

Biology

Through a sequence of core courses, the biology major provides students with a comprehensive study of the various sub-disciplines of biology including cell and molecular biology, genetics, organismal biology and ecology. Opportunities for research, independent study and practical internships further strengthen each student's degree and resume. The major is a flexible program designed to tailor fit to the career goals of each biology student. After completing the biology core requirements, students are able to select from a wide variety of science electives to prepare for any profession in the biological sciences: Clinical Health Sciences including medical, dental, veterinary, physician assistant, doctor of nurse practitioner, public health, physical therapy, chiropractic, etc.; Research Sciences including biomedical industry, MS and PhD programs in cell and molecular biology, plant and environmental science, forensic science, genetics, etc.

Who employs people with this degree?

- Colleges and universities
- Clinics and hospitals
- Pharmaceutical, biotech, and chemical companies
- Public health agencies
- Federal/state/local government laboratories & agencies
- State/national parks
- Medical research laboratories
- Private research foundations
- Agriculture and food production industries
- Zoos

More information at ONETonline.org

General Strategies for Success:

- A Bachelor's degree will qualify one for work as a laboratory assistant, technician, technologist, or research assistant in education, industry, government, museums, parks, and gardens.
- An undergraduate degree can also be used for nontechnical work in writing, illustration, sales, photography, and legislation.
- The biological sciences are good preparation for a career in healthcare such as medicine, dentistry and veterinary science, but professional degrees and licenses are also necessary. Read scientific journals related to your area of interest.
- Learn federal, state, and local government job application process. The federal government is the largest employer of biologists.
- Gain experience with grant writing and fundraising techniques. Often, research must be funded in this manner.
- Develop multiple areas of specialization through coursework, minors, or double-majors in molecular biology, mathematics, statistics, or computer science.
- Become familiar with the specific entrance exam for graduate or professional schools in your area of interest.

Professional Associations

American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
American Chemical Society
Biology Industry Organization
Council for the Advancement of Science Writing
American Institute of Biological Sciences
American Society for Microbiology

This information represents possible occupations and strategies for careers with this major. As with any job or career, there may be additional qualifications or experience needed. For more information and options, make an appointment with Career & Leadership Development or check out our online resources on our website or on myUNW, Career & Leadership Development tab.