



Integrated Science

Research projects

Each year, 20-30 research projects are conducted by Integrated Science students. In winter term, our students conduct research in small teams in a Dalhousie research laboratory. See our website for a list of projects recently conducted by our students.

Students experience the entire research process, from developing a research question, to collecting and analysing their data, and finally to presenting their research findings in individual written reports, team conference presentations, and a team scientific poster session on the last day of class, open to the public.

Transferrable skills

Learn research methods, field and laboratory techniques, teamwork, critical thinking, problem solving, numeric and statistical techniques, planning, organization, and written and oral communication skills. This focus on 'skills development' is excellent preparation for academic, research, and co-op work.

Scientific writing

Writing instruction and practice are integrated across our curriculum. Students hone their scientific writing skills in formal reports in the fall and their research projects in the winter.

In Ethics of Science, taken in the fall, students are introduced to some of the ethical questions that arise in science. They further their writing skills as they grapple with the types of ethical issues working scientists encounter and practice and research.

Subjects covered

Subjects covered in the Integrated Science core include biology, psychology, statistics, earth science and writing in science. Students also study chemistry and calculus. Students considering majoring in physics, which is not included in the core, should discuss their options with the Director.

On transcripts, students receive a single letter grade for each term of the core course (SCIE 1506/1507). A breakdown of subject marks is available upon request. Students receive separate grades in their co-requisite courses.

Workload

Integrated Science students can expect a higher workload than other first-year BSc students given the larger number of subjects studied, the writing class, and the research. The program is also excellent preparation for higher workloads in the second year of a BSc. Note that workload does vary depending on course selection.

Preparation for later years

Emphasis on scientific research methods and communication skills, along with a broad introduction to the sciences, makes Integrated Science an excellent foundation for an Honours degree, a combined Honours degree, a Major degree or Double Major degree in science.

Integrated Science is ideal preparation for interdisciplinary fields, like environmental or ocean sciences, and neuroscience.

The program is also a good choice for students interested in many sciences but who are unsure about choosing a major. It also provides a broader background in science that is especially useful in careers such as science journalism, teaching, law and biomedical ethics.

The program is also excellent preparation for certain degrees or professional programs, such as Medicine. For more information, see the sheet 'Course selection for Integrated Science' or visit our website:

disp.science.dal.ca

Contact us

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