Yale College offers a yearlong interdepartmental course sequence for first-year students with strong preparation in the sciences who do not intend to major in science. SCIE 030 and 031, Current Topics in Science, presents a broader range of topics than standard courses and highlights the interdependence of the scientific disciplines. For first-year students interested in research, SCIE 010 and 011, Perspectives on Biological Research, combines lectures from Yale faculty on their own research, as well as instruction on those skills essential for any successful scientist. SCIE 099, Introduction to Research Methods in Physics and Biology: Preparing for a First Research Experience, spans both the classroom and laboratory, providing an immersive introduction to scientific research. Application information is available on the First-Year Seminar website.

View Courses

Courses

* SCIE 010a and SCIE 011b, Perspectives on Biological Research Sandy Chang

The goal of this two course series is to teach Science, Technology, and Research Scholars 1 (STARS1) passionate about conducting research in the life sciences the skills necessary for all scientists and the outstanding research opportunities available at Yale. During the first semester, students read primary research papers on the COVID19 pandemic and emerge from this course with an appreciation for how rapidly scientific knowledge can be utilized to combat a deadly disease. Students learn how to (1) read the primary scientific literature, (2) present this material to the class and, (3) write a group grant proposal. During the second semester, students are required to identify a research lab that they will work in and learn how to write an independent grant proposal for funding to conduct summer research. Credit for SCIE 010 only on completion of SCIE 011; one course credit, one SC credit, and guaranteed summer research funding is awarded for successful completion of the grant proposal and one year’s work. Prerequisite: Score of 5 on AP biology test or equivalent on IB biology exam. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.

* SCIE 030a and SCIE 031b, Current Topics in Science Douglas Kankel

A series of modules in lecture and discussion format addressing scientific issues arising in current affairs. Topics are selected for their scientific interest and contemporary relevance, and may include global warming, human cloning, and the existence of extrasolar planets. Credit for SCIE 030 upon completion of SCIE 031; one course credit is awarded for successful completion of the year’s work. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.