

Emphasis-Organismal Biology

- [B.S. in Biological Science](#)
- [Emphasis-Organismal Biology](#)
- [Degree Requirements](#)

B.S. in Biological Science **Description**

The B.S. in biological science offers in-depth study of biology and other natural sciences while preparing the student for a variety of careers or for graduate work in many fields including medicine, organismal biology, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary medicine, education, cell or molecular biology, ecology and conservation biology. This is the degree of choice for those aspiring to be professional scientists. Students may choose one optional emphasis in ecology and evolutionary biology; integrative biology; molecular, cellular, and microbiology; organismal biology; pre-health biological sciences.

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120

General Education Requirements

Math 261 and 262 are required for the B.S. degree.

Course Requirements

A major in biological science for the B.S. degree consists of a minimum of 42 semester hours of biology including 34 at the 300 level or above. This requirement includes introductory courses (Bisc 160, 161, 162, 163 for 8 credit hours); biology core courses for 16 credit hours; biology electives for 18 credit hours minimum; and the major field achievement test (Bisc 498, which must be taken as a senior) (0 hours). After the successful completion of Bisc 160, 161, 162, 163 as initial courses, students may enroll in advanced biology courses that must include one course in each of the four B.S. biology core areas: ecology (Bisc 322), genetics (Bisc 336), physiology (Bisc 330 or Bisc 438 or Bisc 516), and cell and molecular biology (Bisc 440).

Biology majors may choose to specialize by using their biology electives to add one optional emphasis, which requires a minimum of three courses from the approved list for the emphasis. The same course may not satisfy the biology core courses and an emphasis area. Students who complete relevant special topics, travel course, or research course will consult with the department prior to enrollment in the course to determine if it fulfills a course for an emphasis area.

Seminars and nonmajor courses do not satisfy the minimum or 300-level requirements. In addition, two courses in calculus (Math 261 and 262), 8 hours of general chemistry (Chem 105, 106, 115, and 116), and two semesters of organic chemistry (Chem 221, 222, 225, 226) are required. Bisc 336 and Bisc 330 should be taken during the sophomore year, and Bisc 322 and Bisc 440 should be taken during the junior year.

Other Academic Requirements

Students must achieve a grade of C or better in all course work counted for the major in biological science, and every biology course requires a grade of C or better in all prerequisite courses, including those prerequisite courses from other departments. For example, Bisc 160 and 161 must be passed with a grade of C or better before Bisc 162 and 163 may be taken. In addition, Bisc 160, 161, 162, and 163 must be passed with a grade of C or better before any additional biology course at the 300 level or above is attempted.

Bisc 150, 206, 207, 210, 220, and 492 can not be used toward a major in biological sciences.

Emphasis-Organismal Biology **Course Requirements**

Emphasis in Organismal Biology:

Requires a minimum of three courses from the following list:

- Bisc 300: Research Methods in Biology
- Bisc 310: Human Anatomy
- Bisc 318: Botany
- Bisc 327: Introductory Neuroscience
- Bisc 329: Biology of Fishes
- Bisc 330: Introductory Physiology
- Bisc 331: Comparative Anatomy of the Vertebrates
- Bisc 332: Comparative Embryology of Vertebrates
- Bisc 334: Ornithology
- Bisc 335: Human Reproduction
- Bisc 337: Introductory Entomology
- Bisc 338: Invertebrate Zoology
- Bisc 339: Phycology
- Bisc 342: Plant Diversity
- Bisc 349: Biology of Sharks and Their Relatives
- Bisc 350: Mammalogy
- Bisc 415: Vertebrate Histology
- Bisc 416: Elementary Parasitology
- Bisc 427: Methods in Comparative Neuroscience
- Bisc 502: Mycology
- Bisc 504: Biometry
- Bisc 512: Animal Behavior
- Bisc 516: Plant Physiology



- Bisc 518: Microtechnique
- Bisc 519: Physiology of Aquatic Animals
- Bisc 529: Endocrinology
- Bisc 531: Plant Morphology
- Bisc 532: Plant Taxonomy
- Bisc 533: Advanced Neuroscience
- Bisc 538: Hormones and Behavior
- Bisc 543: Functional Neuroanatomy
- Bisc 546: Herpetology
- Bisc 547: Advanced Histology
- Bisc 551: Protozoology
- Bisc 553: Comparative Animal Physiology

Degree Requirements

The academic regulations for this degree program, as entered in the University of Mississippi Catalog, are in effect for the current or selected academic year and semester. The University of Mississippi reserves the right to 1) change or withdraw courses; 2) change rules for registration, instruction, and graduation; and 3) change other regulations affecting the student body at any time.

B.S. in Biological Science

General Education

REQUIREMENT	HOURS	DESCRIPTION
First Year Writing I	3	Complete Hon 101 , Writ 100 or Writ 101 with a passing grade.
First Year Writing II	3	Complete one of the following courses with a passing grade: Liba 102 , Writ 102 or Hon 102 .
3 hrs fine arts	3	Complete 3 hours in the area of fine or performing arts. Choose from art history, music, dance, and theatre arts. Studio and workshop courses cannot be used to satisfy this requirement. Acceptable freshman or sophomore-level courses are: AH 101 , AH 102 , AH 201 , AH 202 ; Music 101, Music 102, Music 103, Music 104, Music 105; Dance 200; Theatre 201 and 202
6 hrs literature survey	6	Complete 6 hours of literature survey with a passing grade. Choose from the following courses: Eng 220 , 221 , 222 , 223 , 224 , 225 , or Eng 226 .
6 hrs modern/ancient language 200+	6	Successfully complete at least 6 hours at the 200 level or above in one modern or ancient language.
6 hrs social science	6	Successfully complete 6 semester hours in anthropology, economics, political science, psychology, or sociology.
6 hrs social science/humanities	6	Complete 6 hours of additional social science or humanities coursework. The courses may be chosen from African American studies, anthropology, classical civilization, economics, gender studies, history, Liba 202 , philosophy, political science, psychology, religious studies, Rhet 201 , sociology, and Southern studies.
6 hrs science	6	Successfully complete 2 courses of laboratory science.
2 science labs	8	Successfully complete at least two science laboratory courses.

General Education II

REQUIREMENT	HOURS	DESCRIPTION
Related subjects residence	6	Students must complete at least 6 of the required 18 hours of related subject course work in residence.
Related subjects residence GPA		Student must achieve a GPA of 2.00 in resident hours in related subjects.
Related subjects	18	Complete at least 18 credit hours in the following areas: anthropology, chemistry, geology, math, physics, or psychology.
Related subject GPA		Student must achieve a GPA of 2.00 overall in the related subjects.

Major Requirements

REQUIREMENT	HOURS	DESCRIPTION
Bisc 160 and 161	4	Bisc 160: Biological Sciences I , Bisc 161: Biological Sciences I Laboratory
Bisc 162 and 163	4	Bisc 162: Biological Sciences II , Bisc 163: Biological Sciences II Laboratory
Bisc 322	4	Bisc 322: General Ecology
Bisc 330 or 438 or 516	4	Bisc 516: Plant Physiology , Bisc 438: Microbial Physiology , Bisc 330: Introductory Physiology
Bisc 336	4	Bisc 336: Genetics



REQUIREMENT	HOURS	DESCRIPTION
Bisc 440	4	Bisc 440: Cell and Molecular Biology
Bisc 498		Bisc 498: Major Field Achievement Test
Biology residency hrs	18	Student must earn at least 18 hours of their major courses in residence. Directed Study (Bisc 492), Bisc 102 , Bisc 103 , Bisc 104 , Bisc 105 , Bisc 206 , Bisc 207 , seminars, and non-major courses do not satisfy departmental core requirements for biology majors.
18 hrs electives	18	Complete a minimum of 18 credit hours of Bisc electives at the 300 level or above with a grade of C or better.
Overall Major GPA		Please contact your academic advisor for grade point requirements.
Resident Major GPA		Please contact your academic advisor for grade point requirements.

Major Requirements II

REQUIREMENT	HOURS	DESCRIPTION
6 hrs in calculus	6	Successfully complete Math 261 and Math 262 .
Chem 105	3	Complete Chem 105 with a passing grade.
Chem 106	3	Complete Chem 106 with a passing grade.
Chem 115	1	Complete Chem 115 with a passing grade.
Chem 116	1	Complete Chem 116 with a passing grade.
Chem 221	3	Complete Chem 221 with a passing grade.
Chem 222	3	Complete Chem 222 with a passing grade.
Chem 225	1	Complete Chem 225 with a passing grade.
Chem 226	1	Complete Chem 226 with a passing grade.

Emphasis-Organismal Biology

REQUIREMENT	HOURS	DESCRIPTION
3 courses Organismal Bio	12	Complete 3 courses with a grade of C or better chosen from the following: Bisc 300 , 305 , 310 , 318 , 327 , 329 , 330 , 331 , 332 , 334 , 335 , 337 , 338 , 339 , 342 , 349 , 350 , 352 , 415 , 416 , 427 , 502 , 504 , 512 , 516 , 518 , 519 , 528 , 529 , 531 , 532 , 533 , 538 , 543 , 546 , 547 , 551 , & Bisc 553 .

