# Bachelor of Science – Biological Sciences Major – Geoscience Minor

## Four Year (120 credits)

**2025/2026** [Program Requirements](https://www.athabascau.ca/calendar/2025/undergraduate/program-regulations/degrees/bachelor-of-science-biological-science-major.html) **-** Effective September 1, 2025

This program plan will assist you in planning your program. You must follow the official program requirements for the calendar year in which you are enrolled.  
  
Please contact [FST Student Success Centre](http://scis.athabascau.ca/contact-us/index.php) for program planning assistance.

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| **Course Level Legend** JUNIOR / JR - 200 numbered course SENIOR / SR - 300 or 400 numbered course PREPARATORY - 100 numbered course | **Course Progress Legend** TR - Transfer Credit Awarded C - Completed AU Course IP - In Progress AU Course |

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| **LEVEL** | **TOTAL CREDITS** | **COURSE** | **REQUIREMENT** | **COURSE  PROGRESS** | **COMMENTS** |
| Junior | 3 | [ENGL255](http://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/engl/engl255.php) | Required Core  English Writing Requirement |  | [Humanities](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/humanities/all/) – ENGL255 is strongly recommended, can choose a different ENGL course as long as a minimum grade of B- is achieved |
| Junior | 6 | [MATH215](http://www.athabascau.ca/html/syllabi/math/math215.htm) or [MATH216](http://www.athabascau.ca/html/syllabi/math/math216.htm) | Required Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Junior | 9 | [MATH265](http://www.athabascau.ca/html/syllabi/math/math265.htm) | Required Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Junior | 12 | [COMP210](http://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/comp/comp210.php) or [COMP200](http://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/comp/comp200.php) | Required Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – if you plan to take more COMP courses we recommend COMP200. |
| Junior | 15 | [BIOL204](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol204.html) | Major Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – Lab Component |
| Junior | 18 | [BIOL207](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol207.html) | Major Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – Lab Component |
| Junior | 21 | [BIOL230](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol230.html) or [BIOL235](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol235.html) | Major Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Junior | 27 | [HLST200](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/hlst/hlst200.html) | Major Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Junior | 30 | [GEOL200](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/geol/geol200.html) | Minor Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Junior | 33 | [GEOL201](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/geol/geol201.html) | Minor Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Junior | 36 | [GEOG265](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/geog/geog265.html) | Minor Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – Replace GEOG265 with [ENSC200](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/ensc/ensc200.html) |
| Junior | 39 | [GEOG266](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/geog/geog266.html) | Minor Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – Replace GEOG266 with [GEOL207](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/geol/geol207.html) |
| Jr/Sr | 42 | [GEOL](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/geology/) or [GEOG](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/geography/), or [ENSC](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/environmental-science/) | Minor Elective |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – See Notes Below |
| Jr/Sr | 45 | [GEOL](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/geology/) or [GEOG](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/geography/), or [ENSC](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/environmental-science/) | Minor Elective |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – See Notes Below |
| Jr/Sr | 48 |  | Option |  | [Social Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/social-science/all/) |
| Senior | 51 | [PHIL333](http://www.athabascau.ca/html/syllabi/phil/phil333.htm) or [PHIL371](http://www.athabascau.ca/html/syllabi/phil/phil371.htm) | Required Core |  | [Humanities](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/humanities/all/) |
| Senior | 54 | [SCIE326](http://www.athabascau.ca/html/syllabi/scie/scie326.htm) | Required Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Senior | 57 | [BIOL341](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol341.html) | Major Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Senior | 60 | [BIOL401](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol401.html) | Major Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Senior | 63 |  | Major Elective |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – see list below |
| Senior | 66 |  | Major Elective |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – see list below |
| Senior | 69 |  | Major Elective |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – see list below |
| Senior | 72 |  | Major Elective |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – see list below |
| Senior | 75 |  | Major Elective |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – see list below |
| Senior | 78 |  | Major Elective |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – Lab Component – see list below |
| Senior | 81 |  | Major Elective |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – Lab Component – see list below |
| Senior | 84 |  | Option |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Senior | 87 | [GEOL](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/geology/) or [GEOG](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/geography/), or [ENSC](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/environmental-science/) | Minor Elective |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – See Notes Below |
| Senior | 90 | [GEOL](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/geology/) or [GEOG](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/geography/), or [ENSC](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/environmental-science/) | Minor Elective |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – See Notes Below |
| Senior | 93 |  | Option |  | [Social Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/social-science/all/) |
| Senior | 96 |  | Option |  | [Any Area of Study](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/all/all/) |
| Senior | 99 |  | Option |  | [Any Area of Study](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/all/all/) |
| Senior | 102 |  | Option |  | [Any Area of Study](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/all/all/) |
| Senior | 105 |  | Option |  | [Any Area of Study](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/all/all/) |
| Senior | 108 |  | Option |  | [Any Area of Study](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/all/all/) |
| Senior | 111 | [SCIE480](http://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/scie/scie480.php) or [COMP494](http://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/comp/comp494.php) | Required Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Senior | 114 |  | 400 Level Option |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Senior | 117 |  | 400 Level Option |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) |
| Senior | 120 | [ASTR495](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/astr/astr495.html) or [BIOL495](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol495.html) or [CHEM495](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/chem/chem495.html) or [ENSC495](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/ensc/ensc495.html) or [GEOG495](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/geog/geog495.html) or [GEOL495](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/geol/geol495.html) or [NUTR495](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/nutr/nutr495.html) or [PHYS495](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/phys/phys495.html) or [SCIE495](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/scie/scie495.html) | Major Core |  | [Science](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/all/) – Recommended for this to be your last course or in your last group of courses |

**Overall Program Requirements**

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| **Minimums** |
| 30 credits – Residency requirement (courses through AU) |
| 15 credits – Residency requirement in the major (courses through AU) |
| 9 credits – Residency Requirement in the minor (courses through AU) |
| 72 credits – **Senior** (300/400) level |
| 45 credits – **Senior** (300/400) level **Science** |
| 15 credits – **Senior Science credits at the 400 level** |
| 6 credits – In Social Science |
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| **Maximums** |
| 75 credits – In **any one Science discipline** |
| 12 credits – Amount of senior project credits (495/496) |
| 6 credits – At the preparatory (100) level |
| 30 credits – Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) |

**Biological Sciences Major Electives** – Students must complete a minimum of 21 credits selected from the list of courses below. All 21 credits must be at the senior (300 or higher) level. A minimum of 6 credits must include science lab components.

[BIOL310](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol310.html), [BIOL320](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol320.html) (lab component), [BIOL325](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol325.html) (lab component), [BIOL345](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol345.html) (lab component), [BIOL480](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol480.html) (lab component), [BIOL495](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol495.html), [BIOL496](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/biol/biol496.html), [CHEM301](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/chem/chem301.html), [CHEM350](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/chem/chem350.html) (lab component), [CHEM360](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/chem/chem360.html) (lab component), [CHEM495](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/chem/chem495.html), [CHEM496](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/chem/chem496.html), [HLST301](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/hlst/hlst301.html), [NUTR330](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/nutr/nutr330.html) or [NUTR331](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/nutr/nutr331.html), [NUTR405](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/nutr/nutr405.html), [NUTR406](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/nutr/nutr406.html), [NUTR495](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/nutr/nutr495.html), [NUTR496](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/nutr/nutr496.html), [PSYC302](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/psyc/psyc302.html), [PSYC355](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/psyc/psyc355.html)

**Recommended Options** - As the following courses are pre-requisites to some electives, they are recommended options for students in the Biological Sciences major:

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| [CHEM217](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/chem/chem217.html) (lab component), [CHEM218](https://www.athabascau.ca/syllabi/chem/chem218.html) (lab component) |

**Geoscience Minor Electives** – Students must complete a minimum of 12 credits from the following disciplines:

- Geology ([GEOL](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/geology/))  
- Geography ([GEOG](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/geography/))  
- Geophysics \*  
- Environmental Science ([ENSC](https://www.athabascau.ca/course/index.html?/undergraduate/science/environmental-science/))

A minimum of 6 credits must be at the senior (300 or higher) level. Courses which are easily demonstrated to have closely-related science content (e.g. CHEM350) may be considered towards the credit requirements.

\*Note: AU does not currently offer Geophysics courses, but may accept external courses as transfer credit to be used towards the Geoscience electives.