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## TWO DEGREES, ONE PATH

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### TRANSFER PATHWAY GUIDE 2025-2026

Associate in Science to  
Bachelor of Arts in Biological Sciences (General Biology Track)

#### ***Overview***

Completion of the following curriculum will satisfy the requirements for the Associate in Science (AS) at a Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) institution and leads to the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Biological Sciences (General Biology Track) at Northern Kentucky University (NKU).

#### ***Applying to the KCTCS2NKU Program***

Students can apply to participate in the pathway program by completing the online application on the NKU transfer webpage. Students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours at a KCTCS institution, enrolled in an associate degree program, plan to transfer to NKU, and maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA at their KCTCS institution.

#### ***Degree Requirements for KCTCS***

1) Completion of minimum 60 credit hours, 2) minimum cumulative GPA 2.0, 3) minimum of 15 credit hours earned at the institution awarding the degree, 4) demonstration of digital literacy, and 5) college success requirement.

#### ***Admission Requirements to NKU***

Students completing an associate degree with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher will be accepted into NKU.

#### ***Degree Requirements for NKU***

To earn a bachelor's degree at NKU, students must complete a minimum of 120 credit hours with at least 45 credit hours numbered 300 and above. In addition, at least 25% of the credit hours required for the degree and the last 30 credit hours must be completed at NKU. Students must have an overall GPA of 2.0 and meet all prerequisites for courses and requirements for the major.

Students pursuing a degree in the biological sciences may do so by choosing one of six different tracks. These tracks allow the individual student to place an emphasis on areas of biology that he or she finds of interest. However, the faculty of the department feel very strongly that each student completing a degree in biology must have a solid foundation in the discipline. Therefore, there is a core of courses required of all biological science majors. A grade of C- or better must be earned in all biology courses that count toward completion of major requirements. The department has also identified a common core of support courses that must be completed with a C- or better by all biological science majors. Details concerning the biology core, support core, and the General Biology track follow. A biological sciences major does not require a secondary area of study (e.g. minor or focus).

Students wishing to be certified to teach biology at the secondary level should complete the B.A. General Biology Track in conjunction with a B.A. Secondary Education. Students should review the section of the catalog describing the B.A. Secondary Education track within the Department of Teacher Education.

Prior to graduation, all students majoring in biology are required to pass a comprehensive exam. This examination is designed to verify that the graduating student has at least a basic knowledge of the broad area of the biological sciences. Students will complete this requirement by registering for "BIO 491 Comprehensive Examination (0 credits)" during the senior year. Those who fail the exam will not be allowed to graduate until the exam is passed.

### ***General Transfer Information***

Students must complete the online application to NKU. There is no application fee for students who are transferring from a KCTCS institution.

**KCTCS Scholars Award:** Students who are KY residents transferring directly from a KCTCS institution with at least 36 hours from that institution and minimum GPA of 3.0, were never enrolled as a degree-seeking student at NKU, and will be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours both fall and spring semester are eligible for a limited number of \$2,500 annual scholarships (\$1,250 per fall and spring). Students must gain admission to NKU by June 15 for fall and November 1 for spring to be eligible for a possible scholarship. Online accelerated programs are not eligible for the KCTCS Scholars Award.

**KCTCS AA TO NKU BA IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES CHECKLIST**  
**Kentucky Community and Technical College System Institution**

**Category 1: KCTCS General Education Core Requirements**

KCTCS Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
ENG 101	Writing I (WC)	3	ENG 101	
ENG 102	Writing II (WC)	3	ENG 102	
TBS XXX	Oral Communication (OC)	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities Course (AH) – Heritage	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities Course (AH) – Humanities	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Social & Behavioral Sciences Course (SB)	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Social & Behavioral Sciences Course (SB)	3	TBD XXX	
BIO 114/115 or BIO 150/151 or BIO 148U/155U	Biology I with Lab (SL) or Principles of Biology I with Lab (SL) or Introductory Biology I with Lab	4-5	BIO 150/150L	
CHE 170/175	General College Chemistry I with Lab (SL)	5	CHE 120/120L	
MAT 150	College Algebra (QR)	3	(MAT 102 or MAT 103) + MAT 100T	
STA 220	Statistics (QR)	3	STA 205	
	<b>Subtotal General Education Core Courses</b>	<b>36-37</b>		

TBS XXX means to be selected by KCTCS student.

TBD XXX means to be determined by NKU based on course selected.

For Social and Behavioral Sciences courses, two disciplines must be represented and different from those in the Arts and Humanities category.

MAT 151 or STA 151 or MAT 161 in addition to STA 251 can be substituted for STA 220.

MAT 150 is a prerequisite for PHY 201 and PHY 203. A grade of A or B in MAT 150 equates to MAT 103 + MAT 100T at NKU. A grade of C or D in MAT 150 equates to MAT 102 + MAT 100T.

**Category 2: KCTCS AS Requirements**

KCTCS Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
BIO 116/117 or BIO 152/153	Biology II with Lab (SL)	4-5	BIO 151/151L	
CHE 180/185	General College Chemistry II with Lab (SL)	5	CHE 121/121L	
	<b>Subtotal AS Requirement Courses</b>	<b>9-10</b>		

**Category 3: KCTCS Electives**

KCTCS Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
	First-Year College Success Course/Experience	0-3		
CIT 105 or OST 105	Introduction to Computers or Intro to Information Systems	3	BIS 101	
PHY 201/202	General College Physics I with Lab (SL)	5	PHY 211	
PHY 203/204	General College Physics II with Lab (SL)	5	PHY 213	
	<b>Subtotal Elective Courses</b>	<b>13-16</b>		
	<b>Total Associate Degree Hours</b>	<b>60-63</b>		

**Northern Kentucky University**
**Category 4: NKU Major Requirements for the BA in Biological Sciences (General Biology Track)**

NKU Course	Course	Credits	KCTCS Course	Taken at KCTCS
BIO 150/150L	Introduction to Biology I with Lab	4	BIO 114/115 BIO 150/151 BIO 148U/155U	x
BIO 151/151L	Introduction to Biology II with Lab	4	BIO 116/117 or BIO 152/153	x
BIO 155	Orientation to Biology	1		
BIO 291W	Advanced Writing in Biology	3		
BIO 304/304L	General Ecology with Lab	4		
BIO 349/349L	Genetics with Lab	4		
BIO 458	Evolution of Organisms	3		
BIO 491	Comprehensive Examination	0		
CHE 120/120L	General Chemistry I with Lab	4	CHE 170/175	x
CHE 121/121L	General Chemistry II with Lab	4	CHE 180/185	x
PHY 211/213 or PHY 220/222	General Physics with Lab I and II or University Physics with Lab I and II	8	PHY 201/202 and PHY 203/204	x
STA 205	Statistical Methods	3	STA 220	x
TBS XXX	Foreign language at the 102 or higher level. Can be met by a two-course sequence, CLEP or AP exam equivalency.	0-6	SPA 101 & SPA 102 or FRE 101 & FRE 102, or GER 101 & GER 102 or RAE 101 and RAE 102 or JPN 101 and JPN	

NKU Course	Course	Credits	KCTCS Course	Taken at KCTCS
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			102 or SED 101 and SED 102	
TBS XXX	One course from the cellular/molecular/genetics group	3-4		
TBS XXX	One course from the ecology/evolution/organismal group	3-4		
TBS XXX	Select four additional courses from the CMG, EEO, or general elective groups. Students may take electives from across these different groups. At least one of the 6 total elective courses must have a lab component.	12-16		
CHE 310/310L	Organic Chemistry I with Lab	4	CHE 270/275	
	<b>Subtotal Major Credit Hours at NKU</b>	<b>37-49</b>		
	<b>Subtotal Major Credit Hours at KCTCS</b>	<b>27</b>		
	<b>Total Major Credit Hours</b>	<b>64-76</b>		

#### Category 5: Additional Requirements at NKU

NKU Course	Course	Credits	KCTCS Course	Taken at KCTCS
	<b>Subtotal Elective (300/400 level) Hours</b>	<b>8-23</b>		
	<b>Total Baccalaureate Degree Credit Hours</b>	<b>120</b>		

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