Quarter-to-Semester Conversion

Evolution and Ecology (E &E) Majors: Frequently Asked Questions

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If I am intending to go to vet school, med school, or another professional program, is there anything I should be aware of regarding the Ecology & Evolution major?

How can I find out in which semester EEOB courses will be offered?

How do courses taken under quarters transfer to semesters?

All quarter-based versions of semester courses will transfer as the equivalent semester version (if one exists). The only question is how much credit you will receive for the course. The general rule for converting quarter hours to semester hours is that 5 quarter hours is equivalent to 3 or 3.3 semester hours (multiply quarter credit hours by 0.67 to get semester credit equivalent). The exact amount of credit for a course will be determined by the university registrar and will be listed on your transcript or Degree Audit.
How do I determine the equivalencies between quarter- and semester-based versions of courses?

Please see the list of Anticipated EEOB Course Offerings. This gives both the anticipated semesters of offering for courses in EEOB, as well as the nearest quarter equivalent of semester courses.

Where are the semester-based requirements for the Evolution & Ecology major given?

Please see the checklist for The Evolution & Ecology Major Program.

Has the number of hours required for the Evolution & Ecology major changed?

The number of semester hours required for the E & E major is 30. This number is equivalent to 45 quarter hours, so the new requirement matches the old. In terms of time, 30 semester hours is a full year (2 semesters) at the normal load of 15 hours per semester. Under quarters, 45 quarter hours also was a full year’s load (3 quarters and 15 hours per quarter). In other words, the E & E major continues to require a year’s worth of credit.

Since some of the requirements for the Evolution & Ecology major have changed, which set of requirements do I follow?

Which set of requirements you follow depends on when you declared your major in Evolution and Ecology. If it was before summer 2012 (that is, before the official switchover to semesters) you may (1) continue to follow the quarter-based requirements, (2) follow the new semester-based requirements, or (3) with your E & E advisor’s assistance and permission, follow a combination of the two sets of requirements, as long as you meet the spirit of the major. If you plan to use option (3), please arrange a meeting with the Evolution and Ecology major advisor, Dr. Meg Daly daly.66@osu.edu as soon as possible.

Can I get a BA in Evolution and Ecology?

If you have declared your intention to get a BA in Evolution and Ecology before the switch to semesters, you may earn a BA with a major in Evolution and Ecology. This option is being discontinued, however, so if you did not declare your intention to earn a BA in E & E prior to the switch to semesters, you may not pursue the BA option.
How do the required supportive courses change going from quarters to semesters?

The main change in required supportive courses (introductory biology, introductory chemistry, etc.) is that a course in statistics, either Statistics 2480 or 2450 (for Bachelor of Science) or Statistics 1450 (for Bachelor of Arts), is required as a supportive course rather than as part of the core coursework in the major. This means that the 3 semester credits you earn for this class do NOT count towards the 30 semester credits in the major. (Please note that for those who have declared prior to semesters, this remains part of the core rather than a supportive course).

The introductory biology requirement has gone from 2 quarters (2/3rds of a year) to 2 semesters (a full year). The math requirement remains at calculus (Math 1151 or 1156) for the BS. The physics requirement has gone from 2 quarters to 2 semesters: Physics 1200 & 1201 for the BS. The inorganic chemistry remains at one year, i.e., 2 semesters (Chem 1210 & 1220), for both BS and BA. The organic chemistry requirement is now one semester (Chem 2310).

What are the differences in the Ecology and Evolution major courses going from quarters to semesters?

The core courses under semesters are evolution (EEOB 3310), ecology (EEOB 3410), and integrative biology (Bio 3401). Ecology and evolution were also core courses under quarters. The semester version of ecology includes the lab, which was a separate (but also required) course under quarters.

Three courses are no longer part of the core courses in the major. Statistics is now part of the supportive courses rather than a core course in the major. Molecular genetics (Mol gen 4500) and the systematics and diversity of organisms (EEOB 3320) are now no longer absolutely required, but can help fulfill other requirements of the major.

The Biodiversity requirement (2 classes) can be fulfilled in part by the systematics and diversity of organisms (EEOB 3320). The major check sheet lists other suggested courses that fulfill the Biodiversity requirement; as under quarters, coursework in other departments (e.g., Anthropology, Entomology, Geology; Microbiology) may also be used fulfill this requirement—please ask Dr. Daly if you have questions about the appropriateness of a particular course for this requirement.
The Evolution and Ecology requirement (2 classes) can be fulfilled in part by by molecular genetics (Mol Gen 4500). The major check sheet lists other suggested courses that fulfill the Evolution and Ecology requirement; as under quarters, coursework in other departments (e.g., Anthropology, Geology; Molecular Genetics, Natural Resources) may also be used fulfill this requirement—please ask Dr. Daly if you have questions about the appropriateness of a particular course for this requirement.

If I have taken the quarter-based versions of some or all of the core courses, how do these courses fit into the semester-based requirements?

The old core courses, EEOB 400 (evolution), 503.01 (ecology), 503.02 (ecology lab) and Mol will fulfill the new core requirements as EEOB 3310 and 3410. EEOB 405.01 and 405.02 (systematics and diversity of organisms) will count as one course (EEOB 3320) of the 2 required in biodiversity. Mol Gen 500 will count as one course (Mol Gen 4500) in the Evolution and Ecology requirement. Statistics will count as a required supportive class.

If I am intending to go to vet school, med school, or another professional program, is there anything I should be aware of regarding the Evolution and Ecology major?

Probably the main thing to be aware of is that many professional programs require a full year (2 semesters) of organic chemistry, whereas the E & E major requires only one (Chem 2310), so you’ll need to take the 2-semester sequence (Chem 2510 & 2520) instead. Some professional schools also require that you take the laboratory portion of organic chemistry (Chem 2540 & 2550). Other courses that are often required by professional programs, such as microbiology (Microbio 4000) or biochemistry (Biochem 4511), can count towards the 30 hours of the E & E major as electives.

How can I find out in which semester EEOB courses will be offered?

Please see the list of Anticipated EEOB Course Offerings.