

GENERAL BIOLOGY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

ASPIRE

EXPERIENTIAL MAJOR MAP

RETURN ON INVESTMENT FOR MAJOR

A major map is an active guide that helps students make intentional decisions throughout college. Students identify their stage (first year, middle, or final year) and focus on recommended actions for that period. Each semester, they select key academic, career, and involvement activities, track their progress, and discuss it with advisors or faculty. Over time, the map helps them stay on track, adjust goals as needed, and graduate with a degree and career-ready experience.

THE WHO...

- Critical Thinking
- Informed Major Selection
- Post-graduation Readiness
- Applied Problem Solving
- Leadership Skills
- Teamwork

THE WHY...

- Professionalism and work ethic
- Strong communication skills
- Analytical and problem-solving skills
- Leadership and teamwork
- Technology proficiency

THE WHAT

- Financial Analyst
- Project Manager
- Social Media Manager
- Recruiter / Talent Acquisition Specialist
- Small Business Owner
- Data Analyst (Business-focused)
- E-commerce Manager

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

"I started college unsure of my direction, but the ASPIRE major map helped me stay focused. I followed the steps—attended networking events, secured internships, and built a portfolio through my capstone. By senior year, I wasn't scrambling—I was prepared. I received a full-time offer from my internship site before graduating."

HILLTOP ADVANTAGE

The Hilltop Advantage is a structured, student-centered approach that ensures every student graduates with not only a degree, but also meaningful experiences, career-ready skills, and a clear post-graduation plan.

TOP SKILLS

- Professionalism and work ethic
- Strong communication skills
- Analytical and problem-solving skills
- Leadership and teamwork
- Technology proficiency

ASPIRE - Experiential Major Map for Biomedical Sciences

MAJORS: GENERAL BIOLOGY, HUMAN BIOLOGY, PRE-MED, PRE-VET, PRE-PHARM, DEAP, MICROBIOLOGY, AND BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH

	FIRST YEAR	MIDDLE YEARS	LAST YEAR	
A ACADEMIC MASTERY	- Begin Major coursework by enrolling in introductory Biology and Chemistry courses (BIO 124/125, BIO 208, CHEM 110/111, and CHEM 112/113) - Review academic requirements with academic advisor - Attend a Science Lab session at the Student Success Center - Sign up online on TutorTrac for course tutor if needed - Attend supplemental instruction sessions - Map out full degree course plan	- Meet with an advisor to check progress to degree - Participate in research and learn important laboratory skills - Apply for summer research programs like TOPPER-SURE and internships - Enroll in Kaplan Test Prep course (BIO413) if standardized testing is required for further education program - Sign up for appropriate standardized professional or graduate school admissions exams (DAT, MCAT, GRE) - Apply to become a peer mentor and/or tutor	- Enroll in 400-level Biology course electives for advanced specialization - Work with an advisor to ensure you have no outstanding course requirements - Talk with faculty on your capstone committee about proposed topics and writing and presenting strategies - Complete your senior capstone - Apply to graduate	FURTHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS •MEDICAL SCHOOL •PA SCHOOL •MA/MS/ PHD PROGRAM •VETERINARY SCHOOL •PHARMACY SCHOOL INDUSTRIES •EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES •GOVERNMENT •HEALTHCARE •PHARMACEUTICALS •BIOTECHNOLOGY
S SELF-DISCOVERY & STRENGTHS	- Strength's exploration and assessment - Major and career exploration workshops - Reflection assignments – personal mission/goals, professional mission/goals, exploration	- Attend career skill workshops - Attend WLU Career and Graduate School Fair, explore graduate education - Apply for/attend Study Abroad	- Professionally focused experiential learning /internships - Explore job search process for selected field - Initiate job search	CAREER OPTIONS •VETERINARIAN •PHYSICIAN (MD/DO) •PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANT (PA) •DENTIST •PHARMACIST •RESEARCH TECHNICIAN/SCIENTIST •PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISOR •EDUCATOR
PI PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION INTEGRATIVE & EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING	- Attend CV Workshop held by Biology Club - Create CV/Linked In profile - Attend study abroad info sessions - Meet with biology faculty to learn about internships and on-campus research opportunities - Consider applying for a federal work-study job on campus	- Meet with visiting professional school admissions representatives on-campus - Gather information about professional program application requirements - Complete shadowing hours with health professionals - Ask faculty for letters of recommendation - Attend a regional professional meeting and practice networking skills	- Present at a regional or national professional meeting and participate in featured workshops and networking opportunities - Apply for full-time jobs, graduate programs, or fellowships. - Participate in on-campus recruiting and employer interviews.	
RE RELATIONSHIPS & LEADERSHIP ENGAGEMENT & WELL-BEING	- Join one science-related student organization such as Biology Club, Sustainability Club, and American Medical Student Association - Attend campus events to build peer and faculty connections - Participate in Topper Fest or first-year leadership programs - Learn about wellness, counseling, and support resources	- Hold a leadership role in a student organization. - Serve as a peer mentor, tutor, or orientation leader. - Participate in alumni networking or mentorship programs. - Balance academic, work, and extracurricular responsibilities. - Utilize wellness resources to maintain mental and physical health.	- Mentor younger students within the major or organization. - Serve on student advisory boards or institutional committees. - Schedule mock interviews for professional school or graduate school - Update your CV to best communicate your education and experiences to future educators and employers	

