

Human Biology

(Bachelor of Science)

Human Biology focuses on the study of the **biological, physiological, nutritional, developmental, and evolutionary aspects** of humans. The major has an extensive range of offerings with core courses emphasizing human function, genetics, nutrition, and evolution.

Students who major in Human Biology gain extensive skills within the laboratory environment, including physiological, cellular, molecular, and statistical analyses. The laboratories house state-of-the-art instruments and equipment for students to gain valuable experience. Participation in faculty research projects or internships is strongly encouraged.

All Human Biology majors complete an area of emphasis within the program. There are five areas of emphasis within the major:

- The **health science emphasis** provides preparation for medical, dental, physician assistant and other health-related professional schools; for graduate programs in biological or biomedical sciences; or entry-level research positions with pharmaceutical or biotechnology companies.
- The **exercise science emphasis** provides a background for careers in physical therapy, occupational therapy, athletic training, strength and conditioning, exercise physiology, fitness, or bio-mechanics.
- The **nutritional sciences/dietetics emphasis** is accredited as a Didactic Program in Dietetics by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Employment opportunities include healthcare, nutrition education, governmental and community health agencies, fitness facilities, public policy, agribusiness, and the food service industry. Students who successfully complete this program may apply for entry into a Dietetic Internship program, which is required to become a registered dietitian. Registered dietitians provide food and nutritional services with a focus on health promotion and disease prevention.
- The **applied health emphasis** provides preparation for careers in public health. Students interested in pursuing a MPH (Master's of Public Health) and/or working in community health will benefit from this curriculum. This includes students considering a career as a "health inspector" as it helps prepare them for the registered sanitarian exam. <http://www.weha.net/registeredsanitarianinfo.php>
- The **general emphasis** is appropriate for students seeking careers in industrial, managerial, or sales positions in biological or health-related industries.
- The **cytotechnology emphasis** is offered in affiliation with professional programs of cytotechnology at UW-Madison and the Mayo Clinic. Cytotechnology is the microscopic study of cells primarily for detection of cancer. This emphasis leads to a degree in Human Biology with eligibility for professional certification.

The Human Biology major/minor may be combined with other majors/minors for students interested in areas such as scientific journalism, scientific illustration, biological photography, genetic counseling, bioinformatics, public health administration, pharmaceutical sales, or other health-related professions.

Students may study abroad or at other campuses in the United States through UW-Green Bay's participation in international exchange programs and National Student Exchange. Travel courses are another option. For more information, contact the Office of International Education at (920) 465-2190 or see <https://www.uwgb.edu/international-education/>.

Major Areas of Emphasis (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/major/>)

Students must complete requirements in one of the following areas of emphasis: (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/major/>)

- Health Science (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/major/>)
- Exercise Science (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/major/>)
- Applied Public Health (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/major/>)
- Nutritional Sciences/Dietetics (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/major/>)* (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/major/>)
- General Human Biology (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/major/>)
- Cytotechnology (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/major/>)
- Sports Medicine (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/major/>)* (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/major/>)

* includes an accelerated option - Integrated with a graduate program

Minor Areas of Emphasis (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/minor/>)

Students must complete requirements in one of the following areas of emphasis: (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/minor/>)

- Applied Human Biology (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/minor/>)
- General Human Biology (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/minor/>)

Curriculum Guides (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/cg/>)

The following are curriculum guides for the four-year Human Biology degree program and is subject to change without notice. Students should consult a Human Biology program advisor to ensure that they have the most accurate and up-to-date information available about a particular four-year degree option. (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/cg/>)

- Human Biology Major with Exercise Science Emphasis Curriculum Guide (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/cg/>)
- Human Biology Major with Health Science Emphasis Curriculum Guide (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/cg/>)
- Human Biology Major with Nutritional Sciences / Dietetics Emphasis Curriculum Guide (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/cg/>)
- Human Biology Major with General Emphasis Curriculum Guide (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/cg/>)
- Human Biology Major with Cytotechnology Emphasis Curriculum Guide (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/human-biology/cg/>)

Faculty

Cassie Groeschl; Teaching Professor; M.S., University of Illinois - Chicago

Brian J Merkel; Professor; Ph.D., Virginia Commonwealth University, chair

Jared Dalberg; Associate Professor; M.Ed., Augusta State University

Georgette Heyrman; Associate Professor; Ph.D., Northwestern University

Carly Kibbe; Associate Professor; Ph.D., University of Wisconsin - Madison

James C Marker; Associate Professor; Ph.D., Brigham Young University*

Amanda J Nelson; Associate Professor; PH.D., University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign*

Debra A Pearson; Associate Professor; Ph.D., University of California - Davis

Elizabeth Leon; Assistant Professor; Ph.D., University of Nevada - Las Vegas*

Rachel Thomas Tharmabalan; Assistant Professor; Ph.D., The National University of Malaysia

Sara A Wagner; Assistant Teaching Professor; M.S., University of Alabama