

General Transfer Planning for Marine Biology

If you are studying in Washington State, the University of Washington has pre-approved course equivalencies that you can find through the University of Washington Office of Admissions: <https://admit.washington.edu/apply/transfer/equivalency-guide/>. If you are transferring from an out-of-state college or university, the UW does not have pre-approved equivalencies, but we can make general recommendations by subject for transferring to the UW Marine Biology program.

Students may transfer up to 90 credits of lower-division coursework to a bachelor's degree at the University of Washington. The checklist below is a general list of recommended foundational subjects in STEM that will apply directly to the UW Marine Biology program. Many of these courses may also count toward an associate's degree at a community or technical college; please work with an adviser at your local college to decide if an associate's degree is a good fit for you.

Completing all courses in the list below before transferring is not required; students are encouraged to apply to transfer earlier if they feel ready. Additionally, after transferring students may apply up to 30 credits earned at the UW to an associate's degree at their previous community or technical college through the Reverse Transfer process (see resources at end of document). In many cases, students may complete more than 90 credits during their time at a community or technical college before transferring. The UW runs on a quarterly schedule rather than a semester schedule. The conversion from semester credits to quarter credits will be 1.5, meaning every semester credit you earn will equal 1.5 quarter credits once transferred to the University of Washington.

We recommend that prospective students take the following classes before applying to transfer, if possible:

- ☐ English Composition – 1 quarter or semester
- ☐ Calculus 1 and 2 – 2 quarters or semesters
- ☐ General Chemistry with lab – 2 quarters or semesters
- ☐ Organic Chemistry with lab – 1 quarter or semester
- ☐ Introductory General Biology with lab – 3 quarters or 2 semesters
- ☐ Physics 1 and 2 – 2 quarters or 2 semesters. Algebra and calculus-based physics are both accepted.
- ☐ Statistics – 1 quarter or semester
- ☐ Additional general education courses to balance your schedule:
 - Social Sciences – 3 quarters or 2 semesters

- Arts & Humanities – 3 quarters or 2 semesters

Additionally, if you can take a course about introductory marine science, such as marine biology or oceanography, we would be happy to review the syllabus and see if the material matches any of our courses.

For more questions or to meet with an adviser, please reach out to our advising team via marbiol@uw.edu.