COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY 
& BIOINFORMATICS MINOR 
(CAS)

Description
This interdisciplinary minor prepares students to understand, use, and develop advanced computational methods and tools for processing, visualizing, and analyzing biological data and for modeling biological processes. Studies in computational biology and bioinformatics involve biosciences, computer science, engineering, mathematics, and statistics. Students will be prepared for careers in biomedical, biotechnology, agricultural, pharmaceutical, and engineering fields and for related graduate studies.

College Requirements

College Admission

College Admission
The entrance requirements for the College of Arts and Sciences are the same as the University of Nebraska–Lincoln General Admission Requirements. Students who are admitted through the Admission by Review process may have certain conditions attached to their enrollment at Nebraska. These conditions are explained under "Removal of Deficiencies."

In addition to these requirements, the College of Arts and Sciences strongly recommends a third and fourth year of one foreign language. Four years of high school course work in the same language will fulfill the College of Arts and Sciences' language requirement. It will also allow students to continue language study at a more advanced level at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, and provide more opportunity to study abroad.

Transfer Students
To be considered for admission as a transfer student, Nebraska resident or nonresident, students must have an accumulated average of C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum C average in the last semester of attendance at another college. Transfer students who graduated from high school January 1997 and after must also meet the University of Nebraska–Lincoln General Admission Requirements. Those transfer students who graduated before January 1997 must have completed in high school, 3 years of English, 2 years of the same foreign language, 2 years of algebra, and 1 year of geometry. Transfer students who have completed less than 12 credit hours of college study must also submit either their ACT or SAT scores.

Ordinarily, hours earned at a similarly accredited college or university are applicable to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln degree. The College, however, will evaluate all hours submitted on an application for transfer, and reserves the right to accept or reject any of them, based upon its exclusion and restriction policies. Sixty (60) is the maximum number of hours the University will accept on transfer from a two-year college or international institution. Transfer credit in the major or minor must be approved by the departmental advisor on a Request for Substitution Form to meet specific course requirements, group requirements, or course level requirements in the major or minor. At least half of the hours in the major field must be completed at the University regardless of the number of hours transferred.

The College of Arts and Sciences will accept no more than 15 semester hours of C- and D grades from other schools. The C- and D grades cannot be applied toward requirements for a major or minor. This policy does not apply to the transfer of grades from UNO or UNK to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. All D grades may be transferred from UNO or UNK, but they are not applicable to a major or minor.

Readmitted Students
University of Nebraska–Lincoln students who choose not to take courses for more than two consecutive terms, must reapply to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Students readmitted to the College of Arts and Sciences will follow the requirements stated in the catalog for the academic year of readmission and re-enrollment as a degree-seeking student in Arts and Sciences. In consultation with advisors, a student may choose to follow a catalog for any academic year in which they are admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at Nebraska in the College of Arts and Sciences. Students must complete all degree requirements from a single catalog year. Beginning in 1990-1991, the catalog which a student follows for degree requirements may not be more than 10 years old at the time of graduation.

Admission Deficiencies/Removal of Deficiencies
Students must remove entrance deficiencies in geometry and foreign language as soon as possible, and before graduating from the College of Arts and Sciences. For questions and more information, students should consult a college advisor in the Academic and Career Advising Center in 107 Oldfather Hall.

Removing Foreign Language Deficiencies
Students must complete the second semester of a first year language sequence to clear the deficiency and the second semester of the second year language sequence to complete the college graduation requirement in language.

Removing Geometry Deficiencies
A deficiency of one year of geometry can be removed by taking high school geometry courses through an approved independent study program, or by completing a geometry course from an accredited community college or a four-year institution. Neither of these options will count for college credit.

College Degree Requirements

College Distribution Requirements

Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (16 hours + Language)
The College of Arts and Sciences distribution requirements are designed to further the purposes of liberal education by encouraging study in several different areas within the College. All requirements are in addition to University ACE requirements. A student may not use a single course to satisfy more than one of the following five distribution requirements. A student cannot use a single course to satisfy both an ACE outcome and a College distribution requirement. A student cannot use a course from their primary major to satisfy the Breadth Requirement (F), but may apply an ancillary requirement of the primary major or a course from their second major toward this requirement. Independent study or reading courses and internships cannot be used to satisfy distribution requirements. To see a complete list of excluded courses, run a degree audit through MyRED.

Courses from interdisciplinary programs will count in the same area as courses from the home/cross-listed department(s).

College Distribution Requirements

CDR A - Written Communication 3
Select from courses approved for ACE outcome 1.

**CDR B and BL - Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences with Lab**

Select from biochemistry, biological sciences, chemistry, computer science, geology, meteorology, mathematics, physics and statistics. Must include one lab in the natural or physical sciences. Lab courses may be selected from biochemistry, biological sciences, chemistry, geology, meteorology and physics.

Some courses from geography and anthropology may also be used to satisfy the lab requirement above.¹

**CDR C - Humanities**

Select from classics, English, history, modern languages and literatures, philosophy, and religious studies.²

**CDR D - Social Science**

Select from: anthropology, communication studies, geography, political science, psychology, or sociology.³

**CDR E - Language**

Fulfilled by the completion of the 6-credit-hour second-year sequence in a single foreign language in one of the following departments: Classics and religious studies, modern languages and literatures, or anthropology. Instruction is currently available in Arabic, Chinese, Czech, French, German, Greek, Japanese, Latin, Omaha, Russian, and Spanish. A student who has completed the fourth-year level of one foreign language in high school is exempt from the languages requirement.

**CDR F - Additional Breadth**

Select from: natural, physical and mathematical sciences (Area B), humanities (Area C), or social sciences (Area D). Cannot be a course from the primary major.

Credit Hours Subtotal: 16-32

¹ See degree audit or a College of Arts and Sciences advisor for approved geography and anthropology courses that apply as natural science.

² Language courses numbered 210 or below apply only for the foreign language requirement.

³ See degree audit or College of Arts and Sciences advisor for list of natural/physical science courses in anthropology, geography, and psychology that do not apply as social science.

**Scientific Base**

**Bachelor of Science Only (60 hours)**
The bachelor of science degree requires students to complete 60 hours in mathematical, physical and natural sciences. Approved courses for scientific base credit come from the following College of Arts and Sciences disciplines: actuarial science, anthropology (selected courses), astronomy, biochemistry (excluding BIOC 101), biological sciences (excluding BIOS 203), chemistry (excluding CHEM 101), computer science (excluding CSCE 10), geography (selected courses), geology, life sciences, mathematics (excluding courses below MATH 104), meteorology, microbiology, physics and statistics.

See your degree audit or a College of Arts and Sciences advisor for a complete list including individual classes that fall outside of the disciplines listed above. Up to 12 hours of scientific and technical courses offered by other colleges may be accepted toward this requirement with approval of a college advisor.

**Foreign Languages/Language Requirement**

**Languages Exemption Policy**
The University of Nebraska—Lincoln and the College of Arts and Sciences will exempt or waive students from the Nebraska entrance requirement of two years of the same foreign language or from the College's language distribution requirement based on documentation only. The following are the options and procedures for documentation:

**High School Transcripts**
For the University entrance requirement, students must show an official high school transcript with two or more years of the same foreign language.

For the College of Arts and Sciences College Distribution Requirement E-Language, students must show an official high school transcript with four or more years of the same foreign language in high school, or show evidence of graduation from a non-English-speaking foreign high school. Students whose native language is not English must show English as a Second Language study on an official high school transcript. Four years of ESL at the high school level (9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades) will be the basis for a waiver of the CDR E Language requirement.

**Proficiency Examination at UNL**
For the University entrance requirement, students who do not have transcript documentation can request to take a proficiency exam in the language. (This is not the same test as the Modern Languages Placement Exam.) However, the University will provide testing only in the languages it teaches. Currently, these languages are: Arabic, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Czech, Japanese, Chinese.

For the College of Arts and Sciences College Distribution Requirement E-Language, the Department of Modern Languages will oversee the test at the 202 level. If the student passes the test, the department will sign the College Request for Waiver form and indicate the level of proficiency. The form is then forwarded to the Arts and Sciences Advising Center for approval.

The Department of Modern Languages will oversee the test and provide written documentation to the Arts and Sciences Advising Center the level of proficiency passed.

**Distance Education**
For the University entrance requirement, students without transcript documentation who claim proficiency in a language not taught at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln, have the option of seeking out a distance education program in languages. If the student completes the equivalent of 102 from an approved distance education program, the student will meet the University’s entrance requirement. The student must have the course work approved before he/she takes/completes the course as equivalent to 102 by a College advisor. The student then completes the course and has the distance education program send the transcript to the Admissions Office.

For the College of Arts and Sciences College Distribution Requirement E-Language, the student can seek out a distance education program and complete the equivalent of the 202-level course. The student must submit the request on the College Request for Substitution form and have the course work approved by a College advisor. The student then completes the course and has the distance education program send the transcript to the Admissions Office.

**Third Language Option**
If a student demonstrates knowledge of two foreign languages at the 102 level, the College of Arts and Sciences may consider waiving
two semesters of the four-semester College Distribution Requirement E-Languages requirement. If this waiver were granted, the student would then be required to complete 101 and 102 in another, 3rd foreign language at Nebraska.

Minimum Hours Required for Graduation
A minimum of 120 semester hours of credit is required for graduation from the College of Arts and Sciences. A total grade point average of at least 2.0 is required.

Grade Rules
Restrictions on C- and D Grades
The College will accept no more than 15 semester hours of C- and D grades from other schools except for UNO and UNK. No transfer C- and D grades can be applied toward requirements in a major or a minor. No University of Nebraska–Lincoln C- and D grades can be applied toward ACE demonstrate the benefits of the program to students:

ACE Requirements
Consistent with the mission and values of the University, ACE is based on a shared set of four institutional objectives and ten student learning outcomes. The ACE program was approved by faculty in all eight undergraduate colleges and endorsed by the Faculty Senate, the student government, and the Academic Planning Committee in January 2008 for implementation in the fall 2009. ACE aligns with current national initiatives in general education.

Key characteristics of ACE demonstrate the benefits of the program to students:

Grading Appeals
A student who feels that he/she has been unfairly graded must ordinarily take the following sequential steps in a timely manner, usually by initiating the appeal in the semester following the awarding of the grade:

1. Talk with the instructor concerned. Most problems are resolved at this point.
2. Talk to the instructor’s department chairperson.
3. Take the case to the Grading Appeal Committee of the department concerned. The Committee should be contacted through the department chairperson.
4. Take the case to the College Grading Appeals Committee by contacting the Dean’s Office, 1223 Oldfather Hall.

Course Level Requirements
Courses Numbered above 299
Thirty of the 120 semester hours of credit must be in courses numbered above 299. Of the 30 hours above 299, 15 hours (1/2) must be completed in residence at UNL.

Graduate Courses
Seniors in the University who have obtained in advance the approval of the dean for Graduate Studies may receive up to 12 hours credit for graduate courses taken in addition to the courses necessary to complete their undergraduate work, provided that such credits are earned within the calendar year prior to receipt of the baccalaureate. For procedures, inquire at the Office of Graduate Studies.

Course work taken prior to receipt of the baccalaureate may not always be accepted for transfer to other institutions as graduate work.

Residency
Residency Requirement and Open Enrollment and Summer Independent Study Courses
Students must complete at least 30 of the 120 total hours for their degree at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Students must complete at least 1/2 of their major course work including 6 hours above 299 in their major, and 15 of the 30 hours required above 299 in residence. Credit earned during education abroad may be used toward the residency requirement if students register through the University and participate in prior-approved education abroad programs. The University of Nebraska–Lincoln open enrollment and summer independent study courses count toward residence.
• Students connect and integrate their ACE experiences with their selected major.
• Students can transfer all ACE certified courses across colleges within the institution to meet the ACE requirement and any course from outside the institution that is directly equivalent to a University of Nebraska—Lincoln ACE-certified course. Courses from outside institutions without direct equivalents may be considered with appropriate documentation for ACE credit (see academic advisor).

ACE allows faculty to assess and improve their effectiveness and facilitate students’ learning.

ACE Institutional Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes
To meet the ACE Program requirement, a student will complete a minimum of 3 credit hours for each of the ten ACE Student Learning Outcomes (a total of 30 ACE credit hours). See the ACE website at: http://ace.unl.edu for the most current information and the most recently certified courses.

Catalog Rule
Students must fulfill the requirements stated in the catalog for the academic year in which they are first admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. In consultation with advisors, a student may choose to follow a subsequent catalog for any academic year in which they are admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at Nebraska in the College of Arts and Sciences. Students must complete all degree requirements from a single catalog year. Beginning in 1990-1991 the catalog which a student follows for degree requirements may not be more than 10 years old at the time of graduation.

Requirements for Minor Offered by Department
Eighteen (18) hours (not including prerequisites) of core courses and additional courses.

Prerequisite Courses
CHEM 109 General Chemistry I (or equivalent) 4
LIFE 120 Fundamentals of Biology I 4
& LIFE 120L and Fundamentals of Biology I laboratory
MATH 106 Calculus I (or equivalent) 5
Credit Hours Subtotal: 13

Core Courses
CSCE 155T Computer Science I: Informatics Focus 3
CSCE 311 Data Structures and Algorithms for Informatics 3
BIOS 337 Applications of Bioinformatics 4
STAT 218 Introduction to Statistics 2 or STAT 380 / MATH 380 3
Credit Hours Subtotal: 13

Life Science Course 3
Select a course from either LS 1 or LS 2 choices, depending on your major. 3-4

LS 1 - for students in life science majors.
BIOS 426 Systems Biology
BIOS 427 Practical Bioinformatics Laboratory

BIOS 456 / NRES 456 Mathematical Models in Biology
BIOS 477 Bioinformatics and Molecular Evolution

LS 2
BIOC 431 / BIOS 431 / CHEM 431 Structure and Metabolism
BIOC 432 / BIOS 432 / CHEM 432 Metabolism and Biological Information
BIOC 434 / AGRO 434 / BIOS 434 / CHEM 434 Plant Biochemistry
BIOS 418 Advanced Genetics
BIOS 420 / MBIO 420 Molecular Genetics
BIOS 425 Plant Biotechnology
BIOS 429 Phylogenetic Biology
BIOS 472 Evolution

Credit Hours Subtotal: 3-4

Computer Science/Math/Statistics/Engineering (CMSE) Course 4
Select a course from either CMSE 1 or CMSE 2 choices, depending on your major. 3
CMSE 1 - For students in computer science, math, engineering and related majors.

CSCE 471 Introduction to Bioinformatics

CMSE 2
BSEN 414 Medical Imaging Systems
CHME 473 Biochemical Engineering
CHME 474 Advanced Biochemical Engineering
CSCE 410 Information Retrieval Systems
CSCE 413 Database Systems
CSCE 421 Foundations of Constraint Processing
CSCE 423 Design and Analysis of Algorithms
CSCE 435 Cluster and Grid Computing
CSCE 456 Parallel Programming
CSCE 472 Digital Image Processing
CSCE 474 Introduction to Data Mining
CSCE 476 Introduction to Artificial Intelligence
CSCE 478 Introduction to Machine Learning
CSCE 479 Introduction to Neural Networks
ECEN 450 Bioinformatics
MATH 439 Mathematical Models in Biology
MATH 452 Graph Theory
STAT 412 Introduction to Experimental Design
STAT 450 Introduction to Regression Analysis

Credit Hours Subtotal: 3

Total Credit Hours 19-20

1 These requirements can be replaced with equivalent courses upon approval except for BIOS 337, which cannot be replaced.
Students are strongly encouraged to take STAT 218 or STAT 380. However, ECEN 305 can be used to satisfy this requirement, subject to approval.

For life science major students, those courses listed as LS Elective 2 cannot be used for CBB requirements.

For students in computer science, mathematics, engineering, and related majors, those courses listed as CMSE Elective 2 cannot be used for CBB requirements.

Grade Rules

C- and D Grades
A grade of C or above is required for all courses in the minor.

Pass/No Pass
No course taken Pass/No Pass will be counted toward the minor.