Neuroscience majors study how the brain and nervous system work, as well as applied sciences that focus on things like behavior or communication. What makes it unique at UWEC is that the major crosses many other fields of study and thought: psychology, biology, philosophy, mathematics, music, and medicine. This broad scope gives UWEC neuroscience grads a distinct advantage and prepares them to be successful in a number of high-demand fields.

**Major**

Comprehensive major (no minor required)
- Neuroscience

**Minor**

- Neuroscience

**Where you'll find our grads**
- Laboratory research
- Head injury treatment
- Medical technician
- Clinical researcher
- Genetics

**Prepared for Success**

Neuroscience students train in both basic neuroscience and clinical practice, and in both molecular biological science and behavioral sciences, so they know how to work collaboratively with their colleagues across disciplines. This means that as more is known about the best rehabilitative techniques for stroke, brain injury and other neurogenic diseases that cross boundaries of multiple disciplines, UW-Eau Claire grads can share information more quickly and progress into new technologies at a faster pace, which will make them very valuable in the field.

Along with traditional neuroscience coursework, UW-Eau Claire offers electives in disciplines that relate to neuroscience but aren’t part of other universities’ programs. Our major includes courses in philosophy, music, and more.

**Why UW-Eau Claire**

**Hands-On Experience**

Learning by doing is heavily emphasized in the neuroscience program. UWEC has strong research and internship programs already in place so neuroscience majors will be actively engaged in hands-on learning opportunities. In addition, UW-Eau Claire’s partnership with Mayo Clinic Health paves the way for even more opportunities in research projects, internships and networking with professionals already in the field of neuroscience.

**Faculty Experts**

Students will benefit from real relationships with outstanding faculty in many areas of neuroscience who are dedicated to student learning. UWEC is unique because we have the resources and relationships to offer professional experiences like larger institutions, but our faculty are not focused on their own research —
Neuroscience (continued)

they’re focused on student undergraduate research.

Faculty who teach in the neuroscience major are biologists, psychologists, mathematicians, musicians, philosophers and speech pathologists. All of these interdisciplinary professors share an interest in how the brain and nervous system works. This cross-discipline approach is a huge benefit of a neuroscience degree from a liberal arts education university.

Innovative Facilities

Several departments related to the neuroscience major are part of the Institute for Health Sciences at UWEC. Its goals are to help provide high-quality advising and innovative learning experiences to prepare students for their futures. It also continually builds and improves the connections between health-related and non-health-related disciplines in order to provide Blugolds unique multifaceted opportunities.

First-Year Suggested Curriculum

(Students should have already taken college algebra equivalency.)

Fall semester (15 credits)

- Chem 115 Principles of Chemistry 6 credits
- Biol 221 Foundations of Biology 4 credits
- Writ 116 Blugold Seminar in Critical Reading and Writing 5 credits

Spring semester (16 credits)

- IDIS 125 Introduction to Neuroscience 4 credits
- Math 246 Statistics 4 credits
- Biol 222 Foundations of Biology II 2 credits
- Biol 223 Foundations Biological Inquiry 3 credits
- LE elective 3 credits (e.g., PSYC 100: Introduction to Psychology)

Course Work / Pre-Professional Courses

UWEC neuroscience graduates will have a distinct advantage because the major involves courses in six departments in two different colleges. It is also a natural fit for pre-medical pathways, with the breadth of the major and variety of coursework preparing graduates well for admission to graduate and medical school.

The major is unique in that it requires four mathematics classes in statistics, including computational genetics. Students completing this math sequence will graduate with a valuable skill set that rivals some neuroscience Ph.D programs and will open up even more career opportunities working in genetics, gene mapping, working with public access data sets, and other related work. Students will receive help and advising for the statistical series of courses, which also sets our program apart from other universities.