

**Undergraduate Newsletter  
Department of Biology  
April 2023 Issue**



On behalf of all in Biology, Rachel and Ken wish you the best for the April 2023 year-end period and beyond! The year-end period is undoubtedly a stressful time to finish up the year, so, as always, keep basic stressbusters in mind, especially this year - sleep well, eat well, manage your time appropriately, and talk to others via social media or the like. We are always here if you need to chat about various things. This includes planning your graduation and future endeavours!

We will also take this chance to wish the Class of 2023 all the best the world has to offer, despite the current situation! We will be following your successes and adventures for years to come, so please keep in touch and stay healthy.



We also advise all students to visit the [Faculty of Arts and Science](#) frequently. In particular, the [Important Dates](#) page with updates as information becomes available. Here you will find updates on deadlines, questions regarding summer courses, grades, plan selection etc. Please note this is also the website we use to help answer your questions.

## PLAN SELECTION 2023 for 1<sup>st</sup> Year Students



The plan selection period will open on SOLUS from [MONDAY, MAY 23 – FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2023](#). Check out the [Plan Selection](#) Page for details. Please do not hesitate to connect with us for further discussions.

### BIOL 404 - Summer 2023

BIOL 404 will be offered this coming summer. It will be offered twice, once in May and again in August. Don't forget to register. This course fills fast!

Please note that because these are two week courses the add/drop dates are different from full term summer offerings.

BIOL 404 – 001 → May 1<sup>st</sup> – May 12<sup>th</sup>, the last date to **add or drop the course is May 1<sup>st</sup> at mid-night.**  
BIOL 404 – 002 → August 14<sup>th</sup> - August 25<sup>th</sup>, the last date to **add or drop the course is August 14<sup>th</sup> at mid-night.**

Course details can be found @ <https://130.15.90.125/BioLab/biol404-2023.html>

### BIOL 404/3.0      Techniques in Molecular Biology

Intensive laboratory work (8h/day) to be carried out over two and a half weeks in May. Practical work includes DNA isolations, DNA cloning, PCR, production of proteins, biochemical and immunological analysis of proteins. NOTE Priority to students registered in BIOL Major and Specialization degree Plans. See course website for details.

LEARNING HOURS 112.5 (100Lb;12.5P)

PREREQUISITE (BCHM 218/3.0 or BIOL 330/3.0) and a minimum GPA of 2.0 in the Biological Foundations List.

**Are you going into 4<sup>th</sup> year 2023-2024 – here are a few reminders!**

### BIOL 537

Although the first main deadline of March 20<sup>th</sup> has passed, you can still explore [BIOL537 opportunities](#) until the last day to add in [September 2023](#).

Faculty will be submitting offers to Rachel (UG assistant) on **April 4<sup>th</sup>**. This offers list will be posted on the [website](#) between **April 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>**. At this point, students are expected to email Rachel (UG assistant) to accept their offer.

### BIOL 500 Seminar Courses

The 5XX seminar course offerings for next year are **now available!** The [application](#) is now up and ready for you to fill out and for submission by **May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

## More Undergraduate Research Opportunities Through the Research Mentorship Courses BIOL538/539/540

Biology 538 (3.0), 539 (3.0) and 540 (6.0) offer individual students the opportunity to undertake a laboratory research practicum under the supervision of a Biology faculty member. In addition to work in the host lab, students typically participate in specialized seminar series or lab-specific journal clubs and conduct research towards both a major paper and a seminar. These mentorships offer flexibility to accommodate both students and faculty. Further details are available at this link.

[Research Mentorship - Queen's Biology Department \(queensu.ca\)](https://www.queensu.ca/biol/mentorship/)



*With final assignments due and exams around the corner, this time of year can be stressful. Don't worry, Bader College is here to help you relax and take a break from your studies! Drop by Gordon Hall's Welcome Centre (2nd Floor) on **April 11 between 1:30PM – 3:30PM** for [our Bader College Study Break](#). Join us for a warm beverage and a snack, learn about Queen's Castle campus, and take a minute to breathe before you get back to your studies.*

*Thinking about studying abroad for the Fall*

*2023 term or Winter 2024 term? Spots are filling up fast in Bader College's [Fall and Winter Programs for next year](#). Fall 2023 applications are due by July 1, and Winter term applications are due on November 15 – [make sure to apply](#) and reserve your spot today!*

*See you at the Bader College Study Break! Have questions about Queen's Castle? Send them our way at [castle@queensu.ca](mailto:castle@queensu.ca).*

**Did you know? ...** In order to encourage students to explore subject matter outside their program of study and to promote interdisciplinary study, all upper-year Arts and Science students will be permitted to designate up to 6.0 units of degree-credit courses for pass/fail grading, thereby minimizing any risk to the students' GPA. Such courses designated for pass/fail grading will be referred to as **Personal Interest Credits (PICs)**.

<https://www.queensu.ca/artsci/students-at-queens/the-personal-interest-credit>

### **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.

All course codes listed in section 7 of the Academic Programs page are Faculty of Arts and Science courses.

<https://www.queensu.ca/academic-calendar/arts-science/academic-programs/>

### **What is the "APR"?**

The APR is the Academic Progress Report. It is a handy tool that reviews your degree requirements, track plan progression, and it tells you what you have satisfied and what you still need to complete for your core degree plan requirements. Click here to Run an APR: <https://www.queensu.ca/artsci/undergrad-students/academic-requirements-reports-in-solus>. Students are expected to run their APR both prior to and after registration. The APR will help to flag potential concerns with respect to your registration and degree requirements.

**Course Mapping Worksheet!** This worksheet will help you set up a detailed road map for your courses so you can stay on track to meet your degree requirements.

### **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.

### **Do you need to find a place to study on Campus?**

Check out this PDF layout of study spaces in the [Biosciences complex!](#)

### **Looking for a job?**

Wondering about career options or maybe considering Graduate School...then you need to visit: <https://careers.queensu.ca/students>

### **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)

### **REMINDERS!**

#### ***Biology Degree Plans***

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

#### ***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, and 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.*

### **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  
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