BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Program Description

The Department of Biological Sciences offers both undergraduate and graduate degree programs. At the undergraduate level, students are able to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree, a Bachelor of Science degree, or a Minor in Biological Sciences. Within the Bachelor of Science degree program students may focus their work by selecting one or more of the following concentrations: Biomedical Sciences, Cell and Molecular Biology, Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Ecology, Evolution and Conservation, Forensic Biology, or Microbiology; or students may choose to obtain the Bachelor of Science in General Biology.

At the Graduate level, students may earn a Master of Arts or Master of Science degree in Biological Sciences and may also focus their work by pursuing a concentration in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation or in Molecular and Cellular Biology within the Master of Science in Biological Sciences.

Degree Programs

BA in Biological Science (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/natural-sciences-mathematics/biological-sciences/ba-in-biological-science)

BS in Biological Science (Biomedical Sciences) (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/natural-sciences-mathematics/biological-sciences/bs-in-biological-science-biomedical-sciences)


BS in Biological Science (Clinical Laboratory) (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/natural-sciences-mathematics/biological-sciences/bs-in-biological-science-clinical-laboratory-sciences)


BS in Biological Science (General Biology) (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/natural-sciences-mathematics/biological-sciences/bs-in-biological-science-general-biology)

BS in Biological Science (Microbiology) (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/natural-sciences-mathematics/biological-sciences/bs-in-biological-science-microbiology)

Biological Sciences Honors Program (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/natural-sciences-mathematics/biological-sciences/biological-sciences-honors-program)


Subject Matter Program (Pre-Credential Preparation) (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/natural-sciences-mathematics/biological-sciences/subject-matter-program)


Cooperative Education Program (Work Experience) (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/natural-sciences-mathematics/biological-sciences/cooperative-education-program-work-experience)

MA in Biological Science (General) (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/natural-sciences-mathematics/biological-sciences/ma-in-biological-science-general)


MS in Biological Science (General) (http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/natural-sciences-mathematics/biological-sciences/ms-in-biological-science-general)


Special Features

• An Academic Achievement Certificate in Issues in Natural Resource Management may be earned with coursework beyond the B.S.

• Laboratory experiences are included with most major’s courses, giving students an exceptional level of on-hands training during the degree program.

• The Department maintains a large collection of thousands of living and preserved plants and animals that are used for instruction, research, and public outreach. A complete list of the Department’s current collections can be found on the Department’s webpage (www.csus.edu/bios).

• Students have the opportunity to engage in research in a wide range of projects with individual faculty and through two University-recognized centers, each of which is composed of a cross-disciplinary interdepartmental group of faculty: CREST (the Center for Regional Environmental Science and Technology) and CIMERA (the Center for Interdisciplinary Molecular Biology Education, Research and Advancement).

• The Sierra Nevada and the Pacific Coast are equally accessible from Sacramento, providing field biology students the opportunity to study an extraordinary number of varied habitats.

• Sacramento State is one of the seven participating CSU campuses at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (MLML) near Monterey.

• Located in the State Capital, Sacramento State provides a unique opportunity for students to become involved with various State and Federal agencies through biological internships and part-time employment.
• Public agencies, hospitals, clinics, and private health practices in the Sacramento area provide opportunities for students interested in the health care fields.

Contact Information
Shannon Datwyler, Department Chair
Nancy Angell, Administrative Support Coordinator
Sequoia Hall 202
(916) 278-6535
Department of Biological Sciences Website (http://www.csus.edu/bios)

Faculty
ALTMAN, ROBIN
BAHLMAN, JOSEPH
BAXTER, JAMES W.
COLEMAN, RONALD M.
COLLINS, CLINT
CRAWFORD, ROBERT
DATWYLER, SHANNON L.
DAVIDSON, TIMOTHY
GLEASON, LANI
GONZALEZ, ENID T.
HOLLAND, BRETT T.
KIRVAN, CHRISTINE A.
KNEITEL, JAMIE M.
LANDERHOLM, THOMAS E.
LINDGREN, SUSANNE W.
LUNDMARK, JENNIFER ANN
MCDONALD, KELLY
MOTT, JOANNA
MULLIGAN, KIMBERLY
NGUYEN, HAO
PEAVY, THOMAS R.
PITZER, JR., JIMMY
RECHS, ADAM J.
SPROWLS, ROSALEE
VISGER, CLAYTON J.
WRIGHT, T. MICHAEL

BIO 1. Biodiversity, Evolution and Ecology. 5 Units
General Education Area/Graduation Requirement: Life Forms (B2), Laboratory (B3)
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer

Introduction to properties of life and cells leading to genetic and biological diversity. Survey of biological diversity emphasizing variation leading to natural selection; introduction to ecological concepts within an evolutionary framework; a survey of ecosystems and global climate change. Development of scientific skills will be emphasized. Designed for science majors. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours; activity two hours; fee course.

Note: Field trips may be required.

BIO 2. Cells, Molecules and Genes. 5 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and CHEM 1A.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Introduction to molecular and cellular biology and genetics. Topics include biomolecules, cell structure and function, cellular energetics, molecular flow of information, cell division, and genetic inheritance. Development of scientific skills and a scientific mindset will be emphasized throughout the course, particularly in lab exercises and activities. Designed for science majors. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours; activity two hours.

BIO 7. Introduction to the Science of Biology. 4 Units
General Education Area/Graduation Requirement: Laboratory (B3), Life Forms (B2)
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Introduction to major concepts of biology, including properties of living things, cells and their molecular constituents, the unity and diversity of organisms, genetics, ecology, evolution, and the scientific methods of investigation employed by biologists. Satisfies requirements in biology for students planning to obtain the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course.

BIO 9. Our Living World: Evolution, Ecology and Behavior. 3 Units
General Education Area/Graduation Requirement: Life Forms (B2)
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Designed for non-majors, this course is an introduction to the biological science behind important issues that face us today, such as those surrounding evolution, endangered species, conservation of ecosystems, and the behavior of organisms. By gaining an understanding of the scientific approach and the principles of evolution, ecology and behavior, students will be equipped to evaluate scientific developments and arguments in these and other issues as informed citizens. Lecture three hours.

Note: Not open to Biological Sciences majors or students who have received credit for BIO 1 or BIO 2.
### BIO 10. Basic Biological Concepts. 3 Units
**General Education Area/Graduation Requirement:** Life Forms (B2)
**Term Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring

An intensive introductory course for non-majors who will take additional course work in biology or related disciplines, including the allied health sciences. Introduction to the biological sciences with strong emphasis on cellular structure and metabolism, molecular biology and genetics, as well as concepts and principles common to all living systems including ecology and evolution. Lecture three hours.

**Note:** Not open to Biological Sciences majors or students who have received credit for BIO 1 or BIO 2.

#### BIO 15L. Laboratory Investigations in Biology. 1 Unit
**Prerequisite(s):** BIO 9, BIO 10 or BIO 20.
**Corequisite(s):** BIO 9, BIO 10 or BIO 20.
**General Education Area/Graduation Requirement:** Laboratory (B3)
**Term Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring

Introductory laboratory investigation of the major principles of biology, including properties of all living things, the unity and diversity of organisms, structure and function of cells, energy and metabolism, genetics, ecology, evolution, and the scientific methods of investigation employed by biologists. Laboratory three hours.

**Note:** Not open to Biological Sciences majors or students who have received credit for BIO 1 or BIO 2.

### BIO 20. Biology: A Human Perspective. 3 Units
**General Education Area/Graduation Requirement:** Life Forms (B2)
**Term Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring

Introduction to biological concepts with emphasis on their application to humans. Topics include: Evidenced-based decision making with respect to food, nutritional supplements, drugs, pathogens, and biotechnology. How heredity and evolution contribute to our understanding of personality, sex, behavior, addiction, disease, and aging is also discussed. Lecture three hours.

**Note:** Not open to majors in biological sciences and/or students who have received credit for BIO 10.

#### BIO 22. Introductory Human Anatomy. 4 Units
**Prerequisite(s):** BIO 1, BIO 2 or BIO 10
**Term Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring

Introduction to the study of the gross and microscopic structure of the human body using a systemic approach. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course.

#### BIO 25. Human Anatomy and Physiology I. 4 Units
**Term Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring

BIO 25/26 series provides an introduction to the structure and function of the major organ systems of the human body. BIO 25 offers basic terminology and concepts pertaining to the disciplines of anatomy and physiology, including structure/function relationships, homeostasis, and organizational levels; and provides an introduction to the structure and function of the muscular and nervous systems.

**Note:** Not open to students who have successfully completed BIO 22 and BIO 131, or an equivalent combination of separate anatomy and physiology courses. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course.

### BIO 26. Human Anatomy and Physiology II. 4 Units
**Prerequisite(s):** BIO 25 or instructor permission.
**Term Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring

BIO 25/26 series provides an introduction to the structure and function of the major organ systems of the human body. BIO 26 provides an introduction to the structure and function of the cardiovascular, respiratory, renal and digestive systems, and emphasizes homeostatic control mechanisms.

**Note:** Not open to students who have successfully completed BIO 22 and BIO 131, or an equivalent combination of separate anatomy and physiology courses. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course.

#### BIO 30. Anatomy & Physiology - Brief Course. 4 Units
**Prerequisite(s):** Physical Education majors only
**Term Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring

An overview of the basic anatomy and physiology of all systems. Designed to meet the standards for the Physical Education Subject Matter Program, but may also prepare students for study in other health-related fields.

### BIO 39. Microbiology for Allied Health Students. 4 Units
**Prerequisite(s):** BIO 10; CHEM 5 or CHEM 6A and CHEM 6B or equivalent.
**Term Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring

Introduction to micro-organisms, particularly bacteria and viruses, with emphasis on health care-related applications of microbiology using case studies. Laboratory work includes aseptic techniques, methods of cultivating and identifying bacteria, demonstration of microbial properties and will provide practice with basic microbiological skills. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours. Fee Course.

**Note:** Does not satisfy microbiology requirement for Biological Sciences majors.

### BIO 100. Introduction to Scientific Analysis. 2 Units
**Prerequisite(s):** BIO 1, BIO 2, and STAT 1; declared Biological Sciences majors only or instructor consent
**Term Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring

Covers anatomy of scientific literature, reading and writing scientific papers, proper citation formats, basic interpretation of tables and figures, graphical analysis, basic statistical analysis, experimental design to effectively test a hypothesis, and effective presentation of an experiment. Lecture one hour. Activity two hours.

**Note:** Course cannot be taken concurrently with or after taking BIO 167

#### BIO 102. The Natural History of Plants. 3 Units
**Prerequisite(s):** A college course in biology or instructor permission.
**Term Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring

Major plant communities of California provide a framework for understanding the interrelationships of natural environments and the dominant trees and shrubs of these areas. Identification of these species and the wildflowers of the communities are emphasized in the lab and field trips. Designed for minors in biology or for those with an interest in their natural surroundings, but is acceptable for majors who have not completed BIO 112. Lecture one hour; laboratory six hours. Fee course.

**Field trip(s) may be required.**
BIO 103. Plants and Civilization. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 10 or equivalent.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Study of the significance of plants in the development of human civilization. Emphasis will be placed on the botanical, sociological and economic aspects of plants useful to humans. Lecture three hours.

BIO 104. Physiology of Human Reproduction. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1, BIO 2 or BIO 10.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

Study of the physiology of human reproduction. Topics to be covered include: gametogenesis, the basis of fertility, conception, prenatal development, parturition, lactation and the physiology of contraception. Lecture three hours.

BIO 105. Life in the Ocean. 3 Units
General Education Area/Graduation Requirement: Further Studies in Area B (B5)
Study of marine life and ocean ecosystems. Exploration of the unique adaptations of marine life, how marine organisms interact with their environment, diversity of marine habitats from coral reefs to deep sea, and conservation. Does not count toward the Biological Sciences Major.

BIO 106. Genetics: From Mendel to Molecules. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Introduction to the principles of genetics and scientific approaches used to define those principles. The physical basis of heredity, the impact of selective breeding and genetic engineering will be discussed. Lecture two hours; discussion one hour.

Note: BIO 10 recommended.

BIO 109. Biology of Dinosaurs. 3 Units
General Education Area/Graduation Requirement: Further Studies in Area B (B5)
Introduction to the biology of the dinosaurs. Dinosaurs came in a vast array of shapes and sizes and exemplify biodiversity. This course will examine the dinosaurs in an evolutionary framework, discussing their origin, the major lineages, phylogeny and what they look like today. The course will take advantage of the recent surge in scientific investigations into the biology of dinosaurs, such as parental care, sexual selection, group living, flight and feathers. Does not count toward the Biological Sciences Major.

BIO 112. Plant Taxonomy. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

Spring flora of central California is used as the focus of study in the classification and identification of native vascular plants. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours. Field trips may be required. Fee course.

Field trip(s) may be required.

BIO 113. Evolution and Speciation in Flowering Plants. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2 or equivalent.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only – even years

A survey of the important tools and mechanisms used to study speciation in plants. Topics include the molecular basis of evolutionary change, intraspecific genetic variation at both the local and landscape levels, theory regarding mechanisms of speciation, and the importance of polyploidy. Readings will be from both a text and from the primary literature, and will include in-depth discussions of historical and modern studies in plant evolution. Lecture three hours.

BIO 115. Introduction to Neuroscience. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): PSYC 2 and PSYC 8; PSYC or BIO majors only. PSYC 9 recommended.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Investigation of the structure and function of the central nervous system including neuroanatomy and neurophysiology, sensorimotor integration. The lectures and readings emphasize the empirical questions, techniques and methods used in neuroscience research. Laboratory exercises focus on gross- and micro- neuroanatomy, models of membrane electrophysiology and motor system function. Lecture/discussion three hours; laboratory three hours.

Cross Listed: PSYC 115; only one may be counted for credit.

BIO 118. Natural Resource Conservation. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only – odd years

Introduction to the principles and practices of biological conservation. Historical development of conservation philosophy; current issues in conservation of renewable natural resources; conservation administration. Lecture three hours.

BIO 120. Biology of Aging. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1, BIO 2, BIO 10 or BIO 20.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Theories of aging, cellular aging and aging effects on the various human body systems. Lecture three hours.

Note: Not open for credit to students who have previously taken BIO 131.

BIO 121. Molecular Cell Biology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 184
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Comparison of the cellular and molecular biology of prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. Emphasis will be placed on membrane structures, transport phenomena, cell to cell communication, cellular reproduction, genetic architecture, gene expression and metabolism, as well as the eukaryotic endomembrane, cytoskeleton and extracellular matrix systems. Lecture three hours.

BIO 122. Advanced Human Anatomy. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 22.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

Gross structure of the human body using a regional approach. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course.

Fee course.
BIO 123. Neuroanatomy. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 22.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only

This course examines the progression of fertilized eggs of vertebrate organisms through embryonic development. This progression will be studied at biochemical, molecular, genetic, morphological and physiological levels, with an emphasis on the progressive changes that occur within cells, tissues and organs in the embryo. We will use a comparative approach between a variety of model organisms to understand similarities and differences among vertebrate and selected invertebrate species. Fee course.

Note: Prerequisite will be enforced by instructor.

Fee course.

BIO 124. Clinical Hematology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): CHEM 161 and BIO 184
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

Basic principles and current clinical laboratory procedures used in the study of blood; emphasis on morphological and chemical changes in the disease processes. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course. Fee course.

BIO 125. Body Fluid Analysis. 1 Unit
Prerequisite(s): CHEM 161 or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only

Production of body fluids (e.g., urine, cerebrospinal, pleural, peritoneal, pericardial, and synovial fluids); their normal characteristics and pathological changes will be discussed. A description of the laboratory tests used in the clinical evaluation of body fluids will also be presented.

BIO 126. Comparative Vertebrate Morphology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

Study of the anatomical systems of vertebrates in an evolutionary and functional context. Covers vertebrate form, function, development and phylogeny, overviews of organ systems, and how their modification founded the major events of vertebrate evolution including metamorphosis, water-to-land transition, tetrapodal locomotion, feeding and reproduction. Labs complement lectures with dissections of three representative species (shark, salamander, cat), and surveys of specializations in other forms. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course.

Fee course.

BIO 127. Developmental Biology. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only

This course examines the progression of fertilized eggs of vertebrate organisms through embryonic development. This progression will be studied at biochemical, molecular, genetic, morphological and physiological levels, with an emphasis on the progressive changes that occur within cells, tissues and organs in the embryo. We will use a comparative approach between a variety of model organisms to understand similarities and differences among vertebrate and selected invertebrate species. Fee course.

Note: Prerequisite will be enforced by instructor.

Fee course.
fee course.
of pathogenic bacteria. In the laboratory, pure culture studies are
Morphological, physiological and immunological characteristics
Term Typically Offered: Spring only – even years
Study of the morphology, cultural characteristics and classification of
fungi which are pathogenic for humans, as well as fungi which appear as
common contaminants. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours. Fee
course. Fee course.

BIO 135. Endocrinology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 121.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only
Advanced consideration of the principles of endocrinology with special
emphasis on the role of hormones in growth, metabolism, stress
(including the hormonal interactions during exercise) and disease.
Various endocrine disorders, will serve as the model for case studies,
current literature analysis and advanced problem-solving activities.
Lecture three hours.

BIO 139. General Microbiology. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 184; CHEM 20 or CHEM 24
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Introduction to microorganisms, particularly bacteria and viruses,
their physiology and metabolism. Laboratory work includes aseptic
techniques, methods of cultivating and identifying bacteria, and
demonstration of microbial properties. Lecture three hours; laboratory
three hours. Fee course.

BIO 140. Medical Microbiology and Emerging Infectious Diseases. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 39 or BIO 139.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only
Lectures, discussions, and readings regarding infectious viruses, bacteria,
fungi, and parasites, with an emphasis on highly relevant pathogens
including emerging infectious agents and microbes that are regionally
endemic. The clinical syndrome, along with the molecular and cellular
aspects of the course of infection of each pathogen will be discussed.
Additionally, the history of microbiology and medicine as well as a brief
overview of laboratory methods used for diagnosis will also be covered.
Lecture three hours.
Note: BIO 140 cannot substitute for BIO 144 in the CLS concentration in
Biological Sciences.

BIO 143. General Virology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 121 and BIO 139
Term Typically Offered: Spring only
Lectures and demonstrations on the fundamental characteristics and
properties of plant, animal and bacterial viruses. Lecture three hours.

BIO 144. Pathogenic Bacteriology. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 139.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Morphological, physiological and immunological characteristics
of pathogenic bacteria. In the laboratory, pure culture studies are
emphasized. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours. Fee course.

BIO 145. The Diversity of Microorganisms. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 139.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only
Isolation, cultivation and characterization of a wide variety of soil and
water microbes from natural habitats using a variety of culture and
non-culture based techniques; natural habitats also will be examined
directly for the numbers and varieties of microbes which are present
using bioinformatic and statistical tools. Lecture two hours; laboratory
six hours.

BIO 149A. Immunology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 121 and BIO 139
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Nature of antigens, antibodies and their reactions. The development of
the immune response and its role in immunity and pathology. Lecture two
hours.

BIO 149B. Immunology and Serology Laboratory. 1 Unit
Prerequisite(s): BIO 139, BIO 149A.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Laboratory exercises designed to provide familiarity with common clinical
laboratory procedures in serology. Laboratory three hours. Fee course.

BIO 149C. Advanced Problems in Immunology. 1 Unit
Prerequisite(s): BIO 139 and CHEM 161.
Corequisite(s): BIO 149A.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only
Advanced problem-solving in immunology designed for students
concurrently enrolled in BIO 149A. Discussions and problem sets are
focused on the medical, clinical, and biotechnology applications of
immunology. Discussion one hour.
Credit/No Credit

BIO 150. Forensic Biology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1, BIO 2 and BIO 184.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only
Principles governing the application of biology and biological statistics
to solve crimes. Topics include evidence examination and preservation,
presumptive and confirmatory serological tests, hair comparison,
generation and statistical analysis of mitochondrial and nuclear DNA
profiles, structure and administration of the modern crime laboratory, and
the role of the criminalist in the U.S. court system. Lecture two hours;
laboratory three hours.
Note: Not offered every semester

BIO 151. Advanced Laboratory Techniques in Forensic Biology. 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 150 or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only
Laboratory exercises focusing on current research problems and
skills in forensic serology, DNA typing, and court testimony. Topics will
include DNA mixture and low copy number interpretation, advanced
techniques in serological testing, research ethics, as well as skills for
effective communication in the courtroom. Topics may also include Y-
STR typing, animal and plant DNA identification and typing, microbial
forensics, somatic mosaicism, ELISA specificity and sensitivity testing,
and other current areas of active inquiry. Designed to prepare students
for entry level positions as DNA analysts in federal, state, and local crime
laboratories. Laboratory six hours. Fee course.
Fee course.
BIO 152. Human Parasitology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only
Examines, in detail, the most important species of protozoans, flukes, tapeworms and roundworms that infect humans. Life cycles, pathology and prophylaxis constitute the principal topics in lectures. Morphology, physiology, taxonomy and diagnosis constitute the principal topics in the laboratory. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course.

Fee course.

BIO 156. Food Microbiology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 139.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Microbiology of food fermentations, food preservation and spoilage. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course.

Fee course.

BIO 157. General Entomology. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only
Biology of insects and a brief consideration of other terrestrial arthropods. Includes structure, physiology, ecology, classification, economic importance, collection and preservation of insects. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course.

Fee course.

BIO 160. General Ecology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2 or BIO 1 and BIO 10; BIO 100 or ENVS 120. Fee course.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Examination of the interrelationships among organisms and their environments. Designed for the major in Biological Sciences or related fields. Topics include the structure and function of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, population and community dynamics and human effects on ecosystems. Projects and field trips required. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours.

Fee course.
Field trip(s) may be required.

BIO 162. Ichthyology: The Study of Fishes. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only – even years
Biology of fishes: structure, physiology, ecology, economic importance, propagation and classification. Methods of identification, life history study, propagation, collection and preservation. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours. Field trips may be required. Fee course.

Fee course.
Field trip(s) may be required.

BIO 164. Amphibians and Reptiles: An Introduction to Herpetology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only – even years
Taxonomy, natural history, ecology and distribution of amphibians and reptiles with emphasis on local forms. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours. Field trips may be required. Fee course.

Fee course.
Field trip(s) may be required.

BIO 166. Ornithology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only – odd years
Biology of birds: structure, physiology, ecology, behavior, and classification. Methods of life history study, ecological studies, laboratory and field identification. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours. Field trips required. Fee course.

Fee course.
Field trip(s) may be required.

BIO 167. Quantitative Methods in Biology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): STAT 1 and BIO 100 or graduate status
Term Typically Offered: Spring only
Focuses on statistical hypothesis testing and experimental design in the biological sciences. Topics include the development of a hypothesis, study design and implementation, management and presentation of data, identification of data types, and appropriate use of statistical procedures. General application to a wide range of biological disciplines and will emphasize the scientific process, critical thinking skills, and the interpretation of statistical results, which will include a project culminating a scientific paper and presentation. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours.

BIO 168. Mammalogy. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only
Biology of mammals: structure, physiology, ecology, behavior, classification. Methods of life history, laboratory and field identification, collection and preservation. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours. Field trips required. Fee course.

Fee course.
Field trip(s) may be required.

BIO 169. Animal Behavior. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only
Introduction to the fascinating world of why animals do the things that they do. Focus is on the evolution and function of animal behavior through understanding the costs and benefits of different behavior including foraging, fighting and reproduction. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course.

Fee course.

BIO 170. Advanced Nutrition and Metabolism. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): CHEM 161, FACS 113; or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only – odd years
Study of the physiologic function of carbohydrates, lipids, protein and micronutrients including integrated metabolism, transport, regulation and relation to inborn errors/chronic disease. Introduction to gene-nutrient interaction.

Cross Listed: FACS 170; only one may be counted for credit.
BIO 173. Principles of Fisheries Biology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 160, STAT 1.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only — odd years

Introduction to the biological principles basic to fisheries science, including enumeration, recruitment, growth, abundance and mortality. Mathematics, computer modeling, and field methods will be used to understand natural populations and the impact of fishing on those populations in keeping with modern approaches to fisheries science which are grounded in population ecology and conservation biology. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course. Fee course.

BIO 178. Molecular Ecology. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 184
Corequisite(s): BIO 188
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

A survey of the use of molecular tools to understand ecological questions. Lecture will focus on the background and history of the use of molecular tools in ecological settings, including application of molecular tools to conservation of natural resources. Laboratory will include techniques for both wet lab and analysis of molecular data, including interpretation of results. Students will complete a capstone-style project that will culminate in the production of a research proposal.

BIO 179. Conservation Biology & Wildlife Management. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 100. BIO 160 recommended.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only — odd years

Study of human effects and management of ecological systems, including populations, communities, and ecosystems. Topics include population and biodiversity responses to human activities, endangered species management, reserve design, and restoration.
Note: Lecture two hours; laboratory and fieldwork three hours. Fee course.

BIO 180. Advanced Molecular Biology. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 121 and BIO 184.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Examination of the structure of genes and genomes, the mechanisms by which they change, and the use of evolutionary relationships to understand function. Mechanisms of the regulation of gene expression from gene to phenotype and the tools used to study these processes. Applications of molecular tools in medicine and biotechnology and the ethics around these approaches. Lecture two hours, laboratory six hours.

BIO 183. Cancer Biology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 121 and BIO 184.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only

Study of cancer from the molecular level to the effect on whole tissues and organs. Topics to be covered include the classification and nomenclature of cancers, the process leading up to the formation of a cancer, the possible causes of cancer, and possible treatment. Lecture two hours.

BIO 183A. Advanced Problems in Cancer Biology. 1 Unit
Prerequisite(s): BIO 121 and BIO 184 and BIO 183 or instructor permission; BIO 183 may be taken concurrently
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Literature searches and discussions are focused on medical, clinical, and biotechnological applications of Cancer Biology.

BIO 184. General Genetics. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 1 and BIO 2; declared major in Biological Sciences, Biochemistry, Chemistry or instructor consent
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer

Principles of inheritance as they relate to microorganisms, plants, animals and humans. Genetic mechanisms are analyzed according to evidence derived from both classical and current research. The nature, structure, and function of the genome are considered at the molecular level. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours. Fee course.

BIO 185. Topics in Biology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 10 or both BIO 1 and BIO 2; CHEM 20.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Current topics in cellular, developmental and/or molecular biology. Topics will vary. May be taken more than once provided that topics are different.
Lecture three hours.

BIO 186A. Cell and Molecular Biology Seminar. 1 Unit
Prerequisite(s): BIO 10 or both BIO 1 and BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Series of at least 10 seminars in cell and molecular biology. Topics within each seminar will vary each semester.
Note: May be repeated for credit. No more than one unit of BIO 186 may be counted toward the upper division major requirement.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 186B. Ecological and Environmental Issues Seminar. 1 Unit
Prerequisite(s): BIO 10 or both BIO 1 and BIO 2.
Term Typically Offered: Fall only

Series of at least 10 seminars in ecological and environmental issues. Topics within each seminar will vary each semester.
Note: May be repeated for credit. No more than one unit of BIO 186 may be counted toward the upper division major requirement. Cross Listed: ENVS 186B; only one may be counted for credit.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 186C. Introduction to Health Careers Seminar. 1 Unit
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Designed for pre-health professional students who are in the process of researching traditional and non-traditional health professions and careers. This course consists of at least 10 seminars presented by various practicing health professionals, health professional students, and health professional school admissions officers. Topics vary each semester. One hour per week.

Credit/No Credit
BIO 187. Advanced Cell Biology. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 121 and BIO 184.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Advanced cellular and molecular biology of eukaryotic cells. Comparison to prokaryotic organism will be made as needed to illustrate key concepts. Emphasis will be placed on cellular functions and utilize two or more cellular systems; including cell to cell communication, regulation of gene expression, uptake and secretion, regulation of cytoskeletal configuration, cell migration and cellular reproduction. Lecture two hours, laboratory six hours.

BIO 188. Evolution. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 184 or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

General survey of evolutionary processes: mechanisms of evolutionary change, adaptation and history of life. Designed for biological sciences majors. Lecture three hours.

BIO 194. Biology-Related Work Experience. 6 - 12 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Supervised employment in a biology or biology-related company or agency arranged through the Department of Biological Sciences and the Cooperative Education Program office. Requires preparation of application packet, completion of a three to six month, full-time or part-time work assignment, and a written report.

Note: Open only to upper division or graduate students with appropriate preparation. Consent of Department Cooperative Education Committee required, and Committee will determine the number of units to be granted. Students may enroll for no more than 12 total units, and units may not be used to meet biology major or graduate course work requirements.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 195. Biological Internship. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Department chair and instructor (representing the appropriate biological discipline) permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Supervised work-learn experience in biology with a public or private organization. Up to 4 units may be taken. No more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined can be applied to the biological sciences upper division major requirement.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 195D. Dental Internship. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Department chair and instructor (representing the appropriate preprofessional discipline) permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Supervised non-paid internship experience in the medical-related and business-related aspects of dentistry. Includes a volunteer experience in the community. No more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined can be applied to the biological sciences upper division major requirement.

Note: 1 unit = 40 hours of participation/semester and 2 units = 80 hours of participation/semester; May be repeated for up to 4 units of credit.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 195M. Medical Internship. 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Department Chair, Instructor and Placement Agency's permission required.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Supervised non-paid internship experience in multiple aspects of health care. Includes a volunteer experience in the community, supplemental readings, and a presentation on current issues in medicine and health education. No more than 2 units of BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined may be applied to the Biological Sciences upper division major requirement.

Note: 80 hours of participation/semester

Credit/No Credit

BIO 195P. Pharmacy Internship. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Department Chair, Instructor, and Placement Agency permission required.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Supervised non-paid internship experience in pharmacy. Includes a volunteer experience in the community. No more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined can be applied to the biological sciences upper division major requirement. May be repeated for up to 4 units of credit. 1.0-2.0 units (40-80 hours of participation/semester).

Credit/No Credit

BIO 195T. Teaching Internship. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Department chair and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Supervised non-paid internship experience in K-12 teaching. Includes regular meetings with supervising teacher and submission of a field experience journal. May be repeated for credit.

Note: No more than 2 units from BIO 195, 197 and 199 combined can be applied to the biological sciences upper division major requirement.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 197A. Laboratory Teaching Assistant. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Department Chair and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Supervised experiences will include aspects of laboratory preparation and aspects of teaching biology laboratory courses. Conferences and laboratory experiences four to eight hours weekly. Admission requires approval of professor and Department Chair.

Note: May be taken more than once, but no more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined can be applied to the Biological Sciences upper division major requirement.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 197B. Laboratory Techniques. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Department Chair and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Supervised laboratory experiences for advanced students in the organization and techniques for operation of a basic sciences laboratory. Conferences and laboratory experiences four to eight hours weekly. Admission requires approval of professor and Department Chair.

Note: May be taken more than once, but no more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined can be applied to the Biological Sciences upper division major requirement.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 197C. Laboratory Work Experience. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

The Cooperative Education Program office. Requires preparation of application packet, completion of a three to six month, full-time or part-time work assignment, and a written report.

Note: Open only to upper division or graduate students with appropriate preparation. Consent of Department Cooperative Education Committee required, and Committee will determine the number of units to be granted. Students may enroll for no more than 12 total units, and units may not be used to meet biology major or graduate course work requirements.

Credit/No Credit
BIO 197C. Co-curricular Activities in Biology. 1 - 2 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Students may earn BIO 197C credit by participating as tutors and/or section or discussion leaders for biological sciences classes or teaching as voluntary instructors or tutors in K-12 courses or programs offered by other community organizations. Participation requires four to eight hours weekly. Admission requires approval of professor and Department Chair.

Note: May be taken more than once, but no more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined may be applied to the Biological Sciences upper division major requirement.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 197D. Advanced Laboratory Exploration. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 197A and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Advanced, supervised experiences that explore the science behind laboratory experiences and discussion regarding aspects of specific laboratories that promote understanding of scientific content. Conferences and laboratory experiences four to eight hours weekly; written assignments and/or oral presentations required. Admission requires approval of instructor and Department Chair.

Note: No more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197, BIO 199 combined may be applied to the Biological Sciences upper division major requirement.

BIO 197E. Intermediate Lab Techniques. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 197B and instructor or Department Chair permission
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Supervised laboratory experiences for skilled students in the organization and techniques for operation of a basic sciences laboratory. Conferences and laboratory experiences four to eight hours weekly. Admission requires approval of instructor and Department Chair.

Note: May be taken more than once, but no more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined may be applied to the Biological Sciences upper division major requirement.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 197F. Advanced Lab Techniques. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 197B and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Advanced supervised laboratory experiences for skilled students in the organization and techniques for operation of a basic sciences laboratory. Conferences and laboratory experiences four to eight hours weekly. Admission requires approval of instructor and Department Chair.

Note: May be taken more than once, but no more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined may be applied to the Biological Sciences upper division major requirement.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 198A. Honors Proseminar and Research. 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Open only to honors students in biological sciences who have an overall GPA of 3.25 and a minimum of 3.0 GPA in biology courses (at least six units of upper division biology excluding BIO 106, BIO 108, BIO 194, BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199).
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Contemporary topics in biology selected by students in the course will form the basis for an introduction to scientific journals, the scientific method, and research as a professional pursuit. Each student develops a refined research proposal and prepares a seminar summarizing the proposal and the current state of knowledge in the topic area. Students will develop and refine their methodology under the direction of a faculty sponsor.

BIO 198B. Honors Research and Seminar. 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 198A.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Directed research involving completion of an independently conducted research project for which a proposal and methodology was developed in BIO 198A. Data collection, summary and analysis, and formulation of conclusions based on the data will be discussed periodically with a faculty sponsor. Culmination will consist of preparation of an undergraduate thesis, poster and presentation of a seminar summarizing results and conclusions.

Note: Open only to honors students in Biological Sciences. Fee course.

Fee course.

BIO 199A. Introductory Undergraduate Research. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Department Chair and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Student conducts introductory, independent laboratory or field research on an original question. Research must culminate in a formal report. Weekly meetings may be required. Students must have a research prospectus approved by faculty mentor and Department Chair.

Note: May be taken more than once, no more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined may be applied to the Biological Sciences upper division major requirement.

BIO 199B. Directed Readings. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Department Chair and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Directed Readings on a topic in Biology culminating in a research paper. Admission requires submission of a prospectus approved by the faculty member under whom the work is to be conducted and the Department Chair.

Note: May be taken more than once, but no more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined can be applied to the Biological Sciences upper division major requirement.
BIO 199C. Intermediate Undergraduate Research. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Department Chair and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Student conducts independent laboratory or field research on an original question. Research must culminate in a formal report. Weekly meetings may be required. Students must have a prospectus approved by the faculty member and Department Chair. Note: May be taken more than once; no more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined may be applied to the Biological Sciences upper division major requirement.

BIO 199D. Advanced Undergraduate Research. 1 - 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Department Chair and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Advanced laboratory or field research on an original question. The research must culminate in a formal report. Weekly meetings may be required. Students must have a prospectus approved by the faculty member and the Department Chair. Note: May be taken more than once; no more than 2 units from BIO 195, BIO 197 and BIO 199 combined may be applied to the Biological Sciences upper division major requirement.

BIO 214. Advanced Plant Ecology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 160.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Fundamental properties of plant populations; population regulation; community productivity and structure; a study of ecotypic and ecocline variation in plant populations. Lecture one hour; laboratory and field six hours.

BIO 220. Introduction to Scientific Inquiry. 2 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Graduate level introduction to scientific inquiry in the biological sciences. Students learn to apply the scientific method, critically evaluate the scientific literature, initiate their graduate project, and develop written and oral scientific presentation skills. Lecture two hours. Note: Graduate Writing Intensive (GWI).

BIO 221A. Cell and Molecular Methods and Techniques. 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 220 (may be taken concurrently).
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Introduction to research methods in molecular and cellular biology. Students learn both cell and molecular techniques in the context of hypothesis-driven research to answer questions relating to a specific gene and cellular system. Experimental design and commonly used laboratory techniques will be explored. Two three hour laboratory periods. Fee course.

BIO 221B. Methods in Ecology, Evolution and Conservation. 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 167, BIO 220 (may be taken concurrently).
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Introduction to research methods in ecology, evolution and conservation biology. Students learn field and laboratory techniques with a variety to taxa in a range of local ecosystems. Students will work with several faculty conducting research projects. Topics will include developing hypotheses, experimental design, study implementation, and statistical analyses. Students will be expected to present findings in oral and written form. Two three hour laboratory periods. Fee course.

BIO 221C. Exploration of Biological Methodology. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Intended for students in the MA grant proposal track, this course explores a selected topic from multiple scientific perspectives. A discovery-based laboratory project using cell and molecular techniques complimented with lectures, discussions and field trips that investigate the ecological, environmental, and evolutionary aspects of the same topic. The laboratory project will focus on a current biological topic (such as genetically modified organisms) in accordance with the instructor's interests and expertise. One hour lecture, six hours lab per week. Note: Not open to students in the Master of Science in Molecular and Cellular Biology Concentration.

Field trip(s) may be required.

BIO 222. Molecular Biology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 184, CHEM 161.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Processes and control of DNA replication, transcription, and translation developed from a consideration of the current literature. Lecture three hours.

BIO 223. Human Molecular Genetics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 184 and CHEM 161.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

In-depth study of the molecular basis of human disease, emphasizing current experimental approaches and technologies. Topics include the isolation and analysis of disease genes, the influence of teratogans and random environmental events on human embryonic development, the molecular and biochemical consequences of mutagenesis, and ethical issues that currently surround the field. Lecture 3 hours.

BIO 224. Genomics, Proteomics, and Bioinformatics. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 184, BIO 222 and graduate status or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Examination of current approaches in structural genomics, functional genomics and proteomics, and the bioinformatics tools utilized to understand genome organization, the regulation of gene expression, gene function and the evolutionary relationships within and between genomes. Lecture two hours; laboratory 3 hours.
BIO 225. Stem Cell Biology and Manufacturing Practices. 1 Unit
Prerequisite(s): Graduate status and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Graduate level introductory course in human stem cell biology with specific emphasis on adult, embryonic, and induced pluripotent stem cells. Topics will include how stem cells are isolated or generated, how they are cultured, and how they are used for regenerative therapies. In addition, students will learn about Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and how to manufacture human stem cells.

BIO 227. Development and Regenerative Medicine. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): Graduate status and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Examines the processes of cellular development in the embryo and adult with a focus on stem cells. Stem cells will be studied at the biochemical, molecular, genetic, epigenetic, cellular and physiological level, with an emphasis on their roles in promoting organismal health and disease. Current research and clinical applications will be examined, along with the bioethics, policies and politics of their use.

BIO 245. Host/Pathogen Interactions. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 121, BIO 139, BIO 184. Courses recommended but not required: BIO 144, BIO 149, BIO 180.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Critical reading and discussion of current literature on host/pathogen interactions. Topics to be covered include: alteration of host intracellular trafficking, subversion of cell cytoskeleton for invasion, intracellular survival mechanisms, pathogen-induced cell killing, and evasion and subversion of the host immune system.

BIO 247. Contemporary Topics in Immunology. 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 149A or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Readings and discussions of current literature emphasizing new field developments and controversies. Lecture two hours.

BIO 260. Advanced Ecology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 160 or equivalent.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Principles and applications of theoretical and field ecology as they apply to populations, communities and ecosystems.

BIO 269. Behavioral Ecology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 160 or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Advanced study of animal behavior focusing on the life history consequences of social organization, spacing systems, sexual behavior, reproductive ecology, feeding ecology, competitive interactions and predator-prey interactions.

BIO 273. Advanced Fishery Biology and Management. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 173 or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Critical review and evaluation of current techniques and concepts relating to the management, protection, and improvement of fishery resources. Lecture three hours.

BIO 279. Conservation Biology and Wildlife Management. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): BIO 160, BIO 179; or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Critical review of applications of ecological and wildlife-orientated theory in conservation biology research. Exploration of key topics and issues in conservation of organisms, with emphasis on vertebrate animals and plants. Lecture/discussion three hours.

BIO 282. Evolution. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Process of evolution throughout the taxonomic hierarchy and factors responsible for the generation of variability of the gene, cell, organism and population levels are explored through lectures, text readings and a survey of current periodical literature. Lecture 3 hours.

BIO 283. Biogeography. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Study of the past and present plant and animal distributions, and the geologic, climatic and ecologic factors involved in their migration, establishment and extinction. Lecture/discussions three hours.

BIO 285. Topics in Biology. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): Graduate status or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Readings and discussions of current literature emphasizing new developments and controversies in a comparatively narrow range of biological topics. Topics will vary with each offering, encompassing one recognized specialty in biology. May be repeated for credit when the topics vary.

BIO 293. Research Conference. 2 Units
Prerequisite(s): Department Chair and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Presentation and discussion of graduate student and faculty research and current literature with emphasis on critical evaluation of research design, data analysis and presentation techniques. Note: Discussion two hours. May be taken twice for credit. Only two units may be applied to the University's requirement for 200-level courses; May be repeated for up to 4 units of credit.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 294A. Seminar in Molecular and Cellular Biology. 1 Unit
Prerequisite(s): Student must be a Biology major at the master's level to enroll in this class and/or have instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Review and discussion of scientific literature in cell and molecular biology. Seminar topics will vary by semester. Note: May be repeated for up to 4 units of credit.

Credit/No Credit

BIO 294B. Seminar in Ecology, Evolution and Conservation. 1 Unit
Prerequisite(s): Student must be a Biology major at the master's level to enroll in this class and/or have instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Review and discussion of scientific literature in ecology, evolution, and conservation biology. Seminar topics will vary by semester. Note: May be repeated for up to 4 units of credit.

Credit/No Credit
Program Description

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (MLML) at Moss Landing, California, is operated year round by the California State University. This marine facility functions as an extension of seven participating State Universities (Fresno, Hayward, Monterey Bay, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Jose, Stanislaus) and offers full-time coursework in marine biology, oceanography, marine geology, and other marine sciences.

Enrollment is open to properly qualified upper division and graduate students from each of the participating colleges. New students may qualify through normal matriculation procedures at one of the home campuses. With approval of academic advisors, students may satisfy a part of their requirements in Biological Sciences through courses offered at the Moss Landing Laboratories. The Master of Science degree in Marine Science is offered as an interdepartmental degree through Biological Sciences in cooperation with Moss Landing Marine Laboratories.

Degree Program


Special Features

• Most courses are field-oriented, taking advantage of a diversity of nearby coastal and marine habitats, including Monterey Submarine Canyon, subtidal kelp forests, Elkhorn Slough, and rocky and sandy intertidal zones.
• Field activities are facilitated by the MLML fleet, the 135' R/V POINT SUR, the 35' R/V ED RICKETTS, two Boston Whalers, and a number of inflatable rafts.
• Ongoing research by faculty and graduate students further enhances the MLML learning experience.

Contact Information

Kenneth Coale, Director of the Laboratories
P.O. Box 450, Moss Landing, CA 95039-0450
(408) 755-8656

Shannon Datwyler, Department of Biological Sciences Chair
Sequoia Hall 202
(916) 278-6535

Amy Wagner, Ph.D.
Placer Hall 1017
(916) 278-5136

MSCI 103. Marine Ecology. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): Ecology, statistics; or concurrent registration in MSCI 104.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Field-oriented introduction to the interrelationships between marine and estuarine organisms and their environment with emphasis on quantitative data collection and analysis. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.
MSCI 104. Quantitative Marine Science. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): College mathematics.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Mathematical methods for the analysis of biological, chemical and physical data from the marine environment; experimental design, parametric and nonparametric statistics. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours.
Note: Not for major credit.

MSCI 105. Marine Science Diving. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): Upper division science major status, thorough physical examination, ability to pass swimming test.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Skin SCUBA diving course, pool-training culminates in ten ocean dives. Topics covered included diving physics, physiology, diving environments, night diving and research diving. Successful completion gives NAUI and MLML certification. Lecture one hour; laboratory six hours.
Note: Not for major credit.

MSCI 112. Marine Birds and Mammals. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): Upper division college vertebrate zoology or instructor permission; MSCI 103 recommended.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Systematic, morphology, ecology and biology of marine birds and mammals. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 113. Marine Ichthyology. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): College zoology or equivalent or instructor permission; MSCI 103 recommended.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Description of the taxonomy, morphology, and ecology of marine fishes. Both field and laboratory work concentrate on the structure, function and habits of marine fishes and the ecological interactions of these fishes with their biotic and abiotic surroundings. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 124. Marine Invertebrate Zoology I. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): College zoology or instructor permission; MSCI 103 recommended.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Field oriented introduction to the structure, systematics, evolution, and life histories of the major and minor marine phyla. Lecture two hours; laboratory and six hours.

MSCI 125. Marine Invertebrate Zoology II. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): College zoology or instructor permission; MSCI 103 and MSCI 124 recommended.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Field oriented introduction to the structure, systematics, evolution and life histories of the minor marine invertebrate phyla. Lecture one hour; laboratory and field six hours.

MSCI 131. Marine Botany. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 103 recommended.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Introduction to the plants of the sea, marshes, and dunes, with emphasis on the morphology, taxonomy and natural history of seaweeds and vascular plants. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 135. Physiology of Marine Algae. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 103, MSCI 131, and MSCI 144. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Physiological basis for understanding the adaptation of marine algae to their environment. Topics include respiration, enzyme activity, and biochemical composition. Hands-on experience in basic electronic instrumentation, chemical separations, optical measurements, culturing methods, and radioisotope techniques.

MSCI 141. Geological Oceanography. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 142, MSCI 143; may be taken concurrently.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Study of the structures, physiography and sediments of the sea bottom and shoreline. Lecture two hours; laboratory and field six hours.

MSCI 142. Physical Oceanography. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): College algebra, college physics recommended.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Introduction to the nature and causes of various oceanic motions including currents, waves, tides, and mixing and the Physical properties of seawater. Limited use of calculus. Lecture three hours; laboratory three hours.

MSCI 143. Chemical Oceanography. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): One year of college chemistry.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Introduction to the theoretical and practical aspects of the chemistry of the oceans, including major salts, dissolved gases, nutrient ions, carbonate system, transient tracers, and shipboard sampling techniques. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 144. Biological Oceanography. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): General biology, general chemistry.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Ocean as an ecological system. Emphasis will be on the complexity of organismal-environmental interaction of the plankton, the transfer of organic matter between trophic levels and nutrient cycles. Laboratory sessions will include methods in sampling, shipboard techniques, identification of the plankton, and current analytical techniques. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 175A. Coastal Geol Processes. 1 Unit
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
MSCI 175B. Intro To Marine Science. 1 Unit
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
MSCI 180. Independent Study. 1 - 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): Instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
Faculty-directed study of selected research problems; open to undergraduate students with adequate preparation. Three hours work per unit.
MSCI 201. Library Research Methods. 1 Unit
Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in the Marine Science M.S. program and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Students will gain advanced understanding of the nature of scientific information. Provides the framework for using and evaluating a variety of information sources in marine and ocean sciences. Strong emphasis will be placed on developing critical skills to interweave knowledge of the history of science into the context of bibliographic tools including the digital realm. Lecture: three hours.

MSCI 202. Oceanographic Instrumentation. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 141, MSCI 142 and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Principles of instruments used in oceanographic research, introduction to electronics, and applications of instrument measurements. Emphasis will vary from CTD profilers, current meters, radiometry and chemical measurement. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 204. Sampling and Experimental Design. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 103, MSCI 104.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Discussion of random sampling, systematic sampling, subsampling, survey techniques, and design of single and multifactorial experiments using randomized and block experimental designs: basic design of experiments and field sampling will be covered. Biases and problems of sampling marine biota will be presented and discussed by critiquing relevant literature. Lecture four hours.

MSCI 208. Molecular Ecology: Concepts and Methods. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): Basic cellular/molecular biology course; consent of instructor.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Use of genetic information affecting interactions of organisms with environment. Lectures on molecular markers used to assess diversity in communities, characterize spatial/temporal variation in species composition, assess genetic variability in populations, discriminate/reveal kinship among individuals, and detect/quantify gene expression important in organismal responses to environmental fluctuation. Basic molecular methods (DNA and RNA isolation/amplification/cloning/sequencing) taught. Students projects as budget permits. Enrollment limited. Lecture 2 hours; laboratory 6 hours.

MSCI 211. Ecology of Marine Birds and Mammals. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 103, MSCI 104, MSCI 112.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Community approach to the ecology of marine birds and mammals using experimental and sampling methodology; examine the distribution, abundance, trophic ecology, and behaviors of birds and mammals in Elkhorn Slough and Monterey Bay. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 212. Advanced Topics in Marine Vertebrates. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 112 or MSCI 113 and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Advanced consideration of the ecology, physiology and phylogeny of fishes, birds, reptiles or mammals, emphasizing current literature and research. Topics and emphasis will vary with term and instructor. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.
Note: May be repeated once for credit.

MSCI 212A. Adv Ichthyology. 4 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 212B. Ichthyoplankton. 4 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 212C. Marine Bird+Mammal Ecolgy. 4 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 212D. Sampling+Expemntl Design. 4 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 221. Advanced Topics in Marine Invertebrates. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 124 and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Advanced considerations of the ecology, physiology and phylogeny of the various invertebrate phyla emphasizing current literature and research. Topics will vary from term to term. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.
Note: May be repeated for credit when topics change.

MSCI 221A. Marine Symbioses. 4 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 221B. Ichthyoplankton. 4 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 221C. Marine Bird+Mammal Ecolgy. 4 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 221D. Sampling+Expemntl Design. 4 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 231. Biology Of Seaweeds. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 131 or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Lecture-discussions in algal development, reproduction, and ecology. Extensive reading of original literature. Ecologically oriented individual research projects involving laboratory culture and field experimentation. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 233A. Adv Marine Ecology. 4 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 233B. Sampling+Expemntl Design. 4 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 233C. Coastal Ecology-Gulf of California. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 103, MSCI 104, MLML SCUBA certified, graduate status, instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Field-oriented examination of the interrelationships between intertidal and shallow subtidal organisms and their environment in the Gulf of California, Mexico. Information from lectures and review of primary literature on the ecology of the region will be used to write a research proposal. 1 hour lecture, 6 hours laboratory.

MSCI 233D. Immune Respn Marine Orgns. 2 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 234. Advanced Biological Oceanography. 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 144.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Experimental techniques in biological oceanography with emphasis on problems important to plankton ecology. Includes lectures, labs, and discussions of current research problems. An individual research project involving analytical tools will be required. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.
MSCI 242. Plate Tectonics.
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 141 or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Historical background, modern theory, and geo-physical evidence of continental drift sea floor spreading and plate tectonics. Examinations of the impact of the recent revolution in historical geology. Lecture three hours.

MSCI 248. Marine Benthic Habitat Techniques.
Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Collection and interpretation of geophysical data used to characterize marine benthic habitats. Basic geophysical principles will be reviewed. Application of techniques to identify and characterize marine benthic habitats, including echosounders, multibeam bathymetry and backscatter, sidescan sonar, seismic profiling, and GIS. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 251. Marine Geochemistry.
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 143, quantitative analysis, one year calculus or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Geochemical processes in the oceans: thermodynamics of low temperature aqueous reactions, processes occurring at the sea floor and air-sea interface. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 261. Ocean Circulation and Mixing.
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 142; college physics strongly recommended or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Mathematical description of the distribution of properties (salinity density, etc.) in the oceans relating to physical and biochemical processes. Equations of motion, geotrophic method, and theory of distribution of variables. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 262. Satellite Oceanography.
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 142, MSCI 144, or instructor permission. MSCI 263 strongly recommended.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Physical principles of remote sensing with application to the oceans including satellite image processing methods. Labs involve use of PC and Unix workstation. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 263. Application of Computers in Oceanography.
Prerequisite(s): College math and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Lecture, discussion and technical programming with MATLAB for computation and visualization with applications in marine sciences. Use of existing program libraries for data I/O and analysis. Semester project required. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

Prerequisite(s): MSCI 103, MSCI 104; or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Principles of the interaction among marine organisms that result in the alteration of population structures. Techniques for assessment and management of populations. Lecture two hours; laboratory three hours.

Prerequisite(s): MLML diver certification and marine ecology (knowledge of marine algae, invertebrates, and statistics recommended).
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Ecology of nearshore rocky subtidal populations and communities with emphasis on kelp forests. Lectures and discussions of original literature. Field work with SCUBA including group projects on underwater research techniques and community analysis, and individual research on ecological questions chosen by the student. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 274A. Electron Micros+Microanl.
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 141 or instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Electron microscopes and microanalytical techniques. Emphasis on biological applications. Use of standard equipment and methods. Lecture two hours; laboratory six hours.

MSCI 274B. Geol Central Ca Margin.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Geologic and stratigraphic history of the central California margin. Field work along the California margin. Lecture three units.

MSCI 274C. Chem Of Marine Pollution.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Chemical distribution, partitioning, and fate of pollutants in the environment. Lecture two units.

MSCI 274D. Global Change.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Global change and its impact on the marine environment. Lecture three units.

MSCI 274E. Paradigms In Commun Ecol.
Prerequisite(s): MSCI 285; graduate or senior standing.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Note: May be repeated once for credit.

MSCI 280. Scientific Writing.
Prerequisite(s): Graduate status and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Techniques and strategies of scientific writing used for proposals, journal submissions, and abstracts for meetings. Students will develop their writing skills by preparing, editing, and rewriting manuscripts. Lecture three hours.

MSCI 281. Coastal Dynamics.
Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and MSCI 141 or MSCI 142.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Addresses the oceanographic dynamics of coastal environments, within an emphasis on eastern boundary current systems influenced by coastal upwelling. Focuses on how physical and geological oceanography interact with each other and how both affect coastal ecosystem dynamics.

Prerequisite(s): Instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Seminar will be held on topics changing each semester. Each student will be required to give at least one seminar. Lecture two hours.

MSCI 285A. Social Biology.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 285B. Repro+Dev Marine Organism.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 285D. Controversies Modern Biol.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 285E. Paradigms In Commun Ecol.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
MSCI 285F. Appl Moleclr Tech Mar Bio. 2 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 285G. Aspects Of Deep-Sea Biol. 2 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

MSCI 286. Seminar in Marine Geology. 2 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Seminar will be held on topics changing each semester. Each student will be required to give at least one seminar.
Note: May be repeated once for credit.

MSCI 287. Seminar In Oceanography. 2 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Seminar will be held on topics changing each semester. Each student will be required to give at least one seminar.
Note: May be repeated once for credit.

MSCI 298. Research in the Marine Sciences. 1 - 4 Units
Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Independent investigations of an advanced character for the graduate student with adequate preparation.
Note: CSUH students must file a petition with their home campus department before admission to this class. CSU Stanislaus students must file Individual Study forms. CSUF students must file Research Approval forms.

MSCI 299. Master's Thesis. 1 - 4 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring