and BIOL 106 General Biology II (5)		

Elective Recommendations:		up to 23 credits
This section includes courses appropriate for this area of focus. Because transfer institutions vary in their acceptance of coursework, see Course Transfer Tables and Transferology or an advisor. IAI courses are identified with an asterisk *. Seek advising about other elective courses that may support your reasons for choosing this area of focus.		
Required Elective CHEM 102 General Chemistry II (4)* Other Electives CHEM 203 Organic Chemistry I (5)* and CHEM 204 Organic Chemistry II (5)* PHYS 101 College Physics I (5)* and PHYS 102 College Physics II (5)		Second Language: Consider potential second language admission and/or graduation requirements of transfer schools, which may be satisfied with high school and/or college courses. Consult an advisor. Note about the AA degree: Students who plan to graduate with the AA degree instead of the AS should consult with an advisor and the transfer school about whether CHEM 204 and/or the additional Math course should be taken before transfer.

BHC develops Sample Transfer Plans as a service to students. Final responsibility for verifying all graduation and transfer requirements rests with the student. PLAN CREATED February 10, 2018; update Aug. 8, 2025.

60 total credits required for AS degree (General Education + Electives)

Non-Western studies graduation requirement. To graduate with the AS degree, include at least one non-Western studies course. The course can simultaneously fulfill a general education requirement in Humanities, Fine Arts, or Social & Behavioral Science, or be taken as an elective. Choose from ANTH 100 or 102; ART 285 or 286; ENG 217, 218 or 219; HIST 115, 116, 222, 141, 142 or 151; HUM 102; IS 200; or MUSC 158.

Learn More About This Area of Focus:

- Get to know [Black Hawk College Career Services](#) Phone: 309-796-5626
- Visit [Career Coach](#) to Browse Careers. Includes job data and open positions for the greater Quad City region and beyond.
- Browse careers at [Collegegrad.com/careers](#) [O*Net OnLine](#) [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#) [Occupational Profiles](#)
- For additional information visit: [American Institute of Biological Sciences](#)

Course Transferability:

- Course and transfer requirements can vary among institutions and may differ from the recommendations on this guide. Grades of 'C' or better may be required for a course to transfer, especially courses intended for the major.
- **Students are advised to select a transfer school as soon as possible, typically before completing 30 college-level credits.**

Where to transfer?

Explore transfer colleges and universities and their majors:

Explore Colleges & Universities https://www.bhc.edu/academics/transfer-planning/explore-colleges-universities/ https://www.bhc.edu/academics/transfer-programs/guides-and-agreements/	Illinois Institutional Profiles https://illinoispostsecondaryprofiles.com/	College Navigator https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/
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Degree Timeframe:

- Students who complete an average of 15 college-level credits in four consecutive fall and spring semesters could complete the degree in two years. Students determine their own pace and progress and should consider their work and personal commitments, course difficulty, course pre-requisites, and possible need for additional courses determined by placement assessments. Advisors are available to discuss credit load and schedules appropriate for student goals and circumstances.
- Students transferring before completing the associate degree should discuss [Reverse Transfer](#) with their BHC advisor. Black Hawk College will evaluate your college or university work to determine if those credits will fulfill the remaining requirements of the associate's degree.

Advising Notes:

- See the current [BHC Catalog](#) for all IAI course codes, course descriptions, pre-requisite information, and complete graduation requirements to earn the degree. The area of focus is not stated on student transcripts.
- This guide is not a substitute for advising. All students are encouraged to connect with their assigned BHC advisor each semester.

Semester	Meet with BHC advisor	Registration begins
Summer and Fall	February or March	1 st Tuesday in April
Spring & minimester	September or October	1 st Tuesday in November

BHC Contacts

QC Campus Advising / Moline, IL Building 1, Advising Center 309-796-5100 Email advqc@bhc.edu	East Campus Advising / Galva, IL Building A, Room 246 309-854-1709	Natural Sciences and Engineering Department
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