

NATURAL SCIENCES BS

More Information

Advising Requirement

Advising is mandatory for this program. Consult your department advisor or program coordinator for information.

E-advising Tools

Students are encouraged to use the interactive e-advising tools that have been designed to help them graduate within four years. These tools can be accessed through the Student Center.

The Bachelor of Science in Natural Sciences, Option in Science Education provides excellent preparation for students interested in becoming a middle school or introductory high school science teacher and fulfills one of the requirements for admission into a single subject teaching credential program. This degree is also designed for students interested in teaching about science in informal educational settings such as museums, nature centers, state parks, or national forests. There are opportunities for internships and volunteer activities providing practical training and experience.

The program offers

- Low teacher-to-student ratio.
- Courses designed specifically for future science teachers and informal science educators.
- Collaborative learning spaces located in the new state-of-the-art science building.
- Grants and scholarships exclusively for future science teachers.
- Internships and volunteer activities that provide practical training and experience.
- Opportunities for early teaching experiences at the Gateway Science Museum and local middle schools.
- A student club and professional network to support future science educators.

Grading Requirement

All courses taken to fulfill program course requirements must be taken for a letter grade except those courses specified by the department as credit/no credit grading only.

Course Requirements for the Major: 69-73 units

Completion of the following courses, or their approved transfer equivalents, is required of all candidates for this degree. Courses in this program may complete more than one graduation requirement.

Students who plan to enter the single subject credential program should consider following a Foundational-Level General Science (FLGS) cluster of courses (BIOL 161, BIOL 162, CHEM 111, CHEM 112, EARTH 102, EARTH 300W, PHYS 202A, PHYS 202B).

Course	Title	Units
Lower Division		
BIOL 162	Principles of Cellular and Molecular Biology	4
EDTE 255	Introduction to Democratic Perspectives in K-12 Teaching	3

MATH 118	Trigonometry	3
PHYS 202A	General Physics I	4
SCED 141	Concepts in the Physical Sciences	3
SCED 142	Concepts in Life Science	3
Select one of the following:		4
CHEM 107	General Chemistry for Applied Sciences	
CHEM 111	General Chemistry I	
Select two of the following:		6
ERTH 102	Physical Geology	
ERTH 170	Atmospheric Science	
ERTH 265	Soils and Surficial Processes	

Upper Division

EDTE 302	Access and Equity in Education	3
EDTE 530	Fundamentals of Teaching Practice for Secondary Teachers	3
ENGL 471	Intensive Theory and Practice of Second Language Acquisition	3
SCED 321W	Scientific Inquiry (W)	3
SCED 342	Concepts in Earth and Space Science	3
SCED 343	Concepts in Environmental Sciences	3
Select one of the following:		3
BIOL 302W	Evolution (W)	
BIOL 318	Biology of Childhood	
BIOL 334	Conservation Ecology	
Select one of the following:		3
ERTH 300W	Earth System Science (W)	
ERTH 330W	Environmental Science (W)	

Major Option

Science Education (p. 1)	15-19
Total Units	69-73

Major Option Course Requirements

Students must select one of the following options for completion of the major course requirements.

Students who plan to enter the single subject credential program should consider following an FLGS cluster of courses (BIOL 161, BIOL 162, CHEM 111, CHEM 112, EARTH 102, EARTH 300W, PHYS 202A, PHYS 202B).

Science Education Option: 15-19 units

The option in science education is designed for students preparing to be middle school science teachers, or seeking a career as an informal science educator in a museum or outdoor setting such as state parks, environmental camps, or nature centers. Successful completion of the program fulfills one of the requirements for admission into a single subject teaching credential program.

Course	Title	Units
SCED 490	Natural Sciences Seminar	2
SCED 495	Science Education Capstone	3
Select one of the following:		3-4
ERTH 355	Natural Disasters	
PHYS 202B	General Physics II	
Select one of the following:		3-4

BIOL 161	Principles of Ecological, Evolutionary, and Organismal Biology	
ERTH 370W	Energy in the Human Environment (W)	
Select one of the following:		1-2
BIOL 489	Internship in Biology	
SCED 350	Learning Assistant Training	
SCED 352	Science Museum Docent Training	
SCED 389	Teaching Science in Outdoor Settings	
Select one of the following:		3-4
BIOL 103	Human Anatomy	
CHEM 112	General Chemistry II	
ERTH 303	Invertebrate Paleontology	
Total Units		15-19

- EARTH 300W Earth System Science (W)
- PHIL 370W Philosophy of Science (W)

The second major-designated Writing course is the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GW) (EO 665 (<https://calstate.policystat.com/policy/9585618/latest/>)). Students must earn a C- or higher to receive GW credit. The GE Written Communication (A2) (<https://catalog.csuchico.edu/colleges-departments/undergraduate-education/general-education/#A2>) requirement must be completed before a student is permitted to register for a GW course.

Electives Requirement

To complete the total units required for the bachelor's degree, select additional elective courses from the total University offerings. You should consult with an advisor regarding the selection of courses which will provide breadth to your University experience and possibly apply to a supportive second major or minor.

See Bachelor's Degree Requirements (<https://catalog.csuchico.edu/undergraduate-requirements/bachelors-degree-requirements/>) for complete details on general degree requirements. A minimum of 39 units, including those required for the major, must be upper division.

General Education Requirements: 48 units

See General Education (<https://catalog.csuchico.edu/colleges-departments/undergraduate-education/general-education/>) and the Class Schedule (<http://www.csuchico.edu/schedule/>) for the most current information on General Education Requirements and course offerings.

Diversity Course Requirements: 6 units

You must complete a minimum of two courses that focus primarily on cultural diversity. At least one course must be in U.S. Diversity (USD) and at least one in Global Cultures (GC). See Diversity Requirements (<https://catalog.csuchico.edu/undergraduate-requirements/diversity-requirements/>) for a full list of courses. Most courses taken to satisfy these requirements may also apply to General Education (<https://catalog.csuchico.edu/colleges-departments/undergraduate-education/general-education/>).

Upper-Division Writing Requirement

Writing Across the Curriculum (EM 17-009 (<http://www.csuchico.edu/prs/EMs/2017/17-009.shtml/>)) is a graduation requirement and may be demonstrated through satisfactory completion of four Writing (W) courses, two of which are designated by the major department. See Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning and Writing Requirements (<https://catalog.csuchico.edu/undergraduate-requirements/mathematicsquantitative-reasoning-writing-requirements/>) for more details on the four courses. The first of the major designated Writing (W) courses is listed below.

- ENGL 333W Advanced Composition for Future Teachers (W)
- ENGL 350W Science, Technology and the Literature of Cultural Change (W)