# M.S. in Biological Science

## Description

The M.S. in biological science prepares a student for various academic, industry, or government professional positions that involve freshwater biology, medicine, education, molecular genetics, ecology and conservation biology.

## Minimum Total Credit Hours: 30

## Course Requirements

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit acceptable to the advisory committee are required, which must include 6 thesis hours and at least 24 hours of course work, of which 18 must be formal classroom lectures, that is, courses that require regular attendance, study assignments, final exams and letter grades. Z-graded or pass/fail courses will not count toward the 24 hours. All students must take Bisc 691 during the semester in which they defend their thesis research. A cumulative average of not less than B (3.0) must be achieved in all graduate work attempted.

All students pursuing an M.S. degree must satisfactorily complete a research prospectus, a thesis based on potentially publishable research, and one seminar on their research (which is part of the defense). Additional requirements may be stipulated by the advisory committee.

## Other Academic Requirements

Thesis Advisory Committee--During the first two semesters, a master's student should become familiar with the research programs in the department and establish an advisory committee. The thesis advisory committee's initial role is to recommend courses and to approve a research topic. The committee is then responsible for evaluating the student's course work, research productivity, knowledge of the research topic, and for approving the thesis.

The University of Mississippi is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award certificates and baccalaureate, master's, specialist, and doctoral degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, call 404-679-4500, or visit online at www.sacscoc.org for questions about the accreditation.