

Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences  
Northwestern University

**Approved Distribution Courses - 2021-2022**  
**Area I - Natural Sciences**  
updated 7/7/2021

**Be sure to read these important notes:**

**Prerequisites.** Many approved distribution courses are advanced courses with one or more prerequisites. Prerequisites are listed in the Undergraduate Catalog and in course descriptions available through the Registrar's webpage. Make sure you have the prerequisites for a course before you decide to enroll.

**Interdisciplinary courses.** Some interdisciplinary courses are approved for inclusion in more than one distribution area. *These courses are listed in bold and italics below*, and all relevant areas are indicated in the "area(s)" column. If you take such a course, you can choose in which eligible area to count it.

**When courses are offered.** This list includes all courses approved for distribution credit for the indicated academic year. The Registrar's Office maintains lists of distribution courses to be offered each quarter, as well as Yearly Course Planners showing each department's planned course offerings for the year. **Some approved courses may not be offered.**

**Lists of approved courses from other years:**

[www.weinberg.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/degree/distribution-requirements/approved-courses.html](http://www.weinberg.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/degree/distribution-requirements/approved-courses.html)

**Registrar's Website:** [www.registrar.northwestern.edu](http://www.registrar.northwestern.edu)

dept/pgm	number	course title	area(s)
ANTHRO	213	Human Origins	I
ANTHRO	309	Human Osteology	I
ANTHRO	312	Human Population Biology	I
ANTHRO	316	Forensic Anthropology	I
ANTHRO	317	Human Evolution	I
ANTHRO	359	The Human Microbiome and Health	I
ASTRON	101	Modern Cosmology	I
ASTRON	102	Milky Way Galaxy	I
ASTRON	103	Solar System	I
ASTRON	106	A Brief Journey through the Invisible Universe (taught also as PHYSICS 106)	I
ASTRON	111	Introduction to Astrobiology	I
ASTRON	120	Highlights of Astronomy	I
ASTRON	220-1	Introduction to Astrophysics I: Life Cycle of Stars and Planets	I
ASTRON	220-2	Introduction to Astrophysics II: Galactic Evolution and Cosmology	I
ASTRON	305	Basics of Radio Astronomy	I
ASTRON	390	Current Topics in Astronomy	I
BIOL SCI	100	Introduction to Biological Sciences at Northwestern (course for participants in Bio&ChemEXCEL)	I
BIOL SCI	103	Diversity of Life	I
BIOL SCI	104	Plant-People Interactions	I
BIOL SCI	109	The Nature of Plants	I

BIOL SCI	150	Human Genetics	I
BIOL SCI	160	Human Reproduction	I
BIOL SCI	164	Basic Genetics & Evolution	I
BIOL SCI	201	Molecular Biology	I
BIOL SCI	202	Cell Biology	I
BIOL SCI	203	Genetics and Evolution	I
BIOL SCI	301	Principles of Biochemistry	I
BIOL SCI	307	Brain Structure, Function, and Evolution	I
BIOL SCI	310	Human Physiology	I
BIOL SCI	333	Plant-Animal Interactions	I
BIOL SCI	354	Quantitative Analysis of Biology	I
BIOL SCI	359	Quantitative Experimentation in Biology	I
BIOL SCI	381	Stem Cells and Regeneration	I
BIOL SCI	393	Human Genomics	I
CHEM	131	General Chemistry 1	I
CHEM	132	General Chemistry 2	I
CHEM	151	Accelerated General Chemistry 1	I
CHEM	152	Accelerated General Chemistry 2	I
CHEM	171	Advanced General Inorganic Chemistry	I
CHEM	172	Advanced General Physical Chemistry	I
CHEM	201	Chemistry of Nature & Culture	I
CHEM	212-1	Organic Chemistry (primarily for chemistry majors and ISP students)	I
CHEM	212-2	Organic Chemistry (primarily for chemistry majors and ISP students)	I
CHEM	212-3	Organic Chemistry (primarily for chemistry majors and ISP students)	I
CHEM	215-1	Introductory Organic Chemistry I	I
CHEM	215-2	Introductory Organic Chemistry II	I
CHEM	215-3	Advanced Organic Chemistry	I
CHEM	360	Nanopatterning	I
CIV ENV	203	Earth in the Anthropocene	I
COG SCI	210	Language & the Brain	I
CSD	112	Scientific Exploration of Communication	I
CSD	202	Neurobiology of Communication	I
CSD	301	Anatomy and Physiology of the Vocal Mechanism	I
CSD	302	Anatomy and Physiology of the Peripheral Hearing Mechanism	I
<b>CSD</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>Brain and Cognition; with PSYCH 327</b>	<b>I,III</b>
<b>CSD</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>Phonetics</b>	<b>I,III</b>
CSD	310	Biological Foundations of Speech and Music	I
CSD	318	Introduction to Audiology	I
EARTH	101	Earth Science for the 21st Century	I
EARTH	105	Climate Catastrophes in Earth History	I
EARTH	106	The Ocean, The Atmosphere, & Our Climate	I
EARTH	114	Evolution & the Scientific Method	I
EARTH	201	Earth Systems Revealed	I
EARTH	202	Earth's Interior	I
EARTH	203	Earth System History	I
EARTH	300	Earth and Planetary Materials	I
EARTH	301	Petrology: Evolution of Crustal and Mantle Rocks	I
EARTH	310	Aqueous Geochemistry	I
EARTH	314	Organic Geochemistry	I
EARTH	323	Seismology & Earth Structure	I

EARTH	324	Earthquakes and Tectonics	I
EARTH	340	Physics of Weather and Climate	I
EARTH	341	Quaternary Climate Change: Ice Ages to the Age of Oil	I
EARTH	342	Contemporary Energy and Climate Change	I
EARTH	343	Earth System Modeling	I
EARTH	370	Geobiology	I
EARTH	371	Biogeochemistry	I
ENVR SCI	201	Earth: A Habitable Planet	I
ENVR SCI	202	The Health of the Biosphere	I
ENVR SCI	203	Humans and the Environment	I
GEN LA	280-1	Residence-Linked Seminar - I	I
GEOG	211	World Biogeography	I
GEOG	235	Atmosphere and Climate	I
GEOG	341	Principles of Cartography	I
GEOG	343	Geographic Information Systems	I
<b>GBL HLTH</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>Global Health in Human History</b>	<b>I,IV</b>
ISEN	220	Introduction to Energy Systems for the Twenty-First Century	I
LING	250	Sound Patterns in Human Language	I
LING	350	Fundamentals of Laboratory Phonology	I
<b>MATH</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>Mechanics for Mathematicians</b>	<b>I,II</b>
NEUROSCI	202	Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience	I
NEUROSCI	206	Systems and Behavioral Neuroscience	I
NEUROSCI	320	Animal Behavior	I
NEUROSCI	360	Neuroscience of Brain Disorders	I
NEUROSCI	377	Neurobiology of Sensation and Perception	I
PHYSICS	103	Ideas of Physics	I
PHYSICS	105	Music, Sound, Timbre	I
PHYSICS	106	A Brief Journey through the Invisible Universe (taught also as ASTRON 106)	I
PHYSICS	125-1	General Physics for ISP	I
PHYSICS	125-2	General Physics for ISP	I
PHYSICS	125-3	General Physics for ISP	I
PHYSICS	130-1	College Physics	I
PHYSICS	130-2	College Physics	I
PHYSICS	130-3	College Physics	I
PHYSICS	135-1	General Physics	I
PHYSICS	135-2	General Physics	I
PHYSICS	135-3	General Physics	I
PHYSICS	140-1	Fundamentals of Physics	I
PHYSICS	140-2	Fundamentals of Physics	I
PHYSICS	140-3	Fundamentals of Physics	I
PHYSICS	239	Foundations of Modern Physics	I
PHYSICS	312	Scalar and Vector Field Methods in Physics	I
PHYSICS	335	Physics of Magic	I
PHYSICS	357	Optics Laboratory	I
PSYCH	221	Introduction to Neuroscience	I
PSYCH	320-0	Intermediate Neuroscience	I
<b>PSYCH</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>Perception</b>	<b>I,III</b>
PSYCH	325-0	Selected Topics in Neuroscience and Psychophysiology	I
<b>PSYCH</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>Brain and Cognition; with CSD 303</b>	<b>I,III</b>

<i>PSYCH</i>	<b>328</b>	<i>Brain Damage &amp; the Mind</i>	<i>I,III</i>
<i>PSYCH</i>	<b>336</b>	<i>Consciousness</i>	<i>I,III</i>
<i>PSYCH</i>	<b>374</b>	<i>Human Memory</i>	<i>I,III</i>
<i>PSYCH</i>	<b>378</b>	<i>Images of Cognition</i>	<i>I,III</i>
PSYCH	379	Neuroscience & Behavior Laboratory	I