

DEFINITION FROM MHEC: Biological and Physical Sciences

The biological and physical sciences examine living systems and the physical universe. They introduce students to a variety of methods used to collect, interpret, and apply scientific data, and to an understanding of the relationship between scientific theory and application. The minimum expectation in this category is one course (minimum 3 credit hours) each from at least two disciplines, one of which must be a laboratory course.

Upon successfully completing a general education course in the **Biological or Physical Sciences**, students will be able to:

1. apply the fundamental principles, concepts, vocabulary, and methods essential for the acquisition of knowledge basic to the science;
2. apply the scientific method, independently and collaboratively, in order to acquire, analyze and use information for purposes of inquiry, critical thinking and problem-solving;
3. apply mathematics to derive or explain concepts and/or data;
4. identify, analyze, evaluate, and use sources of scientific information;
5. discuss the role of technology in scientific research;
6. apply technology in scientific research;
7. discuss the effect of the sciences on the individual, society, and the environment.