

Utrecht University, Netherlands

Academic Plan for Junior Year for Biological Sciences and Cell and Developmental Biology Majors



Utrecht University, founded in 1636, is the largest university in the Netherlands with over 30,000 students, and is rated as the best university in the Netherlands by the Shanghai Ranking of World Universities 2013, ranked as the 13th best European university, and the 52nd best university of the world.

The Biomedical Sciences bachelor's degree program at Utrecht University draws from the Faculties of Medicine and Veterinary Science, and the Departments of Pharmaceutical Science, Chemistry and Biology. The current program has approximately 410 bachelor's students.

For full-time students the Utrecht University offers a Bachelor's degree in Biomedical Science as a 3-year program. These students are taking **only** biology classes during these three years – they have no General Education requirements (but this does not mean that you cannot take Gen Ed courses through the Faculty of Humanities). The courses that we recommend below for UCSB Juniors are classified as either Level 2 or Level 3 courses, which means they are taken by their 2nd and 3rd year students. Most courses also include a “practical”, which means hands-on laboratory work. Unlike at UCSB, laboratory courses are not listed as separate courses and the amount of laboratory time associated with the Utrecht courses would not equal a 4 unit MCDB laboratory course. However, because of the higher workload of the Utrecht courses, you will receive 6 University of California units for each course.

Most biology courses in English are offered only during Spring semester, which runs early January to mid-May, meaning that you would be away Winter and Spring quarters. Students wanting to spend a full year in Utrecht could consider taking general education courses the first semester. Courses taught at Utrecht University can be found [here](#). However if you choose this route, we strongly advise you complete two UCSB upper division biology courses, with MCDB 101A (Genetics 1) as one of them, in the summer following your sophomore year.

At Utrecht University the academic year is divided into two semesters, and each semester is divided into two 10-week periods. Courses will run for one period, and students take two courses per period. The day is divided into two instruction periods: “BC” and “AD”. Thus you will enroll in one BC course and one AD course for each of the two 10-week periods (four courses total).

Junior Year Recommended Major Curriculum.

Fall Quarter at UCSB:

MCDB 101A Genetics (required)

MCDB 108A Biochemistry (for Cell and Developmental Biology Majors)

Or, if a Biological Sciences major, an alternative upper division biology course such as
MCDB 111 Human Physiology

Winter and Spring Quarters at University of Utrecht

Utrecht Course	Level	EAP Course #	MCDB Course equivalent	UC Units	Units towards major requirement	Requirements for Admission	Cell & Development area requirement	BioSci area requirement	Notes
Semester 2/Period 3/time slot BC									
Genes and Genomes (BMW20605) (required to fulfill Genetics MCDB 101B requirement)	2		MCDB 101B	6	4	MCDB 1A	A	A	can not also get credit for MCDB 101B
Semester 2/Period 3/time slot AD (choose one class)									
Advanced Neuroscience (BMW30605)	3		elective	6	4	MCDB 1A and B required; MCDB 151 or MCDB 111 suggested	F	B.2	
Regenerative Medicine and Technology (BMW33113)	3	104	MCDB 146	6	4	MCDB 1A and B	F	B.2	can not also get credit for MCDB 146
Reproduction (BMW30805)	3		EEMB 156	6	4	MCDB 1A and B	F	B.1	can not also get credit for EEMB 156
Semester 2/Period 4/time slot BC (choose one class)									
Hormones & Homoeostasis	2	103	elective	6	4	MCDB 1A and B	F	C	
General Pharmacology (BMW30405)	3		elective	6	4	MCDB 1A and B; MCDB 103 suggested	F	C	Not recommended for students planning on taking the MCDB 126 series
Semester 2/Period 4/time slot BC (choose one class)									
Advanced Cell Biology (BMW31305)	3	100	elective	6	4	MCDB 1A and B; MCDB 103 suggested	F	B.2	
Developmental Biology (BMW20705)	2		MCDB 112	6	4	MCDB 1A and B	D	B.2	can not also get credit for MCDB 112

NOTE: Utrecht University Biomedical Sciences Program does not offer an equivalent to our Biochemistry series MCDB 108A-B-C or our one-quarter Biochemistry overview MCDB 110. If you plan to, or are required to, take Biochemistry you will need to complete it your senior year. Students should have all preparatory and prerequisites courses successfully completed before going abroad.