

PREPROFESSIONAL

This major focuses on developing students' knowledge of the conservation and management of wildlife and habitats for the greatest aesthetic, ecological, economic, and recreational values. Students in the Wildlife Ecology and Conservation major study biology, chemistry, ecology, calculus, soil science, plant taxonomy, entomology, geography, zoology, and sustainability.

About this Program

- **College:** Agricultural and Life Sciences (<http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGAGL/>)
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Science
- **Specializations:** Preprofessional (p. 1) | Wildlife Ecology and Conservation (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGAGL/WEC_BS/WEC_BS05/)
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
- **Contact**

To graduate with this major, students must complete all university, college, and major requirements.

Department Information

The Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation fosters education, expands knowledge, and rewards scholarship. This is accomplished by using multidisciplinary approaches for the purpose of understanding, managing, and conserving biological resources.

Website (<https://wec.ifas.ufl.edu/>)

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Map (<http://campusmap.ufl.edu/#/index/0832>)

Curriculum

- Combination Degrees
- Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
- Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Minor

Related Programs

- Forest Resources and Conservation

The department also co-administers a major in natural resource conservation with the School of Forest, Fisheries, and Geomatics Sciences.

More Info (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGAGL/NRC_BSF/)

Specializations

Preprofessional

This specialization satisfies the coursework requirements for admission to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program. Students pursuing admission to the College of Veterinary Medicine must take six credits of General Education Composition, nine credits of Humanities and six credits of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

Students in this specialization train in the biological, social, physical and management sciences, and excel at both the scientific and human dimensions of managing wildlife and natural resources. With appropriate choice of electives and course options, graduates satisfy requirements for certification as an associate wildlife biologist with The Wildlife Society.

Preprofessional

This specialization satisfies the coursework requirements for admission to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program. Students pursuing admission to the College of Veterinary Medicine must take six credits of General Education Composition, nine credits of Humanities and Six credits of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Some students can also satisfy requirements for certification as an associate wildlife biologist by The Wildlife Society. Certification requirements and application material are available at www.wildlife.org (<http://www.wildlife.org>).

Critical Tracking

Critical Tracking records each student's progress in courses that are required for entry to each major. Please note the critical-tracking requirements below on a per-semester basis.

Equivalent critical-tracking courses as determined by the State of Florida Common Course Prerequisites (<https://cpm.flvc.org/advance-search/>) may be used for transfer students.

Semester 1

- Complete 2 of 7 critical-tracking courses, excluding labs: BSC 2010/BSC 2010L, BSC 2011/BSC 2011L, CHM 2045/CHM 2045L, CHM 2046/CHM 2046L, AEB 2014 or AEB 3103 or ECO 2023, MAC 2311, STA 2023
- 2.5 GPA on required math and science courses combined
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 2

- Complete 2 additional critical-tracking courses, excluding labs
- 2.5 GPA on required math and science courses combined
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 3

- Complete 1 additional critical-tracking course, excluding labs
- 2.5 GPA on required math and science courses combined
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 4

- Complete 2 additional critical-tracking courses, including labs
- 2.5 GPA on required math and science courses combined
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 5

- Complete 1 additional critical-tracking course
- 2.5 GPA on required math and science courses combined
- 2.0 upper division GPA required
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 6

- Complete 1 additional critical-tracking course
- 2.0 upper division GPA required
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 7

- Complete 1 additional critical-tracking course
- 2.0 upper division GPA required
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 8

- Complete 1 additional critical-tracking course, including labs
- 2.0 upper division GPA required
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Model Semester Plan

To remain on track, students must complete the appropriate critical-tracking courses, which appear in bold. These courses must be completed by the terms as listed above in the Critical Tracking criteria.

This semester plan represents an example progression through the major. Actual courses and course order may be different depending on the student's academic record and scheduling availability of courses. Prerequisites still apply.

Course	Title	Credits
Semester One		
BSC 2010 & 2010L	Integrated Principles of Biology 1 and Integrated Principles of Biology Laboratory 1 (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Biological Sciences)	4
CHM 2045 & 2045L	General Chemistry 1 and General Chemistry 1 Laboratory (Critical Tracking ; State Core Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	4
WIS 2920	Wildlife Colloquium	1
State Core Gen Ed Composition (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext); Writing Requirement: 6,000 words		3
State Core Gen Ed Humanities (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
Credits		15
Semester Two		
Quest 1 (Gen Ed Humanities)		3
BSC 2011 & 2011L	Integrated Principles of Biology 2 and Integrated Principles of Biology Laboratory 2 (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Biological Sciences)	4
CHM 2046 & 2046L	General Chemistry 2 and General Chemistry 2 Laboratory (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	4
Gen Ed Composition; Writing Requirement: 6,000 words		3
Credits		14
Semester Three		
Quest 2 (Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences)		3
AEC 3033C	Research and Business Writing in Agricultural and Life Sciences (Writing Requirement: 6,000 words)	3
CHM 2210	Organic Chemistry 1	3
MAC 2311	Analytic Geometry and Calculus 1 (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Mathematics)	4
State Core Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
Credits		16
Semester Four		
Select one:		3-4
AEB 2014	Economic Issues, Food and You (Critical Tracking)	
AEB 3103	Principles of Food and Resource Economics (Critical Tracking)	
ECO 2023	Principles of Microeconomics (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences)	
CHM 2211 & 2211L	Organic Chemistry 2 and Organic Chemistry Laboratory	5
STA 2023	Introduction to Statistics 1 (Critical Tracking ; State Core Gen Ed Mathematics)	3
WIS 3402 & 3402L	Wildlife of Florida and Wildlife of Florida Laboratory	4
Credits		15-16
Semester Five		
Select one:		3-4
FOR 3153C	Forest Ecology	
PCB 3601C	Plant Ecology	
PCB 4043C	General Ecology	
WIS 3404	Natural Resource Ecology	
PHY 2053 & 2053L	Physics 1 and Laboratory for Physics 1	5
WIS 3401	Wildlife Ecology and Management (Critical Tracking)	3
Elective		3
Credits		14-15
Semester Six		
AGR 3303 or PCB 3063	Genetics or Genetics	3-4
PHY 2054 & 2054L	Physics 2 and Laboratory for Physics 2	5
WIS 4501	Introduction to Wildlife Population Ecology (Critical Tracking)	3

Elective		4
	Credits	15-16
Semester Seven		
AEC 3030C	Effective Oral Communication	3
BCH 4024 or CHM 3218	Introduction to Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (Critical Tracking) or Organic Chemistry/Biochemistry 2	4
Select one:		3
WIS 4523	Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Conservation	
FNR 4070C	Environmental Education Program Development	
FOR 3202	Society and Natural Resources	
FOR 4664	Sustainable Ecotourism Development	
WIS 4554 or WIS 4203C	Conservation Biology or Landscape Ecology and Conservation	3
Elective		3
	Credits	16
Semester Eight		
Select 9-11 credits:		9-11
ANS 3006 & 3006L	Introduction to Animal Science and Introduction to Animal Science Laboratory	
ANS 3440	Principles of Animal Nutrition	
WIS 4203C	Landscape Ecology and Conservation	
WIS 4427C	Wildlife Habitat Management	
WIS 4601C	Quantitative Wildlife Ecology	
WIS 4941	Internship in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation	
WIS 4945	Wildlife Techniques	
MCB 3020 & 3020L	Basic Biology of Microorganisms and Laboratory for Basic Biology of Microorganisms (Critical Tracking)	4
Elective		2
	Credits	15-17
	Total Credits	120

Additional electives may be needed to complete the 120 credits required for graduation. Students can select any courses as electives.

State core courses can be selected to meet the university's requirements for writing, international and diversity focused courses.

Academic Learning Compact

The primary focus of the Wildlife Ecology and Conservation major is to develop students' knowledge of the conceptual and applied aspects of scientific, social, and ethical thought in wildlife ecology and conservation. Emphasis is placed on the biology, ecology, natural history, and behavior of Florida wildlife species and the management of wildlife, their habitats, and their population dynamics for the greatest aesthetic, ecological, economic, and recreational values. Students will learn to think critically about major problems in the conservation of biological diversity and to apply biological principles to the preservation of this diversity.

Before Graduating Students Must

- Pass the wildlife ecology and conservation competency exam, given as part of WIS 4203C or WIS 4554 .
- Achieve minimum grades of C in AEC 3030C and AEC 3033C. These courses are graded using rubrics developed by a faculty team.
- Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Students in the Major Will Learn to

Student Learning Outcomes | SLOs

Content

1. Acquire knowledge of scientific, social, and ethical arenas of wildlife ecology and conservation; acquire skills for critical reasoning in conservation management; acquire knowledge of Florida wildlife species and their biology, ecology, natural history, and behavior; describe principles and applications of wildlife management practices, population dynamics, and habitat management; and apply biological principles to solve problems in wildlife conservation and preserve biological diversity.

Critical Thinking

2. Apply ecological, mathematical, and statistical concepts to interpret, understand and communicate wildlife ecology and conservation data.

Communication

3. Create, interpret and analyze written text, oral messages, and multimedia presentations used in agricultural and life sciences.

Curriculum Map

I = Introduced; R = Reinforced; A = Assessed

Courses	SLO 1	SLO 2	SLO 3
AEC 3030C			I,R,A
AEC 3033C			I,R,A
WIS 2920	I	I	I
WIS 3401	R	R	R
WIS 3402 and WIS 3402L	R		R
WIS 4203C or WIS 4554	A	A	R

Assessment Types

- Exams
 - Final course grades
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