



Welcome to the September issue, and welcome back to the community of Biology in person! We trust that you are staying healthy, settled in, and ready to pursue more endeavours this year.

This month's newsletter highlights some important program reminders. It is best to consider or adjust your program at this stage of the academic year to meet the needed requirements, especially after a hectic course selection period. Please feel free to contact us (Rachel Batson or Ken Ko) for advice and help.

This issue also marks the start of this year's career-building opportunities, such as fellowships and research awards. Check them out and ready your submissions for these lucrative endeavours!



### **Planning considerations for the 2021-2022 academic year**

This academic year is for sure like no other with many challenges and uncertainties for all. Now that registration is "beginning to settle" and attention turned onto courses, it is prudent to take a moment to assess your program. After the first week of classes, you should have a better sense of your courses and the adjustments needed to maximize your academic performance in your program of choice. Aspects to reflect on would be course workload and the balance between core and interest. Many upper-year courses can be scheduled flexibly between third and fourth year.



---

### Join the BISC this Year!

Looking to get out and add a more worldly perspective to your studies? A term at the Bader International Study Centre (BISC), Queen's UK Castle campus, is the opportunity for you!



Enjoy the BISC's small class sizes, close contact with professors, research opportunities, and experiential learning in the BISC's [Winter General or Castle Summer+ program](#).

Looking for engaging electives? The BISC's online courses **BISC 100/3.0 Thinking Locally (Fall) & BISC 101/3.0 Acting Globally (Winter)** tie into a number of degree plans and examine global issues from national and international perspectives. Interested? [Get a sneak peek at BISC 100 & 101 here](#).

[Applications are open now](#) for the BISC's Winter and Summer 2022 programs! For BISC 100 and BISC 101 online, change the course career to "Undergraduate Online" and select "BISC First Year

Program” as the course subject when searching online BISC courses on SOLUS, no application is required. [Learn More](#)

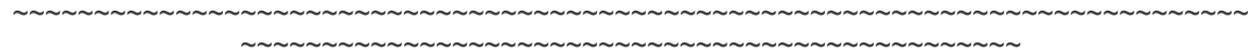
If you have questions about the Castle or the application process, contact [castle@queensu.ca](mailto:castle@queensu.ca).

**Brochures for:**

[Winter Term at the Castle](#)

[Health Studies at the Castle](#)

[Psychology at the Castle](#)



**Wondering about how many courses you can take from other Faculties and Schools towards your degree plan/program?**

A maximum of 6.0 units from courses offered by other Faculties and Schools may be counted towards the Program and/or Plan requirements of any degree in the Faculty of Arts and Science, in addition to any such courses allowed as either Core or Option course requirements.

The courses listed in the document below are approved for students in the Faculty of Arts and Science.

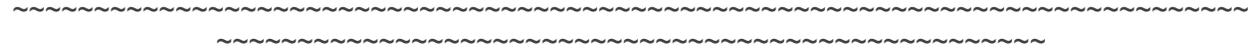
<https://www.queensu.ca/artsci/students-at-queens/academic-calendar#section-courses-of-instruction>



**REMINDERS!**

**Not sure if you have picked up the right courses for your degree plan?**

It is important that you check your degree plan/program requirements before the September add/drop date (Sept. 20) to ensure you are on target. Please review your degree plan/program requirements using SOLUS. This is a great tool and will help keep you on track.



***Biology Degree Plans***

*Review your degree plan requirements and make sure you are selecting courses you need. Degree plan requirements can be found at: <https://www.queensu.ca/artsci/undergrad-students/academic-calendar>*

**Biological Foundations List - IMPORTANT!**

*It is very important to keep this GPA requirement in mind throughout your program, starting with first year. To be admitted to 400 and 500 level Biology courses, you will need a minimum GPA of 2.0 in any previously taken courses from Biological Foundations list.*

*The Biological Foundations List is BIOL 102, 103, 200, 212, (201, 202), 205, 206, 300, 330, 334, 339, & 341 (302, 303).*

*To be admitted to BIOL 400 and 500 level Biology courses you will need a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 in any previously taken courses from this list.*



**Summer 2022 Research Award Opportunity**

NSERC Undergraduate Summer Research Awards (USRA): Canada's Natural Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) underwrites these prestigious awards to stimulate student interest in research and to help cultivate tomorrow's scientists. USRAs involve independent research and are taken up in NSERC-funded laboratories. The awarding of USRAs is carried out internally through Queen's Biology. The 2021-22 application forms and details are available through [Awards and Opportunities](#).

The award is \$6000.00 plus a minimum supervisor top-up of 14.25/hour plus required fringe benefits (vacation pay is included).

**Terms:**

- Students must work 16 consecutive weeks (35 hours per week).
- Students are not permitted to do thesis research while holding an award.
- Students are not permitted to take courses during working hours throughout the term of their award.

**Eligibility:**

- Must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada.
- Must be registered in an honours degree program in BIOL at the time of application and must be in at least year 2 of study.
- Must have obtained at least a "B" (or B-) (65-79%) average in their previous years of study.

- If you are registered in health sciences (M.D., D.D.S., and B.Sc.N.) or have a higher degree in the natural sciences or engineering you are NOT eligible. Graduating BIOL students are eligible providing they have not started a program of graduate studies.

---

---

### **Need help with your studies?**

Please visit Student Academic Success Services (SASS) at <http://sass.queensu.ca/>. SASS offers academic support to students who wish to develop their skills in critical thinking, reading, learning, studying, writing, and self-management.

---

---

### **Wondering how to contact your course program associate regarding work associated with the lab component of core courses?**

BIOL 102: [biol102@queensu.ca](mailto:biol102@queensu.ca)

BIOL 103: [biol103@queensu.ca](mailto:biol103@queensu.ca)

BIOL 200: [biol200@queensu.ca](mailto:biol200@queensu.ca)

BIOL 205: [biol205@queensu.ca](mailto:biol205@queensu.ca)

BIOL 206: [biol206@queensu.ca](mailto:biol206@queensu.ca)

BIOL 212: [biol212@queensu.ca](mailto:biol212@queensu.ca)

BIOL 300: [biol300@queensu.ca](mailto:biol300@queensu.ca)

### **Important Links**



Updates on COVID-19: <https://www.queensu.ca/safereturn/>

### **Helpful Links**

[Information on Applying for a Course Prerequisite Waiver](#)

[Arts and Science Academic Deadlines](#)

[Arts and Science Calendar](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

### **QUBS Quick Links**

Website: <https://qubs.ca>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/QUBioStation>  
Twitter: [https://twitter.com/QUBS\\_Director](https://twitter.com/QUBS_Director)  
Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/qubsoutreach>  
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/QUBScam>

**Looking for a job?** [Quick Link](#)

**Looking for study and travel opportunities?** [Quick Link](#)

BIOLOGY Undergraduate Office  
Monday to Friday 9:30am – 12:00pm & 1:00pm – 3:00pm  
Rm. 3109d, BIOSC Complex  
[ug.biology@queensu.ca](mailto:ug.biology@queensu.ca)

## **Past Newsletter Issues**

[September 2020](#)

[October 2020](#)

[November 2020](#)

[December 2020](#)

[January 2021](#)

[February 2021](#)

[March 2021](#)

[April 2021](#)

[May 2021](#)

[June/July 2021](#)

[August 2021](#)