M.S. in Biological Sciences

Admission Requirements

1. Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution in the United States or proof of equivalent education at a foreign institution.
2. Undergraduate degree in Biology or a related field and at least eight (8) semester hours of General Chemistry.
3. Competitive scores in the Verbal, Quantitative, and Analytical Writing components of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).
4. Competitive TOEFL score for international applicants whose first language is not English or who have not completed a university degree in the U.S. or at an English-speaking institution.

Degree Requirements

A thesis based on original work is required and must be defended orally. The student should decide on an area of specialization and select a supervising professor within the first semester. The supervising professor will act as chairperson of the thesis committee, which will be comprised of a minimum of three graduate faculty members, including one from outside the Department of Biological Sciences. MS students require 30 credits hours for the degree. They may select up to nine hours of upper-division undergraduate course (3000 and 4000 level courses) as part of the 30 required credits. Six credit hours can be taken in a combination of BIOL 5102, 5202, 5402 (Independent Research) and BIOL 5302, 5502 (Research in Biological Sciences). A degree plan must be submitted by the end of the first semester enrolled and a thesis proposal is due before the beginning of the second year.

Degree Plan

Required Credits: 30

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 5130</td>
<td>Seminar (Complete three semesters)</td>
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Graduate Seminar:

Graduate Course Work:

Select twenty-one hours from the following:

BIOL 5102  Independent Research
BIOL 5131  Ethical, Soc/Pol Dimensions
BIOL 5202  Independent Research
BIOL 5301  Select Adv Topics Biol Science
BIOL 5302  Resrch Biological Science
BIOL 5305  Herpetology
BIOL 5308  Rsrch Funding & Prof Developmt
BIOL 5313  Biogeography
BIOL 5316  Biosystematics
BIOL 5322  Advances/Evolutionary Theory
BIOL 5326  Advances Immunological Concept
BIOL 5327  Advances in Ecological Theory
BIOL 5328  Biostatistics
BIOL 5329  Physiology of Bacterial Cell
BIOL 5340  Structure/Funct Macromolecules
BIOL 5344  Molecular Pathogenesis
BIOL 5351  Intro Bio I:Basic Seq. Comp.
BIOL 5352  Intro Bio II: Gene Find/Compar
BIOL 5360  Limnology
BIOL 5502  Resrch in Biological Sciences
BIOL 6190  Independent Research
BIOL 6290  Independent Research
BIOL 6301  Basic Principles of Toxicology
BIOL 6303  Gene Regulation
BIOL 6304  Physiological Regulatory Mech
BIOL 6305  Cell Physiology
BIOL 6308  Rsrch Funding & Prof Developmt
<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 6312</td>
<td>Biodiversity</td>
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<td>BIOL 6345</td>
<td>Molecular Parasitology</td>
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**Thesis:**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 5398</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; BIOL 5399</td>
<td>and Thesis</td>
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**Total Hours** 30