COURSE SELECTION

FRESHMAN

- Gateway courses: BIOL 1020/1021, BIOL 1030/1031, CHEM 1030/1031, CHEM 1040/1041
- Enroll in the Conservation Biology Learning Community course
- Finish core requirements and foundation science courses
- Build breadth and depth in biology with junior year courses, focus on Organismal and Functional courses
- Plan ahead to be sure courses are offered during the semester you want to take them (long range schedules are on the COSAM website)
- In preparation for graduation next year, get a Credit Check with your COSAM academic advisor
- Consult with your faculty advisor to select electives that best fit your career or graduate school goals
- BIOL 4950: Senior Seminar should be taken during your senior year
- If planning on Graduate School, take GRE in Fall

SOPHOMORE

- Meet with your academic advisor early to familiarize yourself with courses and prerequisites and to discuss undergraduate research opportunities
- Academic Support provides several free resources to improve performance including Study Partners, Supplemental Instruction and academic coaching (auburn.edu/academicsupport)
- Discuss research opportunities with your academic advisor.
- Plan to meet with your faculty advisor to discuss graduate school options and the application process, and/or meet with someone in the Career Center to explore career options in Fall
- Consult with your faculty advisor to select electives that best fit your career or graduate school goals
- BIOL 4950: Senior Seminar should be taken during your senior year
- If planning on Graduate School, take GRE in Fall

JUNIOR

- Meet with your academic advisor to discuss graduate school options and the application process, and/or meet with someone in the Career Center to explore career options in Fall
- Work with the University Career Center (UCC) to update your CV
- Ask about internships at Natural Heritage Programs, Zoos, Botanical Gardens, etc.
- Apply early to graduate schools for the best chances at an assistantship.

SENIOR

- Seek opportunities to volunteer in a faculty research lab or with the AU Museum of Natural History
- Attend departmental research seminars
- Use Handshake to explore employers actively hiring in your field and search part-time jobs that can add experience to your resume.
- Investigate internship opportunities, especially during the summer of Sophomore and Junior years
- Begin to pursue undergraduate research opportunities in the Department
- Credit for internships can be earned via BIOL 4920 (Internship in Biology)
- Conduct undergraduate research. Examine research funding like Biological Sciences Funds For Excellence Program, COSAM’s Undergraduate Research Fellowships.
- Consider an Undergraduate Thesis Fellowship.
- Present research in Research Week
- Attend national or local research meetings
- Attend lab meetings in your research lab
- Prepare thesis (if in thesis option)

ASK FOR ASSISTANCE

- Meet with your academic advisor early to familiarize yourself with courses and prerequisites and to discuss undergraduate research opportunities
- Academic Support provides several free resources to improve performance including Study Partners, Supplemental Instruction and academic coaching (auburn.edu/academicsupport)
- Discuss research opportunities with your academic advisor.
- Plan to meet with your faculty advisor to discuss graduate school options and the application process, and/or meet with someone in the Career Center to explore career options in Fall
- Consult with your faculty advisor to select electives that best fit your career or graduate school goals
- BIOL 4950: Senior Seminar should be taken during your senior year
- If planning on Graduate School, take GRE in Fall

GAIN EXPERIENCE

- Seek opportunities to volunteer in a faculty research lab or with the AU Museum of Natural History
- Attend departmental research seminars
- Use Handshake to explore employers actively hiring in your field and search part-time jobs that can add experience to your resume.
- Investigate internship opportunities, especially during the summer of Sophomore and Junior years
- Begin to pursue undergraduate research opportunities in the Department
- Credit for internships can be earned via BIOL 4920 (Internship in Biology)
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- Prepare thesis (if in thesis option)

GET INVOLVED

- Join the AU Society for Conservation Biology (SCB)
- Get involved with Earth Day (April 22)
- Join the Auburn University Department of Biological Sciences Facebook page for information on department activities
- Continue gaining experience with SCB or other campus organizations
- If you meet the requirements, consider joining Beta Beta Beta, the National Biological Honor Society
- Investigate potential Graduate Programs
- Become an undergraduate teaching assistant
- Pursue leadership roles in student organizations in which you participate
- Look for appropriate training workshops
- Become an undergraduate teaching assistant

The program is designed to provide students with a solid foundation in biology. This program focuses on conservation and provides a strong preparation for further study in graduate programs or in professional schools, including medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine and other allied health fields.

For more career options be sure to check out “What Can I Do With a Major In...” on auburn.edu/career.

Forester
- Minimum Education: B.S.
- Entry Level Salary Range: $34.2K - $53.8K
- These are just three options out of many that organismal biology majors pursue. For more career options be sure to check out “What Can I Do With a Major In...” on auburn.edu/career.