

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOLOGY NON-THESIS (MS)

To be admitted to MS in Biology:

1. A candidate must have a bachelor's degree in biology or related field (related fields such as Botany, Environmental Sciences (with a biology emphasis), Marine Science (with biology emphasis), Marine Biology, Microbiology, Neurobiology and Zoology).
2. An overall GPA of 2.5 or higher (on a 4 point scale) and a 3.0 GPA in biology (or related field). If the GPA in biology is between 2.75 and 3.0, the student may be admitted on probation and must earn a B or higher in the first 9 hours of graduate courses in the program. If the overall GPA is below 2.5 or in biology below 2.75 the student will not be admitted.
3. No GRE will be required for admission to the Master of Science in Biology.
4. Approval of the graduate committee of the Department of Biology and Chemistry. The decision by the committee will be based on the interests the candidate has in biology and if a graduate faculty member can and will work with the candidate. The candidate's interest will be determined by the personal statement the candidate writes for admission. The statement should describe what research the student is interested in doing in the program and how working with a faculty member(s) in the Department can achieve this. Students are strongly encouraged to contact potential mentors prior to applying.
5. Admission to the thesis program will be determined by the acceptance of the student by an advisor. A student's admission for a thesis can be denied because the student's interest does not match any research program available. A student can be admitted to the non-thesis but the student will be required to take comprehensive exam to complete the degree.

Major Curriculum - Biology

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Required Courses*		
BIOL 5290	Graduate Seminar in Biology ¹	2
BIOL 5290	Graduate Seminar in Biology ¹	2
BIOL 5401	Biometry ²	4
Select 28 semester credit hours from any 5000-level Biology courses except BIOL 5398, BIOL 5399, and BIOL 5197-BIOL 5697.		28
Total Semester Credit Hours		36

¹ To be repeated once when the topic changes to fulfill the requirement of four SCH.

² To be taken in the first three semesters of student's graduate work.

* Students in the non-thesis track must pass a written comprehensive exam (valid for one year). In addition to the comprehensive exam, non-thesis students will be required to write and defend a library-based review paper on a topic in biology decided on by the student and the student's advisory committee.

Degree Plan Major Curriculum - Biology

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