

Available on the Jackson Campus

Purpose Statement:

To enhance student preparation for professional school, graduate school, or career opportunities.

Program Description

The Master of Science in Biology is offered through two tracks: Pre-Professional and General Biology. The Pre-Professional track is designed for students who are seeking to be better prepared for health-related professional programs. The General Biology track is a broader, more customized program for students who are seeking to further their education or career opportunities through advanced training in Biology. The program includes mentoring and advising for students for both professional programs and career preparation. The Master of Science in Biology is very affordable compared to similar programs around the country, and students who complete advanced training in Biology at Union are extremely well prepared to be successful at the professional level (for more information, please visit the program website at www.uu.edu/msbio).

Admission Information

Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from accredited college or university; Official transcript(s) showing all course work, completion of baccalaureate degree(s), and all graduate credit previously attempted. Even if withdrawal occurred prior to earning credits and even if those credits do not apply to the current degree being sought, official transcripts must be sent from each institution.
- Minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.5.
- Minimum of 12 undergraduate hours in biology applicable to a biology major.
- Statement of purpose (500-1000 words) which identifies your educational goals and expectations from the program, as well as your primary and secondary career objectives.
- Three letters of recommendation.
- Scores from professional exam required (i.e, GRE, MCAT, PCAT, etc.).

Retention Criteria

- Must maintain minimum 3.0 GPA
- If not achieved after Fall term, student will be on probation, and will be able to raise the GPA with the Winter term course
- If GPA of 3.0 is not achieved after Winter term, student will meet with the program director to discuss progress.

Alternate List

Students who otherwise meet the eligibility requirements for the Master of Science in Biology but who apply after the entering class has been filled will be placed on an alternate list and will be notified if they are selected for inclusion in the program for the upcoming academic year. Students who are placed on the alternate list and who are not admitted will receive a refund of half of their Application Fee (\$25).

Completion Requirements

Both the Pre-Professional and General Biology tracks require 30 credit hours and a final GPA of 3.0 to graduate. Students complete the 30 hours over a sequence of three terms, typically taking 14 hours in the fall, 4 hours in the winter, and 12 hours in the spring. This sequence includes a 2 hour required course in

- All financial information is subject to change without notice.

Financial Assistance

Financial aid information for graduate students is

543. Natural Resources Policy (3) F–Odd Years

Examines current laws and policies governing public and private lands and the conservation of wildlife in the United States.

555. Environmental Ethics (3) S–Odd Years

This course will examine the relationship between humans and their natural environment; addressing the problems confronting the necessity to balance conservation with human need and the use of natural resources. Topics to be explored include an ethical consideration for the urban environment and of wilderness preservation, the interplay of local and global environmental ethics, and the ethics of sustainability. An overarching view of the scope of historical and modern bioethical issues will also enter into our discussions.

556. Marine Biology (3) W

Lectures and labs on the nature of life in the ocean and in coastal environments. The first part of the semester is spent at Union University facilities and the second part is spent exploring the coastal environments of South Georgia and the Atlantic Coast of Florida. There is an extra fee associated with this class.

557. Ornithology (3) W

Focuses on the identification and ecology of birds in the eastern United States. Multiple field trips are required, culminating with a 10-day trip to South Georgia and Florida. There is an extra fee associated with this class.

558/558L. () Plant Physiology (3) and Plant Physiology Lab (1) S–Even Years

Study of physiological factors influencing the chemical and structural composition of plant absorption and utilization of water and minerals; photosynthesis, translocation, respiration, nitrogen metabolism; and growth and development. Physiology is the study of how when-USE iUSeso 9 (s)0.7 al comp (s7(nFouth Geni)0.8 (m)0.7 (e)3 (h)0.9ETE1 (15.6 (m)18.1 e)30.6 (n<La