The Department of Biological Sciences attracts students who want to study life in all its grandeur. Questions of how living organisms function and evolve are some of the areas of inquiry pursued. Some students pursue a degree in biology in order conduct basic or applied research. Other students complete coursework required for health professional schools, such as medical school.

Where can a Biological Sciences degree take you? Physicians, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, clinical laboratory scientists and physician’s assistants all need solid biology backgrounds, as do teachers, veterinarians, plant geneticists, ecologists, podiatrists, horticulturists and entomologists.
Degrees and Programs

- Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science, with concentrations in Biology Education, General Biology, Molecular and Microbial Biology, Ecology and Organismal Biology
- Biological Sciences minor
- Master of Science, Ecology and Sustainability
- Master of Science, Genetic Counseling
- Liberal Studies degree concentration in Biological Sciences

Our faculty

Mark A. Grobner (Chair), Ph.D., Oregon State ('90)
Tommi L. Carosella, M.S., Univ. of Wisconsin
Matthew Cover, Ph.D., UC Berkeley ('08)
Michael Fleming, Ph.D., Univ. of Washington ('11)
Marina M. Gerson, Ph.D., Univ. of Texas, Arlington ('04)
Terry D. Jones, Ph.D., Oregon State ('00)
Choong-Min Kang, Ph.D., UC Davis ('98)
Patrick A. Kelly, Ph.D., UC Berkeley ('98)
Ann K. Kohlhaas, Ph.D., Univ. of Colorado ('93)
Kenneth G. Schoenly, Ph.D., Univ. of New Mexico ('89)
My Lo Ly Thao, Ph.D., UC Davis ('00)
Flora M. Watson, Ph.D., USC ('72)
Steven J. Wolf, Ph.D., Univ. of Alberta ('81)
Stuart C. Wooley, Ph.D., UC Riverside ('03)
Janey H. Youngblom, Ph.D., Univ. of Minnesota ('87)
James J. Youngblom, Ph.D., Univ. of Minnesota ('88)

Interesting classes you might take

Biogeography
Conservation Biology
Entomology
Comparative Anatomy
Evolution
Bacterial Physiology
Deep-Sea Biology
Plant Ecology
Flowering Plants
General Vertebrate Zoology

Course Spotlight
BIOL 4870: Recombinant DNA
Introduction to the fundamentals of genetic engineering, including the theory and practice of basic recombinant DNA techniques.

What you can learn

- Knowledge of the basic principles of biology and unifying themes, the processes shared by living things, and an appreciation of life that exists on earth
- The ability to use appropriate laboratory/field procedures, methods and instrumentation to conduct biological investigations and safety issues associated with each
- The ability to formulate scientific questions, design experiments to answer these questions, collect, analyze, interpret and report data

What you can earn

- Wildlife and Fisheries Technician, $39,000
- Molecular Biologist, $52,000
- Environmental Biologist, $62,000
- Botanist, $67,000

Source: Indeed.com 2011

Contact information

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